



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

Northampton Town Centre Environmental Policy



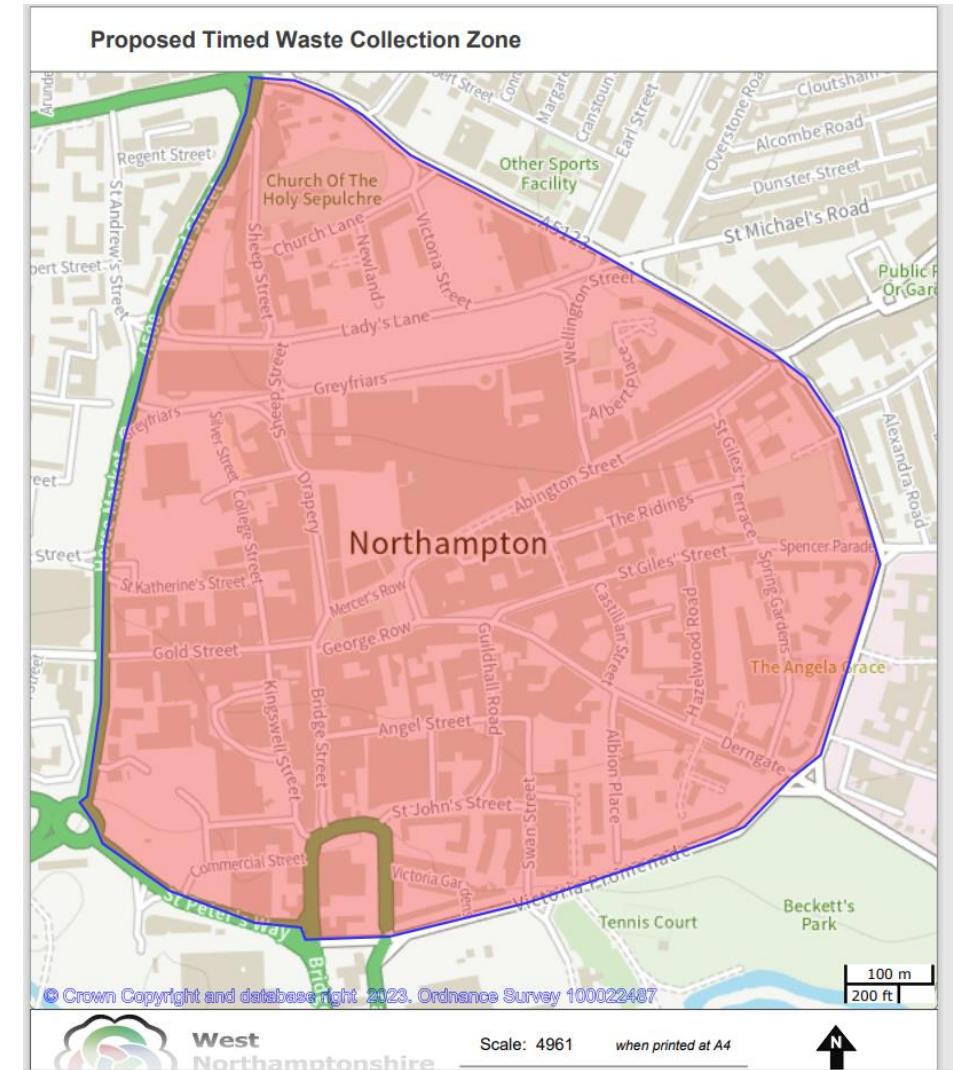
Project Objective

To remove the growing accumulation of commercial waste bins from the streets of Northampton town centre.

Timing to link with completion of Town Centre regeneration works to maximise the positive impact of the investment.

The Proposed Solution

- Policy to control when waste can be presented for collection.
- Morning and evening times to align with regen 'pedestrian times'
- At all other times waste sacks & waste bins must be stored within business premises
- Similar to many other authorities' 'commercial waste policies'
- Same policy will apply to commercial and household waste



Consultation

- Presentations to BID, Northampton Town Council & Northampton Forward Board
- Public consultation – 11 weeks between 30 November 2023 and 18 February 2024
- 106 responses (only 7 from businesses)
- Responses broadly supportive of the policy
- Confirmed most affected areas, and desire for extension to wider area

Further engagement with businesses

- All businesses in the affected area leafleted at start of process
- WNC Officers have visited businesses in late Jan early Feb and more visits being planned.
- 418 businesses visited
 - 63 businesses with no waste contract in place
 - 40 with no offsite storage
- Contacted the main waste contractors operating in the Town Centre.

No onsite storage - options considered

1. Provide bin stores
2. Allow storage in demarked areas
3. More frequent collections – bags stored on premises
4. Facilitate alternate waste storage options (e.g. Grosvenor)
5. Promote Commercial Waste Service at HWRCs

Phased Approach

- To be effective, the policy will require enforcement action
- Propose initial engagement / grace period (for 3 months) with enforcement from September
- Resource requirement – additional 3-4 enforcement staff
- Review policy after 12 months
- Consider possibility of additional locations
- **Outcome - more attractive town centre**

Bristol example

Example of work carried out by Bristol City Council - next slides borrowed with pride!

Bristol Process

- Step 1 – initial letter/ leaflet delivered and bins labelled
- Step 2 - Follow-up visits to discuss progress repeated 4 times
- Step 3 – Section 47 EPA notices served on businesses and section 149 Highways Act notices on waste contractors
- Step 4 – Bin seizures and contractors invoiced
- Step 5 – Fixed penalty notices issued for non-compliance
- Step 6 – area handed over to contractor for ongoing enforcement



Bristol Results

- Initial pilot was carried out in the Old City :

- 102 commercial trade bins no longer on the streets
- 8 commercial bins seized
- No FPNs issued

- Phase 2

- 346 commercial trade waste bins belonging to 90 businesses no longer on streets
- 53 commercial trade waste bins have been seized
- No FPNs issued

- Phase 3

- 113 commercial trade waste bins belonging to 81 businesses no longer on streets
 - 12 commercial bins seized
 - 5 FPNs issued
- Around 700 businesses visited and now over 500 bins removed from streets

Commercial waste companies throughout these phases do not do anything until they are threatened with cost of reclaiming bins

Bristol results

King Street BS1:

Before



After



Baldwin Street BS1:

Before



After



Clair Street / St Stephens Avenue BS1:

Before



After



King William Avenue BS1:

Before



After

