

**To the Chairperson and Members
Of Central Area Committee**

8th July 2025

Report to the Central Area Committee Meeting from Waste Management Services

The City Council is firmly committed to providing a clean city environment for all residents, workers, and visitors. The following report provides an update on progress on the implementation of a number of projects, to improve the cleanliness of the city and reduce illegal dumping. The projects include:-

- (i) Removal of Derogations
- (ii) CCTV scheme
- (iii) Reverse Register Scheme
- (iv) Shared Bin Initiative

1. Removal of Derogations in Pilot Area

In accordance with the Waste Management (Storage, Presentation and Segregation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws 2018, section 2.4 (c), Dublin City Council intends to begin the removal of the derogations and phase out the permission to present waste on the kerbside for collection in plastic bags through an Executive Order.

Waste Collection is a private industry operating in an open market, and service providers in this sector function under license issued by the National Waste Permit Collection Office (NWPCO). Since July 2024, Waste Management Services have been in discussions with the main private waste collectors, informing them of our intention to remove derogations across the city. We have been working collaboratively with this group to develop a scheme that offers alternative waste collection options acceptable to both the industry and the city council.

The waste collectors, in turn, have been informing their customers about the forthcoming removal of the derogation and the various waste collection options that will be available. It has been agreed to launch this city-wide project starting in an area that includes approximately 90 streets in a prominent commercial district. The area selected for the pilot area and Phase 1 includes the Temple Bar Area, Grafton Street Area, extending to Fitzwilliam Street.

Waste Collection Options – Phase 1

The waste collectors have proposed three options for waste collection in the Phase 1 area to meet the needs of all customers:

1. Transition as many customers as possible to reusable receptacles.
2. Offer business-to-business collection at specific times during the day for customers choosing to use plastic bags, ensuring waste is collected directly from them rather than left on city pavements.
3. Install on-street compactors in designated locations for customers who do not require daily collection and may only need to dispose of waste occasionally.

While the first two options are primarily a matter between waste collectors and their customers, Dublin City Council has agreed to facilitate the third option, allowing for the placement of on-street compactors in designated public spaces to serve the Phase 1 project area. On-street communal waste collection is common in Europe, and its implementation is essential for the project's viability.

The waste collectors serving this Phase 1 area have confirmed that the compactor units will be communal, accessible to all waste collectors who choose to provide collection services by offering "tagged bags" in this area. The planned locations for the compactors include the top of Grafton Street near St. Stephen's Green, serving customers from Grafton Street and adjacent streets, and Fownes Street, which will service the Temple Bar/College Green area. These mobile compactors will be available for customer use at any time when insitu. It is proposed that the units will be emptied each morning between 4:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

As the compactors require an electrical supply to power the compaction mechanism, thereby increasing their capacity, approval for this supply had to be obtained from ESB networks. This application and approval process with ESB has delayed the project, but the necessary approvals have now been received. The civil and electrical works are currently being planned to complete the electrical connection works, and once complete the full implementation of the project can take place. We anticipate the electrical connection work being completed in the next 4 – 6 weeks. Thereafter the derogation will formally be removed and waste presented in plastic bags on the city's pavements will no longer be permitted in this pilot area.

Further, we are currently in the process of identifying locations for compactors in a similar area as phase 1 in the commercial area in the North of the City. We propose to move to this area immediately after the phase 1 area is in operation and continue the roll out of the project.

2. CCTV Project

Applicable Legislation

Under section 23A of the Litter Pollution Act of 1997, Local Authorities may operate CCTV schemes for the purposes of deterring environmental pollution, and facilitating the deterrence, prevention, detection, and prosecution of offences under the Act of 1997. Pursuant to section 23B of that Act, the Local Government Management Agency ("LGMA") is required to prepare and submit to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications ("the Minister") for his or her approval a draft code or codes of practice for the purposes of setting standards for the operation of Section 23A.

The Project

The aim of installing CCTV cameras on the city's streets is to prevent, detect and prosecute incidents of illegal dumping on our streets and at our unstaffed Bring Banks, so that Dublin City Council can provide clean, pleasant and inviting streets for its residents to live in, work in and where people can visit and enjoy on a daily basis.

The CCTV project will focus on areas where illegal dumping is evident. The initial scheme has been separated into two phases. The first phase will focus on installing cameras on 3 streets in the North East Inner City. These include:-

- (i) Belevedere Place
- (ii) Sherard Street
- (iii) Summer Street North

The second phase of the scheme will involve placing CCTV cameras at brick banks and textile banks across the city where there is a particular history and evidence of illegal dumping.

Pursuant to section 23B there are now a number of steps local authorities must complete in order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations, and that have been agreed in conjunction with the LGMA. The steps to be completed are outlined below.

