

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
Infrastructure and Climate Change Department
Cleansing Section



Street Bin Review

April 2025

Introduction

Annual reviews related to the street bin service are conducted by the Cleansing Section of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, with the last one taking place in March of 2024. Each review looks at the distribution of bins across the county, the frequency of individual bin collections, the misuse of bins at some locations and the requests for removal or installation of bins since the previous review.

The bin service is a critical service within the county and requires constant vigilance and staffing to ensure that bins are emptied and maintained in a timely fashion. Areas of heavy footfall due to the likes of social events or indeed day to day events can add pressures to the bin service and the demands can therefore be dynamic at times.

The importance of this service is highlighted in DLRs Corporate Plan 2025-2029, where the councils' priorities for its public realms are outlined. Under Strategic Pillar No.4– “Economic Development and Tourism”– it states we seek to enhance the public realm in our towns and urban villages. And under Strategic Pillar No.5– “Operational Excellence”– it states we must focus on providing high quality maintenance in our public realm. The efficient management of our bin service directly aligns with these objectives, as it ensures the public realms stay a litter-free and attractive for all to enjoy. This document is a non-exhaustive synopsis on the ‘bin service’ which outlines the findings of the ‘April 2025 Street Bin Review’.

Street Bin Service During 2024

At the time of writing this report, the Cleansing Section maintains the following street bins;

- A stock of 450No. Smart Bins, as shown in Figure 1 (a). The original figure in 2015 was 300No. bins. Future considerations need to be more in line with waste reduction measures and upgrading/replacing existing bins within the County as opposed to continuing to increase the stock of bins. Cleansing inspect the existing fleet of Smart Bins and prepare a Program for gradual replacement of the the fleet.
- 14No. old style metal bins are located at beaches and areas where there's a risk of vandalism or in areas which are difficult to reach.
- 13No. dog waste bins are in service along coastal locations where it is not feasible to place a Smart Bin.
- During the summer period of 2024, Cleansing put into service 14No. barrel bins and 9No. 1100L bins across the County to alleviate the pressure on the Big Belly service.

- At present, 25No. Recycling Bins are in service within the county. Any further bin purchases or trials will require funding.
- 10 pizza bins are in service within the county.
- 16No. Smart Bins have been removed from service because of damage. 15No. of them were burnt out and reported to the Gardaí and 1No. was damaged during the construction works. 1No. Temporary Barrel Bin was damaged by fire at Killiney Beach.
- All Big Belly Bins are fitted with sensors which provide real-time feedback via a GSM telemetry system that monitors the waste levels within the bins. Alerts are triggered when a bin is near or at capacity thus increasing bin collection efficiency.
- Circa 90% of Smart Bins are fitted with either internal or external ashtrays. All new bins are supplied with internal ashtrays. Cleansing continue to install external ashtrays on old bins.

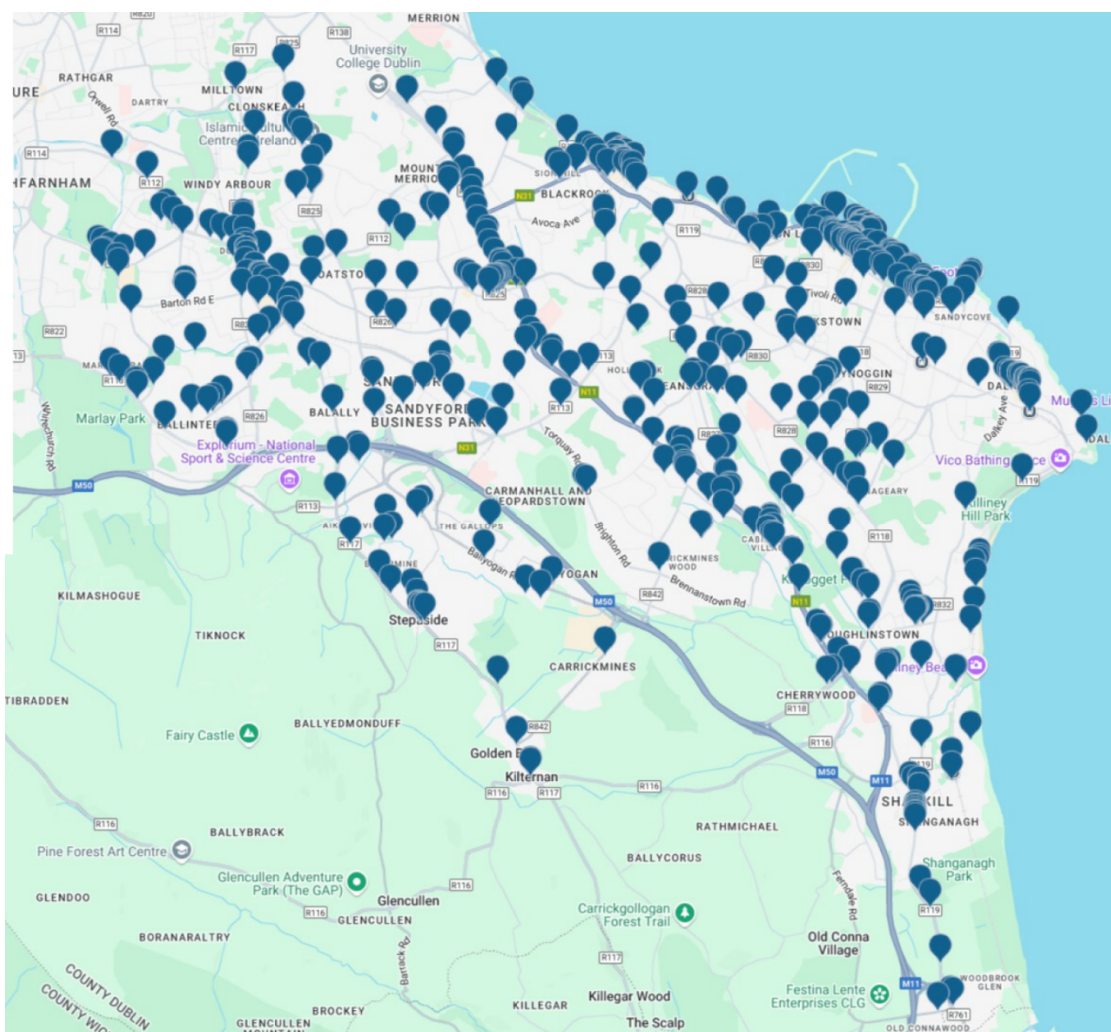


Figure 1 (a): Locations of 450 Smart Bins on DLR Streets – March 2024.

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Figure 1 (b) Big Belly Bin with internal ashtray



Figure 1 (c) Big Belly Bin with external ashtray

Pizza Bins

Outdoor eating continues to be a popular activity with the knock-on effect that Big Belly bin hoppers can become blocked with pizza boxes thus rendering partially empty bins unusable. In 2021, DLR installed a series of pizza bins at strategic locations across the County in order to tackle the high number of Big Belly bins that were becoming blocked on a regular basis. The installation of the pizza bins has helped greatly, and DLR have maintained 10 pizza bins at the locations listed below throughout 2024.

Bin	Location of Pizza Bin	Area
Bin 442P	Village Plaza- Centra/BOI (Pizza Bin)	Blackrock
Bin 114P	Park Entrance at Booterstown DART station (Pizza Bin)	Booterstown
Bin 441P	Archbold's Castle (Pizza Bin)	Dalkey
Bin 424P	Pavilion Playground - Mao (Pizza Bin)	Dún Laoghaire
Bin 426P	Sandyford Road - Opposite Flye Fit Gym (Pizza Bin)	Dundrum
Bin 340P	Dundrum Road Flanagan's Funeral Home (Pizza Bin)	Dundrum
Bin 022P	Carrick-Brennan Road at Goggins Pub (Pizza Bin)	Monkstown
Bin 089P	Pearse Street (corner) at junction with Sallynoggin Road (Pizza Bin)	Sallynoggin
Bin 313P	Stepaside Village, at Mulvey's Pharmacy (Pizza Bin)	Stepaside
Bin 1515506	Ballymoss Road - Outside Legend Biotech	Sandyford

Table 2: Pizza Bin Locations

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Figure 2 Pizza Bin and Waste Bin in Dun Laoghaire

Dog Waste Bins

Cleansing aim to encourage a culture shift in public attitudes towards litter and dog fouling and thereby instil personal responsibility on the public to look after their waste generated whilst in the public domain in a responsible manner. This is achieved through promotion of anti-dog fouling campaigns and the adequate provision of both Smart Bins and dog waste bins. 13No. dog waste bins are in service along coastal locations where it is not feasible to place a Smart Bin. Cleansing must use a set of criteria items in order to select suitable locations for Smart Bins, in which dog waste can be disposed of. These criterions include the consideration of whether the bin would be at high risk of misuse through the disposal of domestic waste in locations such as residential areas. Therefore, both Smart Bins and dog waste bins are not prioritised in residential locations. Locations close to schools, shops and shopping areas are generally prioritised.

