

Design of the Household Waste System

This comment is from a not for profit company that works with volunteers, employers and community organisations on environmental projects in Huddersfield. One element of our work is on waste minimisation, re-use and recycling as well fly-tipping and litter.

This application for a large new settlement needs to be future proofed. We suggest there is a need for consideration now of planned changes in the way we will deal with household waste during the 2020s.

If the site's green space is to remain attractive, multiple individual wheelie bins for each household can be avoided. Not only will this be aesthetically pleasing but it will also provide each home with more space and the site with less than 2000 bins.

We propose the introduction of community waste and recycling facilities as a prerequisite for this site of 770 dwellings. Communal containers, located conveniently to serve clusters of 4 - 8 dwellings could be planned for the collection of three streams at least: source separated recyclable materials (green bin), food waste (new council obligation, destined for anaerobic digestion) and green waste (brown bin). This will make better sense for the council once segregated food waste collections are introduced, as outlined in the draft National Waste Strategy.

By limiting households to a bin for their residual waste will leave more space for people to live in and would significantly reduce the access issues for bin lorries. Although this would require communal bin areas rather than individual one, this is already operating in some places, largely due to space constraints. We believe if the waste systems are well designed they will become a commonplace feature in future years and should be part of the design of this large development.