

Report: Town Centre Waste Collection and Public Litter Bins

Purpose

To update Members on previous correspondence with Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC) regarding town centre waste collection and to consider recent concerns.

Background

Following concerns raised by the Amenities Committee on 8 July 2024 regarding overflowing litter bins in the town centre after Saturday evenings, the Town Clerk wrote to Cheshire West and Chester Council requesting a review of waste collection arrangements, including the possibility of Sunday collections.

CWAC responded on 6 and 7 August 2024, advising that electronic monitoring data did not indicate that bins were consistently reaching capacity. However, officers acknowledged that there was an issue requiring further investigation. They agreed to:

- continue monitoring bin usage;
- investigate increasing bin capacity or providing additional bins;
- empty bins later on Fridays to maximise weekend capacity; and
- keep the Town Council informed of progress.

Current Position

The issue has recently been reported again. Members have been advised that town centre litter bins continue to become full, and there are reports that Thursday market traders are disposing of commercial trade waste in public litter bins, reducing the capacity available for public use.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Notes the previous correspondence with Cheshire West and Chester Council.
2. Notes the recurrence of the issue, including reports of commercial trade waste being placed in public litter bins.
3. Agrees that the Town Clerk writes to Cheshire West and Chester Council requesting a further review of bin capacity, collection arrangements and any appropriate enforcement action relating to the disposal of commercial waste.