Location	Area	Qty
Seapoint	Seapoint	1
West Pier	Dún Laoghaire	2
Bray	Bray	1
Sandycove	Sandycove	1
Quinn's Road	Shankill	2
Corbawn Lane	Shankill	1
Whyterock	Killiney	1
Seafield Road	Killiney	2
Killiney Beach	Killiney	2

Table 3: Dog Waste Bin Locations

Seasonal Demands

In the years following the COVID 19 pandemic, we experienced the closure of several restaurants, which brought about a normalisation of take-out meals and consequently a surge in waste generation in the public realm. These changes in habits are still seen today and are more apparent during the holidays and in spells of good weather.

To accommodate the lack of available social spaces, the council constructed a number of new outdoor public spaces across the county and local businesses also availed of outdoor dining facilities. It is now more common for groups and social gatherings to congregate outdoors and drink coffees or have a take-out meal. The knock-on effect on the bin service is therefore a continuing requirement for more frequent collections on our bins.

Seasonal demands on the bin service require additional staffing resources at critical times in order to keep up with the dynamic pressures on the bins. Therefore, staffing operations are altered to cater for such demands with increased bin collections or litter picking duties in high priority areas.

As in previous years, in 2024 DLR deployed a series of temporary 1100L bins and barrel bins in strategic locations from Easter through to the end of the summer period. These additional temporary bins eased the pressure on the permanent Big Belly bin service and resulted in less littering problems than may have otherwise occurred.

Location	Area	Std-Type
Marine Road at the Church	Dún Laoghaire	Barrel Bin x1
Queen's Road	Dún Laoghaire	Barrel Bin x1
Forty Foot	Forty Foot	Barrel Bin x2
Sandycove beach area	Sandycove	Barrel Bin x2
Seapoint	Seapoint	Barrel Bin x2
Archbold's Castle	Dalkey	Barrel Bin x1
Writers Corner	Dalkey	Barrel Bin x1
Dillon's Park	Dalkey	Barrel Bin x1
Blackrock	Blackrock	Barrel Bin x2
Killiney Beach	Killiney	Barrel Bin x1

Table 4(a): Standard type seasonal overflow bins – 14No. barrels bins



Figure 3(a) 1100L Bins Distributed at Strategic Locations: Newtownsmith & The Pavilion

Location	Area	Dumpster
Blackrock, Bath Place	Blackrock	1100L Bin
Sandycove - Outside the Lifeguard hut	Sandycove	1100L Bin
George's Street Lower	Dún Laoghaire	1100L Bin
West Pier Car Park	Dún Laoghaire	1100L Bin
The Pavilion	Dún Laoghaire	1100L Bin
The Pavillion – Outside Art Gallery	Dún Laoghaire	1100L Bin
Newtownsmith – Opposite Islington Avenue	Glasthule	1100L Bin
Marine Parade - Opposite Marine Avenue	Glasthule	1100L Bin
Ballybrack village	Ballybrack	1100L Bin

Table 4(b): 1100L capacity wheeled dumpster bins at 9 locations



Figure 3(b) Barrel Bins Distributed at Christmas Market

Budget

In recent years, it has become apparent that a build-up in the capital reserve is needed so as to allow for the replacement of the aged fleet of Smart Bins. A significant portion of the existing smart bins are circa 10 years old and beyond their typical service life. In the 2024 budget, a transfer to capital of €100,000 was reintroduced and this increased to €450,000 in the 2025 budget allocation. Aside from the capital reserve, the remaining operational budget in 2024 remained broadly in line with previous years.

2024 Initiatives

A summary of the key initiatives undertaken in 2024 to combat demand on the Bin Service are listed below:

- Weekday and weekend bin collection operations were maintained in line with 2024 requirements.
- A new contract for the provision and maintenance of Big Belly Bins was established as a result of tender procedure. The contract provides for a wide range of purchase, rent, lease purchase options, enhanced opportunities for advertising campaigns and improved levels of maintenance and servicing.
- Temporary barrel bins and 1100L wheelie bins were deployed at busy locations during the summer months.
- Enhanced regular maintenance of the areas where Bottle Banks and Clothes Banks are placed.
- Additional General Operatives were deployed in Towns and Villages on a seasonal basis, with weekend hours extended where necessary in times of peak demand.
- Three bin trucks continued to service the street bins countywide.
- Bins were relocated from low usage sites to high usage locations as in previous years.
- Bin collections were heavily monitored with staffing adjusted as required.
- Regular monitoring and trend analysis were undertaken of the Big Belly Clean application statistics to inform the dynamic changes to service demand.
- Additional resource and supports were provided to various public events that took place during the calendar year.

The Litter Management Plan 2023 – 2026

The Litter Management Plan 2023 - 2026 outlines targets and objectives for tackling the problem of litter pollution and sets out to achieve quantifiable improvements in the prevention of litter, with the following objectives:

- Prevent and control litter pollution in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council area
- Eliminate litter black spots
- On-going development of our education and awareness programmes in association with schools and communities
- Support any initiatives, new legislation and actions that arise from the recently published Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy.
- Ensure rigorous enforcement mechanisms of the Act and Bye-Laws are effective.

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Anti-Littering Campaigns 2024

As recommended in the Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, cross departmental campaigns to promote better education regarding anti-littering were ongoing in 2024. An external advertising agency was appointed to relay messages via DLRs bin adverts and other social media channels. Some such cross departmental campaigns included:

- The Anti-litter and dog fouling poster competition was launched in March for Primary Schools. 70No. Big Belly Bins were provided for displaying winning posters in different locations throughout the county.
- The Green-Schools Programme is an environmental education programme run by An Taisce in conjunction with the Local Authorities. A total of 117 schools registered for the Green-Schools programme in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown in 2024 with 30 Green-Schools renewal visits and assessments carried out.
- The Composting and Recycling for Schools Workshops was also delivered to 14 schools
- The Green Dog Walkers campaign was relaunched in late March.
- The ReLove Fashion Competition final successfully took place on March 21st in collaboration with the Rediscovery centre and 10 other local authorities.
- The Council continues to support community groups, Residents' Associations, and Tidy District groups in cleaning up local neighbourhoods through the
 - Community Clean-up Scheme
 - National Spring Clean.
- Promotion of the annual Tidy Districts Awards – a total of 33 Residents Associations, Tidy Towns, Tidy Districts and Estate Management groups entered.
- The annual Gum Litter Taskforce Roadshow.
- The Every Can Counts PixelCan installation of marine life was unveiled on East Pier, Dún Laoghaire in June, to coincide with World Ocean Day.
- The Recycled Christmas Decoration Competition which 31 schools entered.
- The No BBQ at the Beach campaign was advertised on Social Media and Local Media.
- Multiple funded workshops and training opportunities for schools in 2024/2025 were promoted widely via email and social media including ReLove Fashion, the Rubbish Film Festival, and Picker Pals.



Figure 4 (a) Big Belly Bin with dog fouling competition poster



Figure 4 (b) BBQ campaign poster

Previous Smart Bin Review: March 2024

The outcomes of the March 2024 Street Bin review included:

1. 122No. requests for additional bins were received in 2023. 39No. requests were approved leading to the installation of bins at 16No. locations and 69No. requests out of the 122No were denied. Many of requests were denied due to unsuitable location for placing and emptying bins. 14No. requests were referred to Parks Department.
2. 6No. bins were removed from service during the last review period due to excessive damage or vandalism in most cases damage by fire.
3. In order to implement the required installations as per the 2024 report, it was proposed to install 9No. new bins within the County.
4. 26No. Big Belly recycling bins were maintained in service.

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Recycling Bins

The Commercial Municipal Waste Characterisation Report of 2022, published by the EPA every 4 years, highlighted that with more people working from home overall commercial waste went down 27,300 tonnes that year. However, this statistic is misleading, as the report later clarifies the majority of the overall waste decrease was due to a decrease in recycling, whereas general waste increased. This should not be interpreted as a reduced demand for recycling bins, as the report also underscores the ongoing challenge of poor segregation of recyclable materials. With 37% of waste found in commercial waste bins being recyclable, it highlights the crucial role the council must play in encouraging the public to recycle properly, in order to achieve our sustainability goals.

