

Calderdale Refuse Collection Container Survey

Prior to the rollout of wheeled bin refuse containers across Calderdale, SITA will undertake a house to house survey to determine which households are not suitable for wheeled bins.

The house to house survey will be carried out by a team of SITA employees between September 2008 and December 2008. The survey will be subject to the approval of the Calderdale Waste Management Team, some properties may require a joint second visit.

The survey team will have pre-printed forms detailing each individual property on a refuse round. The survey form will be filled in at the time of the survey. The form requires the surveyor to note all of the factors which determine whether or not a property is suitable for wheeled bins.

There are several factors which may determine that a property is not suitable for wheeled bins. The following paragraphs outline the common factors, however from time to time there may be unique circumstances which will be noted in the additional information section.

Unsuitable access for the vehicle necessary

To empty a wheeled bin a Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) is required with a bin lift on the back end of the vehicle. Some roads across Calderdale are not wide enough to allow access for RCV's. These properties will be serviced by smaller collection vehicles with no bin lift and will be required to remain on a sack collection.

Unsuitable road gradient

Some roads across Calderdale have gradients too severe to allow access for RCVs. These properties will be serviced by smaller collection vehicles with no bin lift and will be required to remain on a sack collection.

Unsuitable steps

Properties that are situated on hillsides may have steps leading to their household. If the only area to store the wheeled bin requires the householder to wheel the bin up or down the steps, the steps need to be suitable for this purpose. Whilst it is easier for a householder to wheel a full bin down steps than up them, consideration also needs to be taken of the gradient, size and quantity of steps. The survey will identify the number of properties with various numbers of steps. When the information is available further consideration will be given to this issue.

No pavement

Properties that do not have a pavement will not be suitable if there is no suitable nearby collection point for the wheeled bin. It is not acceptable to obstruct the road by placing the wheeled bin directly on the public highway.

Insufficient storage area

Householders will require a sufficient area at their property to store the wheeled bin. The appropriate acceptable area required being 1metre x 1metre and not next to a front window.

No front storage + no rear access

Properties which do not have a suitable storage area at the front and no means to wheel the bin from the front to the back e.g. mid terrace houses with no back alley or ginnel, will not be suitable for wheeled bins and will remain on sack collections.

Back alley too long

Properties which do not have a suitable storage area at the front and have back alleys which are too long to wheel the bins to the collection point, will not be suitable for wheeled bins and will remain on sack collections. The acceptable length of alleyway being 15mtrs.

No front storage + ginnel too narrow

Properties which do not have a suitable storage area at the front and unsuitable means to wheel the bin from the front to the back e.g. mid terrace houses a back alley or ginnel that is too narrow to wheel the bin through, will not be suitable for wheeled bins and will remain on sack collections.

Unsuitable road surface

The road surface needs to be suitable for either the vehicle to drive down or for the bins to be wheeled to a collection point. Typical types of unsuitable roads surface are that of un-adopted roads or private lanes which may be uneven and have pot holes that could cause health and safety issues. In some cases cobbled roads may also be unsuitable as they are too uneven with the associated health and safety issues of wheeling bins to the collection point. All properties determined to be on unsuitable roads will be recorded on the survey along with their type of road surface.

Once the survey has been completed, approved or amended where necessary, the listing will be used to construct bin delivery sheets. The bin delivery sheets will list every property to be issued with a wheeled bin, for the use of the bin delivery company.

Ward Members will be supplied with a list of the households that will be receiving wheeled bins in their ward prior to delivery.

Arbitration

In the event of a dispute between a householder and SITA as to the suitability of a property to be provided with a wheeled bin, an Independent Arbitrator will be asked to assess the situation and determine the issue. The Arbitrator will consider the health and safety aspects of using a wheeled bin at the property in question.