

APSE Webinar: Bolton's Simpler Recycling Journey

27 Feb 2026



Bolton Bins

- **General Waste**
 - Grey 140-litre, alternate weekly
- **Dry Recycling Burgundy 240-litre, alternate weekly**
 - Glass, cans, plastics (incl PTTs)
 - Introduced 2005
- **Paper & Card**
 - Beige 240-litre, 4-weekly
 - Introduced 2005
- **Food & Garden**
 - Green 240-litre, alternate weekly
 - 2/3 of properties across Bolton
 - Introduced 2013
- **Food Container**
 - Green 21-litre, weekly
 - 1/3 of properties across Bolton
 - Tight terraces or difficult access



Recycle these items in the Burgundy bin



Milk bottles



Cans and tins



Plastic bottles



Plastic pots, tubs and trays



Foil and foil trays



Aerosol cans



Glass bottles and jars



Recycle these items in the Beige bin



Newspapers and magazines



Envelopes



Printer paper and shredded paper



Cardboard



Mixed paper



Food and drinks cartons



Recycle these items in the Green bin



Garden waste: leaves, twigs, hedge clippings and grass cuttings



All cooked and uncooked food including fruit and veg, meat and bones, and tea bags. No oil, liquids or packaging.



Waste we cannot recycle goes in the Grey bin.



Plastic bags



Nappies



Tissues and wipes



Crisp packets



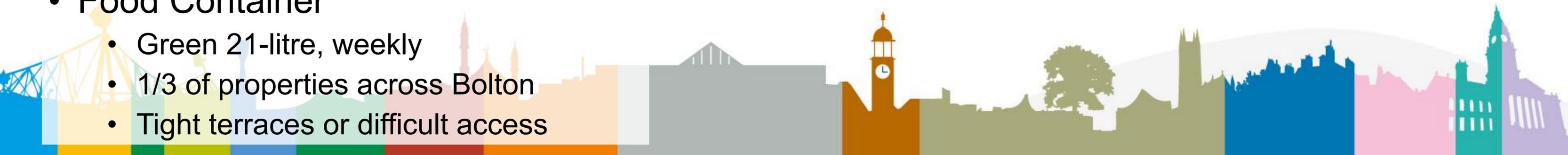
Polystyrene



Broken drinking glasses, pyrex and ceramics



Pet waste



Waste Management at Bolton Council

- General Stats
 - Nearly 130,000 households
 - 90,000 tpa household waste
 - Recycling Rate 48.3%
 - Over 11 million bin collections a year
- Collection Authority
 - In-house delivery
 - 58 Refuse Collection Vehicles
 - 50 drivers, 98 loaders
 - 45 rounds, Monday to Friday
 - 4 different bins per household
- Disposal Authority (2-tier)
 - Greater Manchester Combined Authority
 - 9 collection authorities in GM disposal contract
 - Contracted Disposal Arrangements since 2018
 - Disposal Contractor - Suez

2025

Your recycling and waste collection day is **Monday**

Please leave your bins out at the edge of your property by 7am on your collection day. Once emptied, please return your bin to your property as soon as possible.

Keep me safe

Your bin collection calendar

	Food caddy	Grey bin	Beige bin	Burgundy bin	Green bin
Feb 2025	3	10	17	24	
Mar 2025	3	10	17	24	31
April 2025	7	14	21	28	
May 2025	5	12	19	26	
June 2025	2	9	16	23	30
July 2025	7	14	21	28	
Aug 2025	4	11	18	25	
Sep 2025	1	8	15	22	29
Oct 2025	6	13	20	27	
Nov 2025	3	10	17	24	

How to present your bin

The lid must be fully closed. No excess waste.

Boltonrecycles
www.bolton.gov.uk/bincollections

Bolton Council
Recycle for Bolton @Recycle4Bolton

Recycle these items in the Burgundy bin

- Milk bottles
- Cans and tins
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic pots, tubs and trays
- Foil and foil trays
- Aerosol cans
- Glass bottles and jars

Recycle these items in the Beige bin

- Newspapers and magazines
- Envelopes
- Printer paper and shredded paper
- Cardboard
- Mixed paper
- Food and drink cartons

Recycle these items in the Green bin

- All cooked and uncooked food (no oils, no liquids and no packaging)
- Tin bags
- Garden waste: leaves, twigs, hedge clippings and grass cuttings
- Fruit and veg peelings
- Meat and bones

Waste we cannot recycle goes in the Grey bin.

