

Guidance on waste storage areas for multi-unit developments



This brochure covers good practice guidance for designing or upgrading waste storage areas in multi-unit developments (MUDs). The best time to plan for waste management is during the design stage.

If your MUD includes 4 or more units/apartments, we recommend considering a communal (shared) waste storage area. Communal storage areas mean less space is needed to store the bins (when compared to each unit/ apartment having their own bin) and to avoid bins blocking footpaths on collection day.

A well-designed waste storage area:

- ✓ is easily accessible and reduces safety risks
- ✓ improves amenity and quality-of-living
- ✓ encourages waste minimisation and reduces the creation of litter
- ✓ reduces noise
- ✓ is screened from public view
- ✓ avoids damage to property when moving bins, and
- ✓ may increase the value of your property.

Planning considerations



Sizing

The storage area should have sufficient space to accommodate the amount of waste produced in your MUD. Contact us via waste@huttcity.govt.nz / 04 570 6666 for help with estimating the amount of waste generated in a proposed development based on the number and size of units. For bin storage space requirements, refer to the overview below.



Collection service provider access

Where possible, the storage area should be accessible to the waste collection service provider, or there should be adequate access for collection vehicles. Use door stoppers to prevent doors from closing when maneuvering bins. Access roads should allow for the dimensions and weight of collection vehicles, please refer to the transport standards in the Hutt City Council District Plan.



Accessibility

The waste storage area should only be accessible to residents through locking devices. If the lock uses keys, you'll need to make sure that the waste collection service provider can access them too (e.g. by using a key safe). Avoid rubbish chutes as they make separating rubbish and recycling more difficult.



Passageways and doors

Passageways and doors should be kept free of obstacles, such as parked vehicles, and be at least 1.5m wide to allow for the maneuvering of bins. Where possible, the waste storage area should be as close to the nearest public road as possible.



Lighting

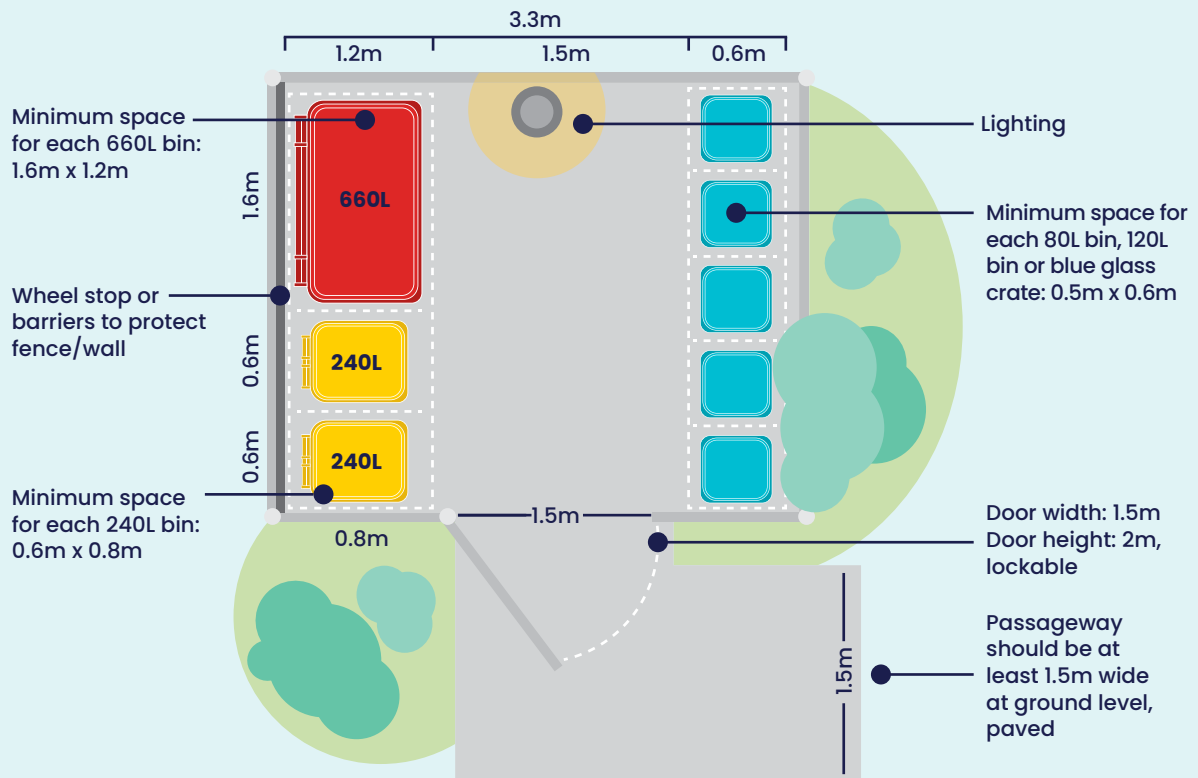
Provide lighting to improve safety for residents. Light switches should be easily accessible or on motion sensors.



