

Wairarapa Wheelie Bin Service

Three Strikes Policy

Safety is critical to all three Councils and our contractor Earthcare. We want to ensure staff collecting recycling bins are kept safe. With this in mind, if non-recyclable and dangerous materials are continuously found in recycling wheelie bins, we may stop collecting recycling from the household.

This document outlines our policy for discontinuing the recycling wheelie bin service.

Continued contamination

If general rubbish or other materials inappropriate for recycling is consistently found in recycling wheelie bins, we will work with the householder to ensure they are aware of the difference between recyclable and non-recyclable materials before discontinuing the service.

If contamination continues, home occupiers will be given three notifications before a decision is made to discontinue the service for that address.

Notifications (strikes) are related to the occupier of the home, not the property. Therefore, should the occupier change, notifications previously received on that property are removed. Strikes are removed after 18 months.

Hazardous materials

From time to time hazardous and unsanitary materials are found in wheelie bins, such as used needles and nappies. This presents a danger to staff and is taken extremely seriously. It can also cause ongoing issues for affected workers including a minimum of two years of invasive health monitoring and stress. These instances are managed according to the following process:

- Should hazardous material be found in a wheelie bin, the contractor (Earthcare) can make an immediate decision to discontinue collection from that property - outside of the 'three strikes' policy above.
- Council will be alerted as to the decision.
- Council staff will make contact with the occupier to discuss and reaffirm the policy.

The discontinuation of the service relates to the occupier, not the property. If Council staff are satisfied the occupier is unlikely to repeat the offence, then council will work with its contractor to see if the contractor will re-establish the service.