



**REVIEW AND RECOMMEND BIN CONSULTATION**

Please see attached information regarding the above. If you would like us to review your current bins and offer our advice / re-site bins or would consider the purchase of co-mingles please fill in the below consultation and return by email to [bin@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:bin@somerset.gov.uk)

**What is your Name?**

**What is your Email address?**

**What is the name of your Parish / Town Council?**

**Contact Number:**

**Would you like a bin review for your Parish / Town?**

**Are there litter or dog fouling problem areas in your Parish / Town? If so, please give details of where they are:**

**Is there an issue with bins, such as over full or misused? If so, please give details of their locations, if not, please answer no:**

**Would your parish / town council consider purchasing a co-mingle bin?**





**Dear Parish / Town Council**

**We are offering a bin review service to assess need, location and to determine if existing bins are fit for purpose.**

Dog fouling, general littering and fly tipping is a continuing big issue both in Somerset and nationally. We deal with dozens of reports each month from Parishes / Towns and the public.

To tackle these issues, we want to work with parishes / towns and the public to educate and reduce the amount of waste being disposed of irresponsibly, and to help get the message across, we would like to remind Parish / Town Councils that we can provide: -

- digital copies of our posters to print as signage or for sharing on social media pages, PC websites and handbooks.
- post leaflets to homes in areas where a suspected offender has been highlighted to us, along with increased patrols at key times.
- provide stickers for bins asking residents to take their waste home and dispose of in their own wheelie bins if the public bin is full.

### **How we assess the need for bins**

When a bin, either litter or dog waste is requested by a Parish / Town Council, Locality Officers will begin a series of patrols in that area, signing, clearing, and liaising with dog walkers – depending on the outcome of these patrols a bin may or may not be recommended. This will be determined by how much dog foul or littering is cleared from the area, and how often it needs clearing. Patrolling will enable our team to get a clear picture of how well used the existing bins are, and where the need is greater.

In the first instance we may look to re-site an under used bin to another area of the Parish where it would be more use. Where a litter and dog waste bin sit side by side, or a bin is clearly too small to hold the amount of waste being disposed of, we are recommending and introducing co-mingle bins, which are proving to be a success in the problem areas we have trialled them in.

It is important to explain that we are not looking to increase the number of bins – although where there is a clear need after patrolling this may be an option. Our main aim is to educate the public, manage what we have and get the best possible use from bins and ensure they are in areas most in need.



We are finding that many of the current traditional dog bins in use are requiring more frequent emptying due to demand or misuse, resulting in some bins being full for longer periods. This not only has an impact on residents and the environment, but also our crews and resources.

We have found that replacing traditional dog bins and litter bins with co-mingle bins has resulted in our once weekly collections being maintained without overflow.

It is important to state that the introduction of more bins is not always the answer, and extra bins purchased by the parish without following the above process and not agreed by the council cannot be installed or emptied by us. In instances where this occurs the parish would need to instruct a private contractor to remove the waste.

### **If your Parish / Town can relate to some of the above issues, we invite you to request a bin review.**

Somerset Councils' Environmental Services (South) and the Locality Team are offering to review the pre-existing council collected bins in your Parish / Town Council to assess if they are still fit for purpose, would be better placed elsewhere, or if viable and beneficial, recommend a co-mingle bin.

Co-mingle bins range in style and design, from top loading to side loading (pictured below) with apertures flaps. These bins range in cost from £699 - £758 including installation.



The co-mingle is a 240ltr bin which gives an increase in size from a standard dog bin (25ltr) and a litter bin (80-100ltr) making this an ideal solution to an increasing problem. These bins are both beneficial to our operatives and our residents alike. They hold more waste to accommodate both litter and dog foul, and have smaller door apertures so reducing smell and deterring the fly tipping of household waste – something we have seen an increase in since householders have gone to a three weekly waste collection.

The co-mingle bins are wheeled and loaded onto a side loading lorry, rather than manually lifted by our crew, making the entire process quicker, more efficient and safer for our crews, allowing them to spend more time street cleansing on a day-to-day basis.



You can read more about co-mingle bins [here](#).

**To request a bin review please complete our short questionnaire above.**

You can check out some of the recent reviews from Parish Councils who already have co-mingle bins installed.

#### **Re-site and installation of a co-mingle bin at Horton Parish Council**



*“Over the past 3 months Horton Parish Council has worked closely with Locality Officers at South Somerset District Council over the thorny problem of ‘dog waste’ and the lack of appropriate dog waste bins in the village of Horton. I toured the village with a Locality Officer to identify problem areas where a bin was necessary. The bin at the bottom of Goose Lane was a particular problem, as it was used by both the village of Broadway as well as Horton and therefore was frequently overloaded. It was decided the best solution*

*here was the installation of a co-mingle bin – taking both litter and dog waste.*

*Where before we had two dog waste bins incorrectly placed or the wrong size, we now have four bins all sited to cater for the dog walkers of both Horton and Broadway. With plenty of notices and correctly sited bins the issue of dog waste in Horton is no longer a major problem thanks to the Service Delivery and Locality Team from SSDC!”*

**Peter Babbington, Horton Parish Council (Email: [hortonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hortonparishclerk@gmail.com))**

**Example of installation of two co-mingles in West Coker**



***Kate Fullerton, Clerk to West Coker Parish Council said:***

*“All I can say is there have been no complaints. The bin at top of Ryefields is full so it is definitely being used, as is the dog bin at Burrells, so both were well worth doing.”*

**The review was initially offered to Parish Councils in May, since the review has taken place, we have re-sited bins to other areas within the parishes and agreed removal of not fit for purpose bins and the installation of co-mingles with Kingsdon Parish Council, Limington and Brympton Parish to date.**

