LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR MARK WILSON VALE OF GLAMORGAN CC RE: REMOVAL OF LITTER BINS 29/02/2025

Dear Councillors,

Re: Removal of Litter Bins

You will be aware that the decision to remove up to 50% of the litter bins across the Vale of Glamorgan was approved by the Council on 6th March 2023 as part of the overall budget savings for the 2024/25 financial year. This decision is detailed within the Draft Budget 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2024/25 to 2028/29, as referenced in the Cabinet Report. This initiative forms part of a comprehensive review of the Council's street cleansing service. Although the removal of bins has not yet commenced, it is imperative that the first phase of this programme begins before the implementation of other proposed service reviews, as outlined in the Initial Budget for Consultation for 2025/26, which will be essential to addressing the unprecedented financial challenges faced by the authority in the forthcoming financial year.

The first phase of this initiative, involving the removal of 192 litter bins, will commence during the week of 27th January 2025 and is expected to continue over a period of approximately 4-6 weeks. This phase will prioritise the removal of bins that are subject to misuse, including the inappropriate disposal of household and commercial waste, bins that are deemed to be redundant, and bins that will be replaced with new on-street recycling bins in high-footfall areas. This strategy is aligned with our commitment to prioritise community needs and promote sustainable waste management practices.

We do not anticipate that the reduction in the number of bins will adversely affect local cleansing standards, as sufficient provision will remain in place. Furthermore, the removal of bins is not concentrated on any particular area or ward but is instead part of a comprehensive evaluation of provision across the Vale. This new approach to service delivery aims to reduce waste, encourage recycling both on-street and at home, and achieve operational cost savings.

Should there be any visible impact within your respective wards, the Neighbourhood Services team will conduct a litter survey and implement a mitigation plan where necessary. Any concerns regarding this initiative should be directed to the Neighbourhood Services team via email at nslitterbins@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

For your information, a list of areas designated to receive the new on-street recycling bins is provided below. These locations will receive regular emptying and cleaning services:

Penarth:

- Penarth Beach near the pavilion (on-street recycling/litter bin)
- Clifftop car park 4 large recycling wheeled bins
- Outside St Fagan's Pub, corner of Windsor Rd/Glebe St (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin; includes a review of surrounding furniture)
- Outside Lloyds Bank/Windsor Arcade (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin)
- Stanwell Road near Tesco/Washington Buildings (on-street recycling/litter bin)
- Station Approach already in situ (on-street recycling/litter bin)
- Cosmeston Lakes already in situ (4 large recycling wheeled bins)

Barry:

- Kings Square (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin)
- Thompson Street (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin)
- Broad Street shopping area (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin)
- High Street/Island Road (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin)
- Barry Island 3 sets of 4 large recycling wheeled bins (Eastern Shelter, midway along the promenade, and Western Shelter)
- Cold Knap 4 large recycling wheeled bins (near the public conveniences)
- Jacksons Bay already in situ (recycling bins near public conveniences)
- Porthkerry Park 4 large recycling wheeled bins (car park near the shop)
- Park Crescent Toilets (on-street recycling/litter bin replacing an existing bin)

Llantwit Major:

- Beach 2 bins already in situ (on-street recycling/litter bin)
- Train Station (on-street recycling/litter bin)
- Near the Spar (shopping area) (on-street recycling/litter bin)

St Athan:

Outside the Londis shop – (on-street recycling/litter bin)

Cowbridge:

- Town Hall Car Park (on-street recycling/litter bin)
- Cowbridge Parks 2 bins (on-street recycling/litter bin, locations to be confirmed)

Ogmore:

Beach – 2 bins (on-street recycling/litter bin)

Southerndown:

• Top Car Park, Beach – (on-street recycling/litter bin)

For your further reference, a detailed plan of the remaining bin provisions, following the removal of the aforementioned 192 bins, is attached to this correspondence. Additionally, images of the new recycling bins are enclosed. Please note that these bins will be emptied alongside standard litter bins by local teams, while larger bulk bins will be serviced by a specialised vehicle operated by the waste management team. All recyclable materials collected will be processed for resale and reuse at the new recycling facility at the Atlantic Trading Estate.

Your cooperation and understanding during the implementation of these essential changes to service delivery are greatly appreciated. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Neighbourhood Services team at the email address provided.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mark Wilson
Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services

Jane Hobbs

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Correspondence is welcomed in Welsh or English / Croesewir Gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu yn Saesneg.