Recycling Bins are deployed at strategic areas within the county to give a balanced representation across. DLR Cleansing Section presently maintain 25No. Recycling Bins, please refer to Table 5 for specific locations. The number of Recycling Bins decreased in 2024 - 1 bin was removed from the vandalism risk zone along with the waste one damaged by fire.

Two distinct waste types, plastic bottles and cans, were initially focused on. Other waste streams such as paper and other general forms of plastic were considered, but such materials can often become too highly soiled to be considered as a viable recycling waste material. Big Belly Recycling bins were paired with existing Big Belly general waste bins to provide the public with a recycling option for their plastic bottles and cans.

Since the introduction of Deposit Return Scheme (Re-turn) DLR have been faced with the situation when Re-turn bottles and cans are being placed in Big Belly Bins (waste and recycling) rather than being returned for recycling. To provide the public with an additional option for Re-turn bottles and cans DLR consider trialling the installation of shelves for such waste in collaboration with Re-turn.

It is expected that recycling bins will be used less for plastic bottles and cans. In this regards DLR is not considering installing new recycling bins in 2025 but is instead investigating Re-turn shelves for bins. At the same time the purpose of the recycling bins will be reviewed.



Figure 5 (a) – Set of General Waste, Recycling and Pizza bins on Ballymoss Road, Sandyford Industrial Estate

The areas covered by Recycling Bins are listed in the Table 5 below.

Area	Locations
Cabinteely	Old Bray Road – Cabinteely – Park Entrance
Cabinteely	Granville Road – Entrance to Kilbogget Park
Ballinteer	Grange Road – Opposite Centra at Bus Stop 2978
Dundrum	Dundrum Main Street – Beside Church
Dundrum	Dundrum Main Street – Opposite AIB
Dundrum	Dundrum Sandyford Road – Opposite Flye Fit Gym
Dundrum	Main Street – at Old Shopping Centre – Opposite Sherry Fitzgerald
Monkstown	Monkstown – Outside Spar at Pedestrian Crossing
Sandycove	Lifeguard Station at Sandycove beach
Dún Laoghaire	Peoples Park – Seafront Entrance
Dún Laoghaire	Marine Road, Shoe Lane Coffee. Installed during 2022
Dún Laoghaire	Pavilion near Insomnia Coffee. Not present all year.
Blackrock	Blackrock – Bath Place – Beside Dart Station
Blackrock	Idrone Terrace – Opposite No. 7
Blackrock	Idrone Terrace – Opposite No. 23
Seapoint	Seapoint Viewing Area – Seating Area
Seapoint	Seapoint – at Martello Tower

Sandyford	Ballymoss Road - Outside Legend Biotech
Stillorgan	Kilmacud Rd Bus Stop 3321 outside Stillorgan SC
Stillorgan	Old Dublin Road Bus Stop 2012
Stillorgan	Overflow Car Park, Bus Stop 3322. Installed during 2022
Stillorgan	Stillorgan Village- Taxi Rank
Shankill	Shankill Village near Spar. Installed during 2022
Shankill	Shankill Village near Champs Barbers. Installed during 2022
Stepaside	Stepaside Village-outside Stepside Medical

Table 5: Recycling units 25No provided up to March 2024

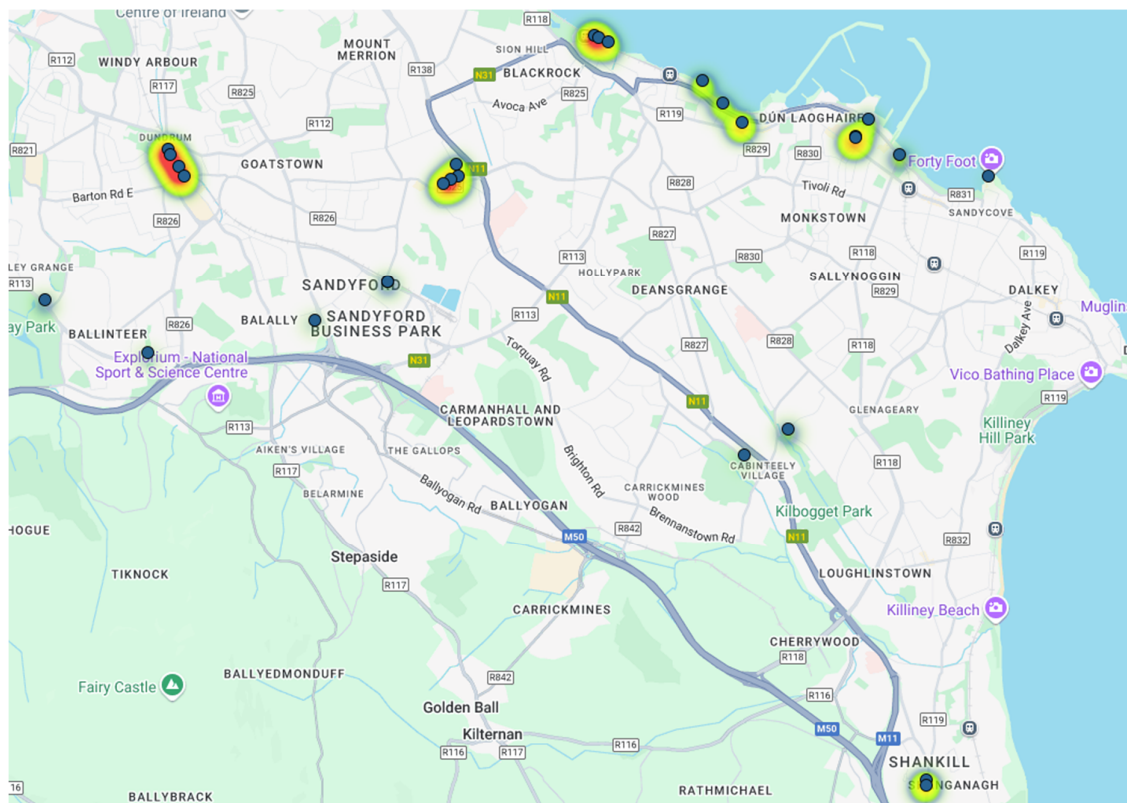


Figure 5 (b): Graphic Representation of 25No. Recycling Bin Locations

Recycling waste streams and collections of plastic bottles and cans have continued in a similar fashion as reported in the last years report. During 2024, a total of 457,702 litres of waste was collected from the Recycling Bins.

