

# Waste management

Bristol City Council has a statutory duty to collect domestic waste, which is undertaken by Bristol Waste. All waste storage facilities (including commercial properties) are expected to meet minimum standards, as are set out within [Waste and Recycling Storage and Collection Facilities – Guidance for Developers of Residential, Commercial and Mixed-Use Properties](#)

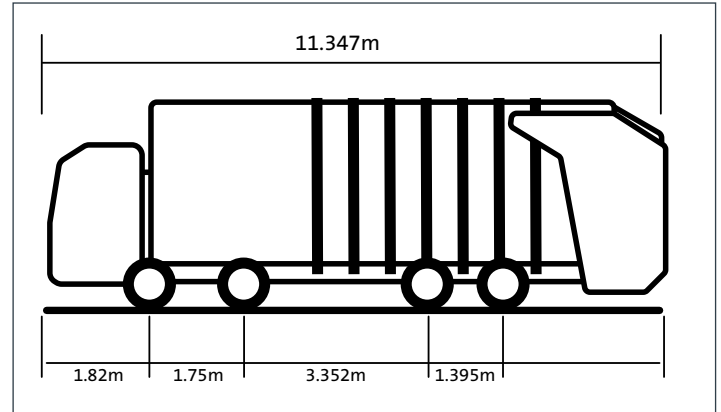
If having read the guidance you have any specific queries please email:

[BWCplanning@bristolwastecompany.co.uk](mailto:BWCplanning@bristolwastecompany.co.uk)

The following summarises some design principles to ensure that developments can be accessed and serviced effectively, whilst being sensitively designed so the requirements of larger vehicles do not dominate the layout. Please refer to the *Waste Guidance* for more detailed information.

## Access for Refuse vehicles

- New developments are expected to incorporate adequate provision for easy access by refuse collection vehicles (RCVs). Where there is no through route, turning facilities for a 11.4m long vehicle will be required, demonstrated through swept path analysis. RCVs should not be expected to reverse further than 12m for safety reasons
- Bristol Waste RCVs will access adopted roads for waste collection.
- If a development is not proposed to be adopted, and it is intended that waste storage facilities are accessed from the internal access roads and private space, Bristol Waste will not undertake this without the developers signing an indemnity



**Fig 1: Design Vehicle – Large Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV)**

agreement. If they are not willing to do this or the roads and / or access do not meet minimum standards (such as where they are too narrow) then a collection point must be provided adjacent to the adopted highway. This must not obstruct movement or impede visibility.

- Any structure under which an RCV has to operate must provide a minimum clearance of 4m or 5.15m, where toploader RCVs will be present.
- The working length of an RCV including the bin and area required for the operative is 15m.
- Where blocks of flats have mini recycling centres, side loading vehicles called toploaders will be used. They require a minimum working area of 12m long x 5.2m wide and cannot operate on one-way gyratory systems.
- The emptying position should be relatively flat and level. Dropped kerbs are required to help crews move four wheeled bins onto the carriageway for collection.

Commercial developments will need to demonstrate that their waste can be safely stored within their site, and collected without detrimental impact on the highway network. Waste from commercial developments are not be left on the highway at any time.

## Access for residents and business users

- Residents should not be expected to carry/wheel their waste further than 30m from their homes to a storage or collection point.
- Routes and pathways for occupants to gain access to and use storage areas should achieve the same standards of width, gradient and lighting as for refuse collectors.

## Access for refuse collectors

- The collection point should be at the front of the property where practically possible.
- From the collection point to the RCV operatives will not:
  - Push/pull four wheeled bins (600ltr & 1,100ltr) more than 5m.
  - Carry bagged refuse more than 10m.
  - Push/pull a wheelie bin more than 15m.
- Access paths should not be less than 1.5m wide, free from kerbs/steps, relatively level, excluding difficult turns/bends especially on slopes, constructed from a non-slip surface with sufficient natural or artificial light. Dropped kerbs (maximum 6mm upstand) must be provided where large bins are to be emptied from the carriageway level.

## Design of waste stores

- Public footways/footpaths or roads must not be impeded or used as a storage area for containers or bags.
- Refuse containers such as wheelie bins / recycling bags must not be left out on the footway apart from on the day of collection and be taken in as soon after they have been emptied as possible. Larger bins or large numbers of waste containers massed together must not be left on the highway at any time.
- All bins/boxes should be contained within a dedicated suitably screened/secure/ventilated area that prevents access by scavenging pests or third parties.
- Waste stores should not be used to accommodate cycle parking.
- Storage should not require waste to be brought through the dwelling (i.e. no rear storage without sufficient independent access to rear gardens)
- Bin stores should have 1.5m wide doors, which must not open outwards onto the adopted highway.
- In mixed use developments commercial waste should be stored separately from residential waste

Guidance on the provision for the number and size of waste containers and size of storage areas can be found in the *Waste Guidance*.



**Fig 2: Recycling collection** (photo: Bristol Waste)