Ground conditions

The ground should be level, step-free, and safe to walk on. Avoid grass pavers or gravel.

Example of a well-designed waste storage area



Bin storage space requirements (width x depth)

Bin	Storage space requirement
80l bin	0.5m x 0.6m
120l bin	0.5m x 0.6m
240l bin	0.6m x 0.8m
660l bin	1.6m x 1.2m
45l glass crate	0.5m x 0.6m

Rubbish and recycling collection in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai / Lower Hutt

Hutt City Council has a residential rates-funded rubbish and recycling collection service. This means that the costs for residential rubbish and recycling collection is funded through targeted rates. Opting out is not available.

With MUDs, even though bins are shared between residents, Council charges for this service through a targeted rate on each separately used or inhabited part (SUIP) of a property.

In some multi-unit dwellings, residents will not have their own bins, as they will share the service with other properties in their complex. This waste will be stored in a communal area. Please note that the targeted rate for rubbish will correspond with the capacity of the collections. The amount of waste services provided will depend on the number of units and residents.

Before you finalise the design or upgrade of your waste storage area

Developers must submit a MUD Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for approval to Council during the consent process. Contact us on 04 570 6666 or waste@huttcity.govt.nz for advice on planning your waste storage area.

Note: Under Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2021, developers must also submit a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan regarding the management of waste during construction of the new development. This requirement is additional to the MUD Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

For more information, please go to hutt.city/wastebylaw.

Once your development is complete

Council staff and our waste service collection provider will need to carry out an on-site assessment to confirm the details and management arrangements before regular collection services can start.

As part of the on-site assessment, we will work together to review and agree on any changes to the MUD Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. This will include confirming the contact person and details, how collection vehicles will access the site.

The MUD Waste Management and Minimisation Plan aims to both meet the requirements of our service provider and comply with the requirements under our Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2021.

Checklist

If you're designing or upgrading a waste storage area for your MUD, use this checklist to make sure you have everything covered.

The storage area:

has adequate space for the amount of waste and recycling produced in the MUD, with sufficient redundancy

is easily accessible, preferably to residents only

is, where possible, within 15m of the property boundary and a public road

is located on the ground floor

is screened from public view by fences and/or vegetation

shelters residents from noise (e.g. glass deposited into recycling crates)

consider a roof, especially when the area is next to a multi-story dwelling

is equipped with sufficient lighting; light switches are easily accessible or are equipped with motion sensors

has firm, level, step-free ground that is safe to walk on and grass pavers or gravel are not used

if only accessible by way of locking devices, the waste collection service provider has access to the keys

has doors that are at least 1.5m wide (if using 660l bins with four wheels), otherwise 0.8m (if using bins with two wheels)

has door stoppers (or similar locking devices) to prevent doors from closing when maneuvering bins

has access routes, passageways and doors that are free of obstacles such as parked vehicles

has paved vehicle access that allows for the dimensions and weight of collection vehicles, in line with the transport standards of the Hutt City Council District Plan

if required, vehicle access enables collection vehicles to turn