Steps to be carried out in order to implement schemes

1. Executive Manager approval for the Project Team to prepare a draft Business Case and draft Local Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)
2. Appropriate public consultation:
 - Online public consultation to allow members of public express their opinion on the deployment of CCTV cameras for each scheme.
 - Advisory signage re the installation and use of CCTV cameras.
 - Elected Representatives are informed at Area Committee meetings.
3. Data Protection Officer approves signage, draft DPIA and Business Case
4. Executive Manager approves the draft Business Case and DPIA and presents them to the Oversight Board for approval.
5. The Oversight Board approves the CCTV Scheme and forwards it to the Chief Executive for approval
6. Chief Executive to give the final approval for commencement of the CCTV Scheme.

Progress/Challenges

The Project Team have completed all steps in order to progress the first phase of the scheme and had planned to install CCTV Cameras on Public Lighting poles. Unfortunately, we have been advised by Public Lighting Management that CCTV cameras cannot be attached to any of their assets due a number of reasons such as:

- The risk of negatively impacting the traffic lights,
- Heritage assets not suitable for mounting CCTV cameras.
- Cannot approve mounting CCTV apparatus at this mounting height.
- Electrical Circuit is non-compliant by modern standards (2-core cable) and cannot be added to.

This has delayed the installation of CCTV Cameras and we are working with Public Lighting Management and Road Works Control to install new poles to accommodate CCTV cameras that will only use Solar power for the first phase of the scheme. We anticipate poles and cameras being installed within the next 4 weeks.

It is the intention to move immediately to the second phase of the scheme, and prepare the necessary documentation and seek approval from the project board for this phase, which will involve placing cameras at Bring/textile banks across the city where illegal dumping is evident.

3. Reverse Register Scheme

Legislation

Under section 3(c) of the Waste Management Act 1986 (as amended by Section 27 of the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022) a local authority may establish and maintain a register of postcodes in respect of addresses in its functional area from which household or commercial waste is **not**

- (a) Collected by an authorised waste collector
- (b) Deposited at a waste facility, or
- (c) Otherwise disposed of or treated in accordance with this Act

for the purposes of establishing compliance by original producers and other waste holders with section 32(1A) and any regulations or bye-laws made under this Act in relation to household waste or commercial waste.

Section 34C of the Waste Management Act, as amended sets out obligations collectors have in relation to the provision of information on their customers. It provides that local authorities may seek information from collectors on households or commercial premises so that local authorities, in turn, can build up a register of households and commercial premises that are signed up for collection services.

It is important to note that in the creation of registers to monitor compliance, the local authority shall consult with the organisations Data Protection officer and complete a Data Protection Impact Assessment, in accordance with section 84 of the Data Protection Act 2018. Following the creation of the DPIA, and based on this information, the CEO of the Local Authority must approve the establishment of the registers in order for the scheme to proceed.

The Project

The project involves completing a number of steps in order to drive compliance, and to prevent, detect and prosecute incidents of illegal dumping on our streets. The WERLA offices have established processes and detailed step by step guidance documents, to assist local authorities in the implementation of this scheme.

Dublin City Council have contracted Amtivo to engage with both Waste collection agencies and the residents/occupiers of buildings in the Dublin 1, 3 and 7 areas, as illegal dumping is particularly prevalent in these areas. This will result in the creation of a compliant register, in the first instance, following which a non-compliant or reverse register can be established. This information will assist Dublin City Council to enforce the Bye-Laws for the Storage, Presentation and Segregation of Household and Commercial Waste 2018.

Current Update:

The project is at an early stage, where the preparation of the detailed Data Protection Impact Assessment is currently being compiled. Prior to the completion of this assessment, our Law Department has requested information regarding the safety measures that our IT Section has in place to protect personal details that would be provided by Amtivo as part of the project. We are currently awaiting this information from our IT department.

This information should complete the DPIA, allowing us to proceed to seek approval for the scheme by the CEO. Once approved, Amtivo can proceed with Stage 1 of the project which involves seeking data from the waste collectors on those residents/businesses that have a waste collection contract in order to begin the establishment of the compliant register.

4. Shared Bin Initiative

Dublin City Council BETA is an initiative created to imagine, trial and establish solutions that improve the experience of living in the Capital. It gives us a way to better understand and respond to issues, and for citizens it's an easier way to be heard on these issues.

Several BETA Projects have arisen from a research phase looking at the topic of illegal dumping and waste – one of which is the Shared Bins project.

This shared bin initiative is a collaboration between the BETA unit and Waste Management section. The project seeks to explore whether shared, on-street, waste bins would be a useful solution to improve the domestic waste experience for residents of urban neighbourhoods and ensure cleaner streets and more navigable footpaths. We have had initial discussions with the private waste collectors and they have agreed to participate in the trial.

A prototype of the shared bin facility has been constructed and we are in the process of choosing a suitable location to start the trial. We hope to begin comprehensive discussions with the relevant residents very shortly. Depending on those discussions, we would hope to install the trial in the coming months.

The relevant residents will be active participants in the trial and we will work closely with them to co-create and explore the solution. Once the learnings have been achieved, the temporary trial will be removed and a public report will be produced.

We would hope to present the learnings from the pilot to councillors once the project has been completed.

Barry Woods
Head of Waste Management Services
30th June 2025