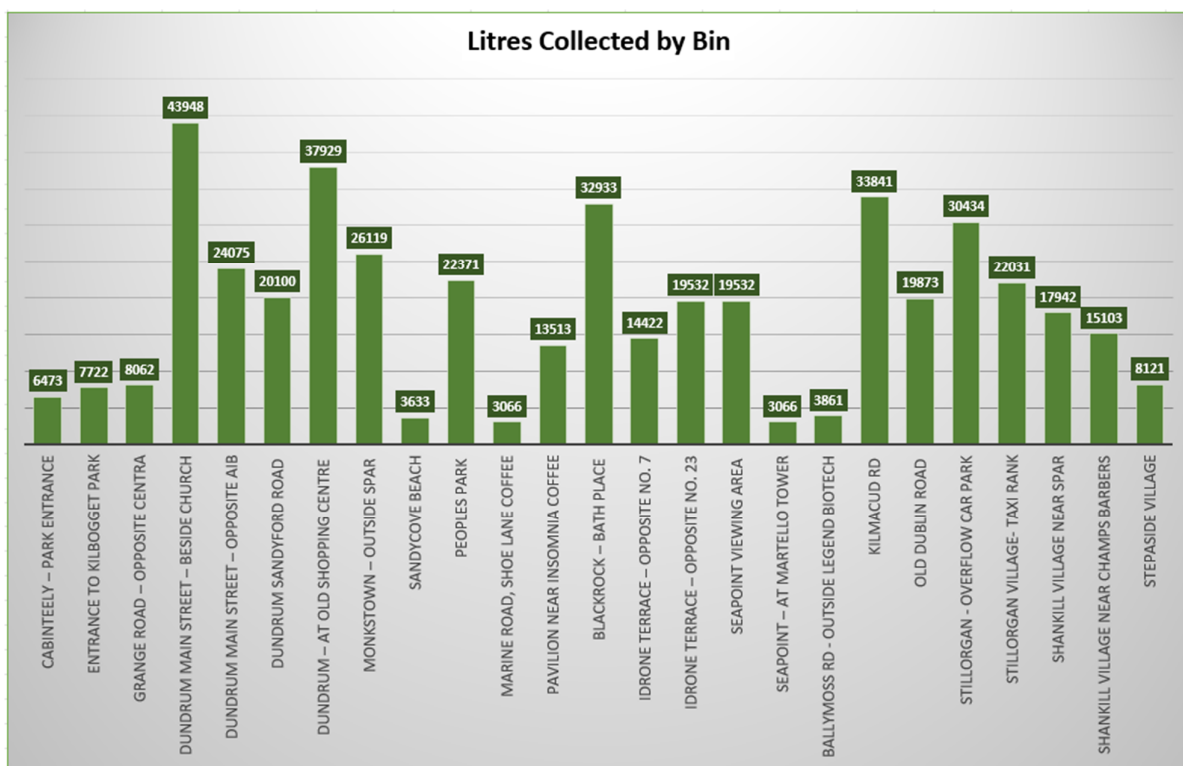


Figure 5 (c) Volume of Recycling Waste Collected during 2024

Challenges still exist with liquids and other such contaminants being deposited in the Recycling Bins. The EPA reported contamination found on recyclables had increased since last reported in 2018. Continuous education and awareness campaigns are needed to further inform the public on better usage of the Recycling Bins. Locations of the current stock of Recycling Bins are under review presently with a view to moving some of these bins to other more strategic locations so that more widespread information can be gathered. Improved signage of Recycling Bins is also under consideration to provide guidance and prevent contamination.

Composting Smart Bins Trial

DLR is preparing to conduct a composting bin trial on selected streets within the city. This initiative aims to assess the feasibility of providing dedicated public composting facilities to reduce organic waste in general waste streams, promote sustainability, and align with our broader environmental commitments - The Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 Action R16.

While we are enthusiastic about this project's potential environmental and community benefits, significant preparation is required to ensure its successful implementation. Key areas of focus include:

1. Logistical Planning – Addressing the practical aspects of bin installation, maintenance schedules, waste collection processes, and ensuring proper signage and public information campaigns to support the initiative.
 2. Community Engagement – Informing and educating residents and businesses in the trial areas to encourage correct use of the composting bins and foster participation.
 3. Monitoring and Evaluation – Establishing clear metrics to evaluate the trial’s success, including waste diversion rates, contamination levels, and public feedback.
- DLR recognise that the success of this trial depends on careful planning and multi-stakeholder collaboration, and we would greatly value the support of the council in facilitating these efforts.

Damaged Smart Bins

16No. smart bins were damaged in the period March 2024 to February 2025, which are listed in Table 6 below. All but one was fire damaged and all were reported to the An Garda Síochána. The damage to these bins was severe enough that they have all been taken out of service.

Two Smart Bins were temporarily removed from service for Halloween in the risk locations on Belarmine Avenue and Village Road to prevent vandalism and for safety reason.

The increase in number of damaged bins from last year prompted the DLR Cleansing Section to input stricter considerations for replacement. It was established only four units required replacing and were strategically relocated to close by areas with more natural surveillance. These measures should deter, and therefore minimise, vandalism to bins in the future.

Table 6: Bins Damaged 16No From March 2024 to February 2025

Area	Location	Damage Incurred	
Dún Laoghaire	Bin 55R Marine Road	Fire Damage	21-04-24
Dún Laoghaire	Bin 55L Marine Road	Fire Damage	21-04-24
Dún Laoghaire	Bin 487 George’s Street Upper	Fire Damage	22-04-24
N11	Bin 308 Wyattville Road	Fire Damage	07-06-24
Foxrock	Bin 3 Foxrock Ave	Construction Incident	16-07-24
Sandyford	Bin 309 Kilgobbin Road	Fire Damage	01-08-24
Sandyford	Bin 320 Sandyford Village	Fire Damage	01-08-24
Blackrock	Bin 119 Main Street	Fire Damage	01-08-24
Sandyford	Bin 84 Sandyford Road	Fire Damage	30-09-24
Kingstown	Bin 329 Brehon Field Road	Fire Damage	12-10-24
Stillorgan	Bin 482 Carysfort Avenue	Fire Damage	29-10-24
Loughlinstown	Bin 132 Churchview Road	Fire Damage	30-10-24
Ballinteer	Bin 446 Broadford Road	Fire Damage	31-10-24
Dundrum	Bin 357 Acorn Road	Fire Damage	31-10-24
N11	Bin 220 Cabinteely Village	Fire Damage	05-11-24
Dalkey	Bin 88 Hyde Road	Fire Damage	01-01-25



Figure 6 (a) Bin 320 - Burnt Bin at Hyde Park



Figure 6 (b) Burnt Bin 329 - Brehon Field Road

Collection Frequency January 2024 – December 2024

Collection and maintenance of street bins in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is carried out by three Cleansing Crews Monday to Sunday. The collection frequency shown below does not truly represent the full increase in effort or work done as the figures only reflect waste collections from within the bin and not contagious to the bin.

Monthly collection data from the 1st of January up until the 31st of December 2024 is presented below in Figure 7b and in the Table 7. Monthly collection data from the same period in 2023 is presented in Figure 7a for comparison.

Period of Collection	Number of Collections
01 st January 2024 – 31 st January 2024	4,905
01 st February 2024– 29 th February 2024	4,664
01 st March 2024 – 31 st March 2024	4,743
01 st April 2024– 30 th April 2024	4,662

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01 st May 2024 – 31 st May 2024	4,990
01 st June 2024 – 30 th June 2024	5,026
01 st July 2024 – 31 st July 2024	5,089
01 st August 2024 – 31 st August 2024	5,399
01 st September 2024 – 30 th September 2024	5,154
01 st October 2024 – 31 st October 2024	6,184
01 st November 2024 – 30 th November 2024	5,560
01 st December 2024 – 31 st December 2024	5,195

Table 7: Bins Collections in the period January 2024 to December 2024.

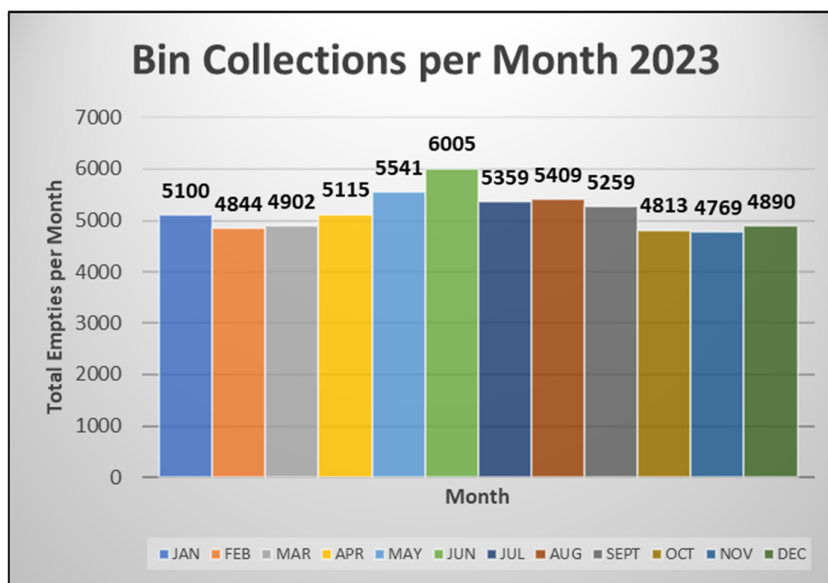


Figure 7 (a): Monthly Bin Collections 2023.

