

Larger Bin Policy for Residential Properties

London Borough of Hounslow

1. Introduction

The London Borough of Hounslow is committed to supporting residents in managing their waste while promoting recycling and reducing overall waste production. Larger bins or additional bins will only be provided under specific circumstances, and these provisions are temporary and subject to regular review. The goal is to ensure that bins are sized appropriately based on household needs and that recycling is fully utilised.

2. Eligibility Criteria for a Larger Bin (240L) or Additional Bin (140L)

Residents may apply for a larger bin, or an additional bin if recycling is fully utilised and meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. Household Size

- **6 or more permanent residents** living in the property may apply for a **240L bin** (checks will be made against the Council Tax register).

2. Medical Needs

- Households with a permanent resident who has a **medical condition** generating additional non-recyclable waste (e.g. incontinence pads) may apply for a **240L bin**.

3. Children in Nappies

- Households with **4 or more residents and 1 or more children in nappies** may apply for a **240L bin**.

3. Bin Provision Criteria

- **240L bin**
Provided to households with **6 or more permanent residents, medical need or 4+ permanent residents with a child in nappies**.
- **1 x 240L bin and 1 x 140L bin**
Provided to household with **6 or more permanent residents with multiple children in nappies**.
- **No Larger Bin**
In all other cases, larger bins will not be provided. Residents must make full use of the recycling service to manage their waste with the standard 140L bin.

4. Temporary Nature of Larger/Additional Bins

Larger bins or additional bins are issued on a **temporary basis** and will be **reviewed every 3 years**. During this review, the Council will assess whether the circumstances that qualified the household for a larger bin are still applicable. These include:

- Changes in household size.
- Cessation of medical needs or children in nappies.
- Recycling compliance.

If the eligibility criteria are no longer met, the larger or additional bin will be withdrawn, and the household will revert to a standard 140L bin.

5. Application Process

Residents applying for a larger or additional bin must:

- Complete the **application form** available on the Council's website.
- Provide **evidence** of eligibility, including:
 - Proof of **number of permanent residents** (e.g. Council Tax records)
 - **Medical documentation**. For additional waste due to health conditions.
 - **Proof of children in nappies** (e.g. birth certification or child's red book).
- Agree to a **waste audit** to verify that recycling is being fully utilised.

6. Verification of Permanent Residency

Only **permanent residents** will be considered when determining eligibility for a larger or additional bin. The responsibility lies with the applicant to provide accurate proof of the **number of permanent residents** living at the address.

7. Policy Enforcement

Residents who provide false information or fail to recycle properly may have their larger or additional bin removed. The Council reserves the right, under Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, to withdraw or limit larger or additional bins if the household is not following recycling guidelines or if the original justification for the larger bin is no longer valid.