- Plastic bags
- Nappies
- Tissues and wipes
- Crisp packets
- Polystyrene
- Broken drinking glasses, pyrex and ceramics
- Pet Waste

Your recycling is making a difference – thanks!

Bolton Council carries out over **11 million** bin collections per year

49.4% of waste collected in Bolton was recycled during 2023/24 (which is above the national average)

If we miss your bin

Visit www.bolton.gov.uk/missedbin to see if your street is listed and when we will return.

If your street is not listed:

- Please report it within two working days
- If you wait longer than two working days, we are unable to return and you should present the bin on the next scheduled collection day.

To report a missed bin, visit www.bolton.gov.uk/reportmissedbin

Check missed bins

Bolton Council

Simpler Recycling - Looking Back

National

2022/23: Collection Consistency Consultation

2023/24: Waste Reform

2024/25: Change to political leadership
Simpler Recycling

2025/26: Extended Producer Responsibility

2026/27: Mandatory Food Waste Collections

Bolton

2022/23: £650k savings target

2023/24: RCV investment

Change to political leadership

2024/25: >£1m savings target

2025/26: £40k savings

2026/27: Stabilising existing services



Food & Garden Collections Journey for Bolton

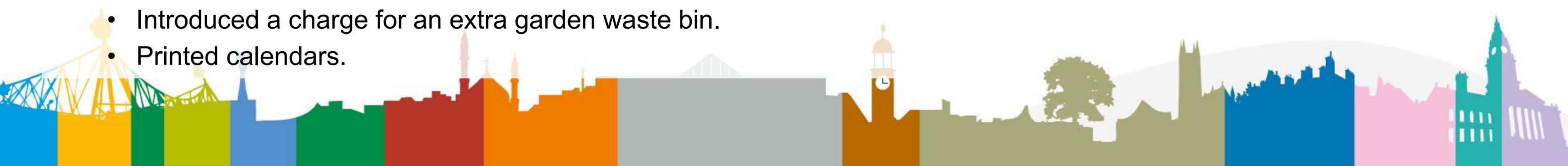
It meant budget savings had to be spread across wider waste management services...

2024:

- RCV investment – split chamber to single chamber.
 - Increased vehicle flexibility
- Borough-wide round reviews.
- Granted transitional arrangements by Defra.
 - ↑ Risk of reduced central government funding.
 - ↓ Risk of higher disposal cost and reduced recycling rate.
- Food waste liner options considered.
- Consulted on chargeable garden waste collections
 - Rejected in Feb 2025 budget, replaced by 4-weekly paper and card collections.

2025:

- Introduced food waste collections to trade waste contracts in Bolton.
- Different tiers of briefings in Bolton and across GM.
- Some GMCA authorities decided to charge for garden waste collections.
- Introduced a charge for an extra garden waste bin.
- Printed calendars.



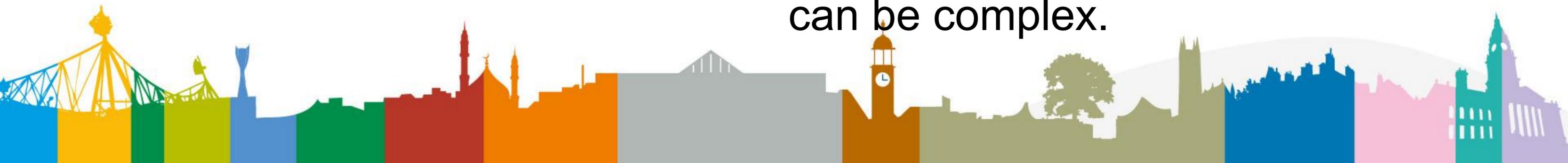
Should you consider co-collecting food & garden waste?

Pros

- Simpler collection operations.
- Greater collection efficiencies (capacity and fuel).
- No need for a specialist vehicle.
- Fewer containers for residents.
- Supports higher recycling rates.

Cons

- Limits treatment technology.
- Compostable liners - Issues with supply when oil prices increased in 2023.
- Bins are quite empty in winter months when gardening is limited.
- If garden waste is currently chargeable, introducing co-collection can be complex.



**Thank you for listening.
Any questions?**

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