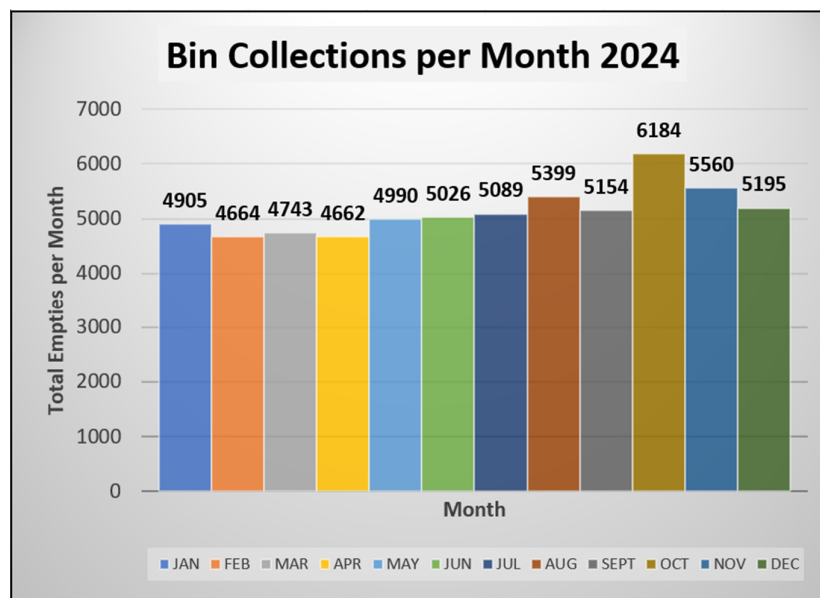


Figure 7 (b): Monthly Bin Collections 2024.

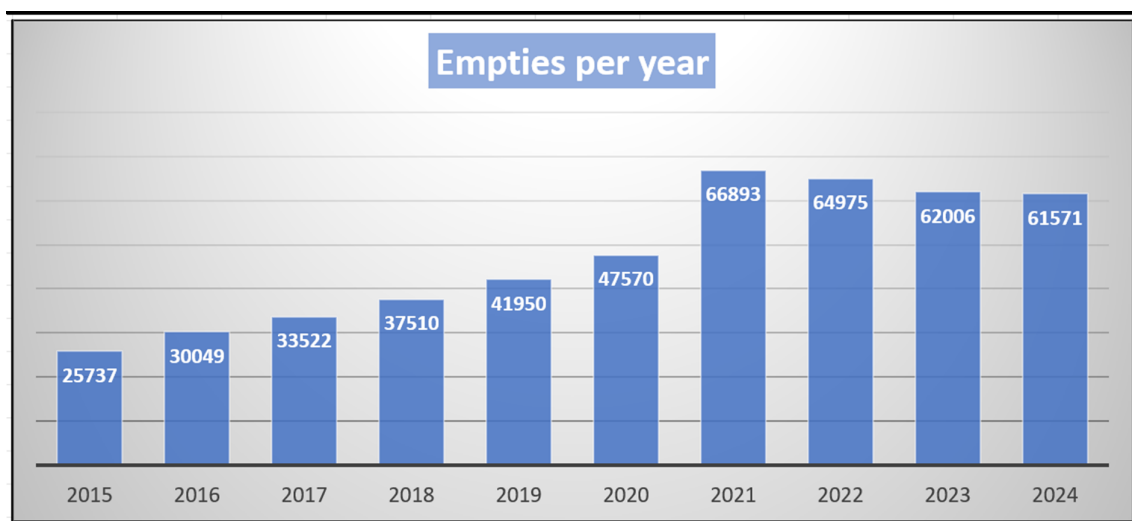


Figure 7 (c): Bin Collections 2015- 2024.

As shown in Figure 7(b), summer periods generally lead to higher bin collection numbers due to an increase in the number of people that now tend to congregate outdoors for social and recreational reasons. Figure 7(c) shows that the overall number of bin collections for 2024 is on a par with the number of collections for 2023. The bin service has grown by 139% since its inception in 2015 and is of immense importance to DLR.

Individual Bin Efficiency

The ‘Clean Big Belly Bin’ online application gives access to information regarding each individual bin. Using this system, bins with abnormal collection frequency can be identified and examined. These bins then become the focus of attention and thereafter they are examined to ascertain why the collections frequencies are abnormal. In some instances, the extenuating factors causing the abnormal collection rates cannot be mitigated and actions such as removal or relocation may need to be considered.

The following images display the frequency of collections of each bin as an average number of days between collections:

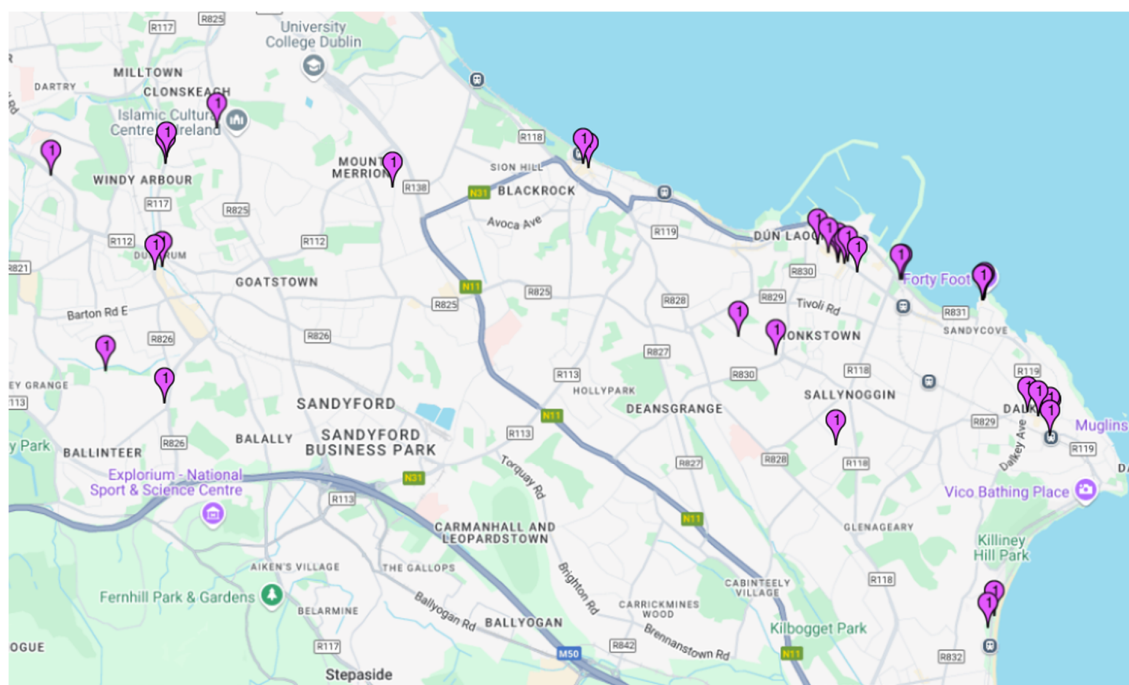


Figure 8: Bins Requiring Emptying Every Single Day

Figure 8 shows the locations of bins requiring emptying every single day with 34No. bins collected every day in 2024. This has decreased from 39No. bins collected at this same frequency in the preceding year, 2023.

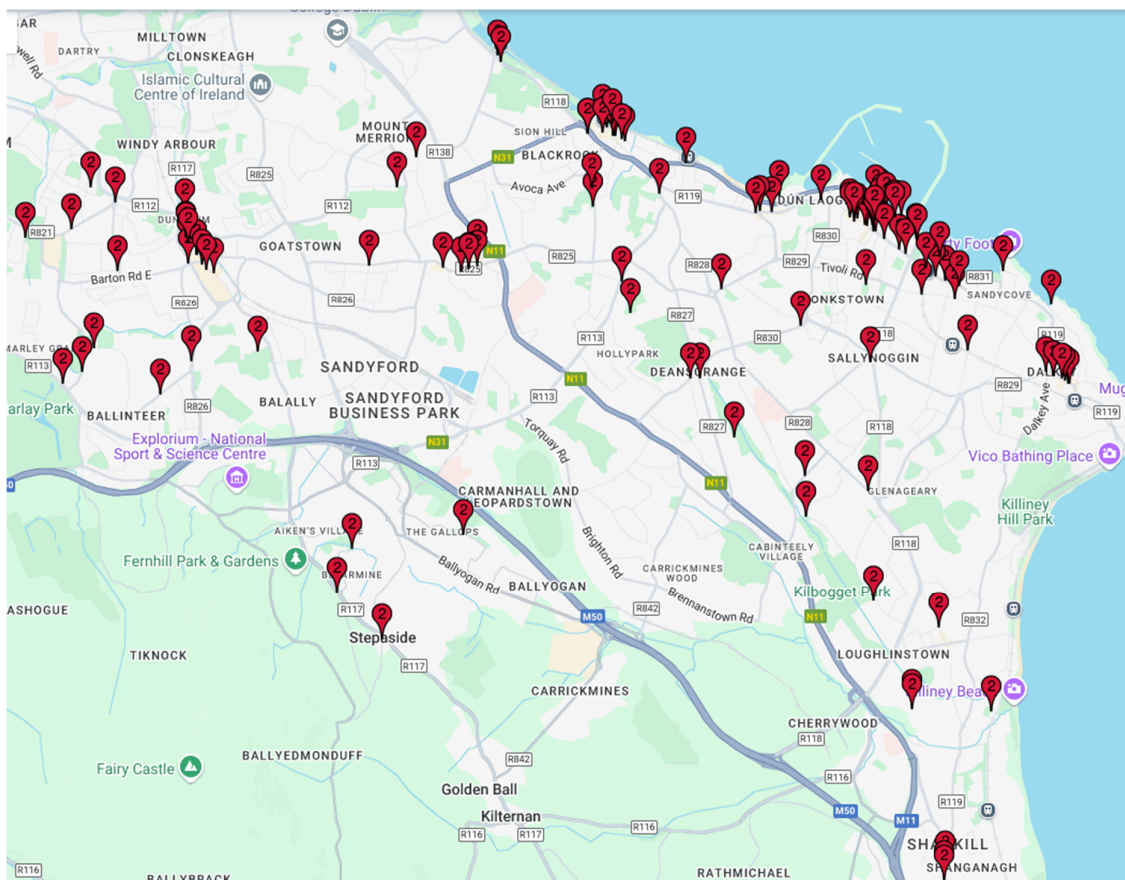


Figure 9: Bins Requiring Emptying Once Every Two Days.

Figure 9 shows locations of bins requiring emptying every two days. 118No. bins were collected every 2 days in 2024. This has decreased from 121No. bins collected at the same frequency in the preceding year, 2023.

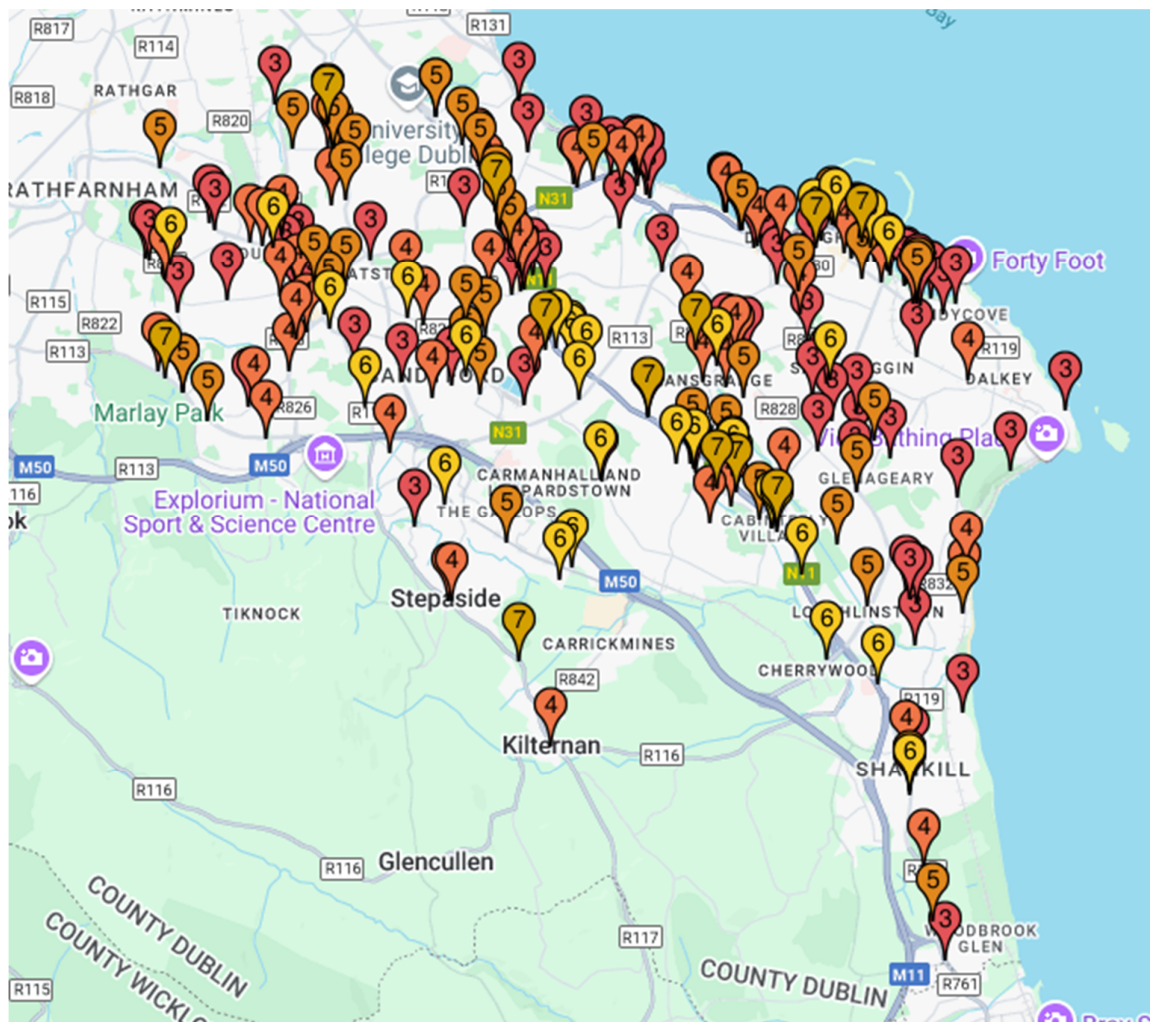


Figure 10: Bins Requiring Collection with a Frequency of Between 3 and 7 Days.

Figure 10 shows locations of bins requiring emptying every 3 to 7 days. The data shows that 243No. collections were required on bins every 3 to 7 days which is a decrease from 259No. collections during 2023.

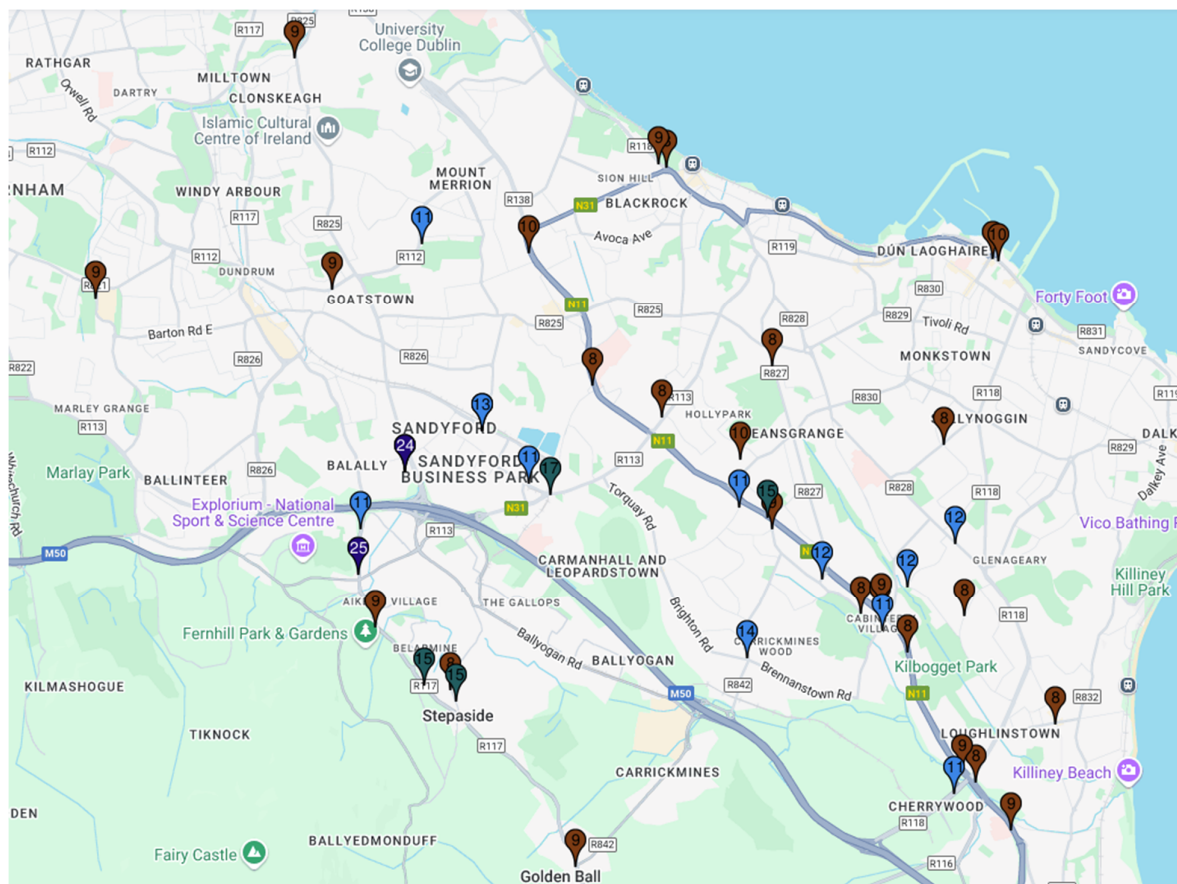


Figure 11: Bins Requiring Emptying Every 8 Days or More.

Figure 11 shows bins requiring collection every 8 days or more. The data shows that 46No. bins required collection every 8 days or more which is an increase from 37No. collections during 2023, a 24% increase.

Figures 7, 8, 9 & 10 highlight that the demand for emptying bins has remained in line with the public's requirements in recent years and that the number of bins requiring collection every day or two days remain the same compared to 2022- 2023 figures.

Operational Issues

As in the previous reports, DLR operatives have continued to observe the disposal of domestic waste related to bin waste. It has been assessed that this is due mainly to domestic and/or commercial waste disposal being illegally deposited in street bins.

Most problems related to domestic waste occurred with bins located in residential areas. Measures have been taken to reduce the ingress of domestic waste, and some successes have been observed but they are generally short lived. Some of the bins have been removed or relocated from residential areas due to excessive abuse by domestic waste.



Figure 12 (a): Big Belly Bin at Rathsallagh Park abused by domestic waste

DLR operatives have experienced ongoing issues with illegal dumping at clothes banks across the county since they were installed. Two clothes banks (at Finsbury Park and

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Stonemason's Way) were removed due to daily abuse of the service. All the locations are monitored systematically by DLR operatives. If additional emptying of the clothes banks is required, the relevant contractor is immediately notified.



Figure 12 (b): Clothes Banks at Booterstown Dart Station

Manual Handling Issues

Difficulties related to manual handling and excessive bin weights continue. It is well established that excessive weights in street bins are a direct consequence of the illegal disposal of both domestic and commercial waste.

The level of rubbish from the illegal disposal of domestic waste has increased the weights of bins to over 50kg per bin in some locations.

Cleansing have tendered for a rental agreement with service contract for 3x caged tipper vehicles with mechanical side loaders included (Figure 13) as a replacement for old models with tail-lifts. These vehicles will provide mechanical aid when emptying the Big Belly bins and are ideally sized for the roads within the County. Use of these vehicles increases safety for DLR personnel during loading and unloading operations. The new rental agreement provides a number of benefits for a bin service compared to owned fleet such as quick response to repairs, replacement of the broken vehicle, maintenance.



Figure 13: Caged Tipper Vehicle

Bin and waste collections during the busy summer periods has always been a challenge and having a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) in our fleet to enable for ease of access around the county and particularly to our beach locations.



Figure 14: Beach UTV

Requests for New Bins

Requests are received regularly from members of the public, elected members and residential associations for the installation of additional bins.

If initially approved, a request must still meet with the criteria for suitable installation sites (see appendix A), only then can the installation of a new Smart Bin in the most appropriate place be fully approved. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the approved locations are suitable sites for the installation of a bin, there is always a possibility that site conditions will force departure from the planned installations.

Proposed Installation of New Smart Bins in Response to Requests

The 2024 review period was another busy year with requests for new bins. 70No. requests for new bins and 41No. for replacements (111No. in total) were logged over the period from February 2024 up to end of February 2025. Some of these requests repeated the previous review. Since installations for these bins were approved, they were not considered again. Every request received an initial response stating that the outcome of their request would only be made known upon publication of the bin review. Non-specific requests i.e. ‘multiple bins over large areas’ can’t be fully detailed in this report. If one location, in a non-specific request is granted then the outcome as measured against the full request is deemed as a single approval. Requesting bodies and their agents should strive to make each request as specific as possible. Following extensive research and consideration of each request, 20No. Requests were granted out of the 111No. requests.

New bin installations must take into account the criteria given in Appendix A. New installations or replacements need to be considered against the number of bins available for relocation, the purchase cost of additional bins, and the need to prioritise new bins for deployment in the urban streetscape. Following our review, it is proposed to place 8No. new Smart Bins in the locations listed below in Appendix C. These 8No. installations will satisfy the approved requests. 74No. requests have been denied and listed in Appendix D. The 17No. requests forwarded to Parks sections.

Summary of the March 2024 DLR Street Bin Review

1. 111No. requests for additional bins and replacements were received since the last review.
2. 16No. bins were removed from service since the last review due to excessive damage or vandalism. It is proposed to replace some of these bins. See Table 3 for a list of damaged units.
3. In order to implement the required installations as per this report, it is proposed to install 8No. new Big Belly solar bins within the county as listed in Appendix C.
4. 25No. Big Belly recycling bins installed throughout the County.
5. Of the 111No. new requests for bin installation received, 20No. requests have been approved leading to the proposed installation or relocation of bins at 13No. locations. 74No. requests out of the 111No. requests have been denied.
6. Cleansing will continue to monitor bin performance and remain reactive to the dynamic changes that may arise throughout 2025.
7. It should be noted that circa 300No. (67%) of the existing fleet of Big Belly Bins were installed in 2015 and as such they are aged and reaching the end of their service life. Replacement of these bins will be an important element to consider in 2025-2027 rather than expansion of the existing stock of bins on the streetscape. Cleansing have started an inspection of an existing fleet of Big Belly Bins to prepare a Programme for gradual replacement of the fleet. 52No. old bins from all electoral areas were selected for replacement in 2025. The criteria for priority replacement are high footfall locations in towns and villages considering motor fatigue and excessive internal and external damage and severe weather conditions in coastal areas.

Requests for New Bins / Amendments

Members of the public or elected members can submit requests in relation to street bins. Requests can range from the removal of street bins to the installation of new bins. All requests should be concise and specific in relation to the proposed individual locations and be logged through the councils Civic Hub email address: info@dlrcoco.ie. The cut off point for receiving new requests is the 28th of February thus allowing such requests to be reviewed and included in the annual Bin Review. Subsequent requests will be considered as part of a next annual bin review.

Appendix A: Criteria for the Placement of Street Bins

The Cleansing Section receives requests for new bins regularly. These requests are considered at each bin review with evaluation given to the following factors.

Favorable factors for placing bins are:

- Near schools and other educational institutions.
- At bus stops with sufficient footfall.
- In the vicinity of town centers, transport routes, parks and recreation areas, shopping areas with high footfall.
- Additional bins are required in areas considered to be litter black spots.
- Accessibility for the public.
- Sufficient place to accommodate a bin, wheelchair users, and pedestrians.
- Safe system of work - whether there is a safe place for Council vehicle and operators to park/load and service the bins.

Unfavorable factors for placing bins are:

- Insufficient footfall in locations where bins can be under-used.
- Unsafe place for Council vehicle and operators to park/load and service the bins.
- Risk of vandalism at certain locations.
- Risk of disposal of domestic waste in particular locations such as residential areas.
- Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
- Area is not taken in charge by DLRCC.

It is generally found that a large proportion of requests for new bins are proposed in locations within or around housing estates, areas where there is a high risk of vandalism or in locations where it is not safe from a traffic management perspective regarding maintenance of bins.

Appendix B: Bin Service in Parks

Across the County, departmental jurisdictions dictate that specific areas of control fall under the remit of different individual sections. As such, the Cleansing section are responsible for the provision and maintenance of bins within all public areas, other than parks, with some minor exceptions. Both Cleansing and Parks have strict criteria which are used to assess the suitability of individual bin placements.

It is identifiable that Cleansing maintain a large portion of their current bin stock at locations that are placed near to parks and park entrances. Such bin-placements are only considered viable if they satisfy cleansing's strict installation criteria. The Cleansing section maintains smart bins within the streetscape along with some 14 metal coastal bins and 13 dog waste bins.

Bins are generally only provided within parks which maintain a complement of staff. Bins within Marlay Park, Cabinteely Park and other flagship parks throughout the county are maintained by the Parks Department staff. Reports in relation to these bins within parks should be addressed to the Parks Department. It should be noted that the Parks Department do not provide bins in local amenity neighborhood parks.

The 17 new bin requests were forwarded to Parks sections. Please see Appendix E.

Appendix C: Requests for New Bins Approved

Request/CRM number	From	Area	Location	Approved
343871	Representative	Blackrock	Request for new bins on Stillorgan Park Road	Approved; 2 new bins
340259 340449 340983 341486 341771	Representative Public Public Public Public	Blackrock	Replacement bin Brehon Field Road	Approved; 1 bin
Motion 352436 352598	Public Representative Representative	Blackrock	Request for a new bin at corner of Stillorgan Park and Cloister Square	Approved; 1 new bin
350971	Representative	Blackrock	Request to reinstall a bin in the vicinity of Deansgrange	Approved; reinstall 1 bin outside Post Office
348485	Public	Blackrock	Request for a new bin on Stradbroke Road, near Rockford Manor	Approved; 1 new bin
322961	Representative	Dundrum	Request for a new bin on bus stop 3029 Goatstown Road	Approved; 1 new bin
324235	Public	Killiney	Request to install an additional seasonal bin Hawks cliff	Additional permanent bin provided
318084 326378	Public Representative	Killiney	Request for a new bin in the vicinity of Shankill Dart station	Approved; 1 new bin
324785	Representative	Killiney	Request dog waste bins many locations	Quinn's Road dog waste bin provided.
315573 315616	Representative	Shankill	Request for a new bin Quinn's Road	Dog waste bin provided. Barrel Bin will be provided in peak season.
322023	Public	Sandyford	Request for a new bin at bus stop 7057 St. Rafaela's Road	Approved; 1 new bin
349506	Public	Stillorgan	Request for a new bin on bus stop 3153	Approved; move 1 bin from bus stop 3126

Appendix C. Requests for New Bins approved: Feb 2024 to Feb 2025 – 8 new bins out of 20 requests approved.

Appendix D: Requests for New Bins Denied

Request/CRM No.	From	Area	Location	Reason
336455 337696 338833 352432 353471	Public Public Public Representative Public	Blackrock	Replacement bin Foxrock Avenue	Abused by household rubbish.
337701	Public	Blackrock	Request for a new bin New Park Road	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
339522	Public	Blackrock	Replacement bin Clonkeen Park exit	Not safe for servicing.
341535 349595	Representative	Blackrock	Request for a new bin Deansgrange Junction	Not safe for servicing.
345856	Public	Blackrock	Request for a new bin Blackrock Village Seafront	Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
349841	Public	Blackrock	Request for a new bin Rockford Green Estate	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
319148	Public	Dun Laoghaire	Request for a new bin opposite Penney's	Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
322041 339355 352674	Public Public Public	Dun Laoghaire	Replacement bin 40 Georges St Upper.	Fire damaged before, will not be replaced.
333673	Representative	Dun Laoghaire	Request for new bins Convent Road	Insufficient space to site any unit.
337486	Public	Dun Laoghaire	Request for a new bin Wolfetone Avenue/Cross Avenue	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
344588	Public	Dun Laoghaire	Request for a new bin York Road, Dun Laoghaire	Not safe for servicing.
328039	Representative	Dun Laoghaire	Request for a new bin Glenageary Shopping Centre area	Private area.

Request/CRM No.	From	Area	Location	Reason
328900 351916 333075 336170 338455 348733 352748	Public Public Public Public Public Public Representative	Dun Laoghaire	Replacement bin at Pearse Park	Fire damaged before, will not be replaced.
320452	Public	Dun Laoghaire	Request for bins along Rochestown Avenue	There is a bin at the bus stop 3231.
351981	Public	Dun Laoghaire	Request for a new bin at the laneway on Glenageary Road Upper	Not safe for servicing.
352271 352365 352402 352675 353186	Public Public Representative Public Public	Dun Laoghaire	Replacement bin at Hyde Park	2 bins were fire damaged before, will not be replaced.
326373	Representative	Dundrum	Request for a new bin Centra, Ballinteer Road	Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
335956	Public	Dundrum	Request for new bin bins entrances Finsbury Park	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
337370	Public	Dundrum	Request new bin Taney Green	This is a residential area, well not be installing a new bin here
344549	Public	Dundrum	Request for a new dog waste bin Dundrum Business Park	Private property. Sufficient number of bins available nearby.
346229	Public	Dundrum	Request for a new bin St Columbanus Road	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
349654	Public	Dundrum	Request for a new bin Llewellyn Grove	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
350950	Public	Dundrum	Replacement bin Broadford Road Broadford Rise	Fire damaged before, will not be replaced.

Request/CRM No.	From	Area	Location	Reason
324785	Representative	Killiney	Request for dog waste bins many locations	Parks locations to be decided by Parks. Library Road is residential area, no bins provided.
326378	Representative	Killiney	Replacement bins Corbawn Lane/Dublin Road/Shanganagh Road	Insufficient space to site any unit. Not safe for servicing.
342212	Public	Killiney	Request for a new bin Clifton Park	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
342490 344527	Public	Killiney	Replacement bin Churchview Road, Ballybrack	Fire damaged before, will not be replaced.
345493	Public	Killiney	Request for a new bin Green/Fairways	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
319022 353154	Public Public	Sandyford	Request for a new bin Slang Greenway Ardglass	Fire damaged before, will not be replaced.
327047	Public	Sandyford	Request for new dog waste bins Ballinteer Avenue	Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
330723	Public	Sandyford	Request for a new recycle bin Sandyford Hall Avenue	Residential area. Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
341698	Representative	Sandyford	Request for a new bin Lakelands Estate	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
342072	Public	Sandyford	Request for a new bin Bracken Road Pocket Park	Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
342847 343288	Representative	Sandyford	Request for a new bin Harolds Grange Road	Insufficient space to site any unit.
324647	Public	Sandyford	Request for a new bin Brehon Field Road, Kingston	Risk of damage.
351697	Public	Sandyford	Request for a new bin on Cruagh Greenway	Private area.

Request/CRM No.	From	Area	Location	Reason
311900 311241 317890 319079 326154 343755	Representative Public Public Public Public Public	Sandyford	Replacement bin Village Road Belarmine	Risk of damage.
341953	Public	Sandyford	Request for a new bin on Belarmine Avenue	Insufficient space to site any unit. There is a bin at the bus stop 5013.
353046	Public	Sandyford	Request for a bin in the area Belarmine Lawns	Risk of damage. Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
325831	Public	Sandyford	Request to install a bin on Kilboggin Road, Leopardstown SC area	Leopardstown SC area is a private area. Insufficient space to site any unit.
Motion	Representative	Shankill	Request for a new bin Corke Abbey Valley Park	This is a residential area, will not be installing a new bin here.
330226 337485 343606	Public	Stillorgan	Request for a new bin Stillorgan Road	Insufficient footfall.
348095	Public	Stillorgan	Request for a new bin Beech Hill Road	Sufficient number of bins available around the area.
324216 327073 339500 341076	Representative Public Public Public	Stillorgan	Request for a new bin entry to Dodder Trail	Not safe for servicing.

Appendix D. Requests for New Bins denied: Feb 2024 to Feb 2025 - 74 requests out of 111 denied

Appendix E: Requests for New Bins referred to Parks Section

Request/ CRM number	From	Area	Location	Reason
310122	Public	Blackrock	Brookfield Grove/Rockfield Park	Referred to Parks
323764	Representative	Blackrock	Rockfield Park	Referred to Parks
337045	Public	Blackrock	Carysfort Park	Referred to Parks
321998	Public	Dun Laoghaire	Dillion's Park	Referred to Parks
317578	Public	Dundrum	Taney Playground	Referred to Parks
334698	Public	Dundrum	Meadowbrook Play/Fitness area	Referred to Parks
337370	Public	Dundrum	Rosemount Green	Referred to Parks
337370	Public	Dundrum	Belfield Downs Green	Referred to Parks
315664	Public	Killiney	Shanganagh Park	Referred to Parks
335882	Public	Killiney	Killiney Hill Car Park	Referred to Parks
339899	Representative	Killiney	Tully Park	Referred to Parks
342440	Public	Killiney	Shanganagh Park	Referred to Parks
324935	Public	Sandyford	Ballyogan Square	Referred to Parks
339585	Public	Sandyford	Beckett Park	Referred to Parks
318063	Public	Stillorgan	Beaufield Park	Referred to Parks
337923	Public	Stillorgan	Leopardstown Park	Referred to Parks
353144	Public	Dundrum	Dargle Valley	Referred to Parks

Appendix E. Requests referred to Parks Section: Feb 2024 to Feb 2025 - 17 requests out of 111 referred