

Cllr Carl Cashman

Leader of the Opposition, Liverpool City Council



Nicola Butterworth
Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing
Liverpool City Council
(Via Email)

22nd October 2025

Dear Nicola,

I am writing to you to seek clarity over a number of posts I have seen online about Liverpool City Council removing “additional” purple bins by council staff. These reports have caused significant concern among members of the public, and I would be grateful if you could provide clarification on several points.

This has, of course, caused some alarm for myself and my group. We are inundated on a daily basis with complaints about fly-tipping, littering, and pests. To my mind, removing bins with no prior notice is only going to make these three issues even worse in some parts of the city.

Of course, my colleagues and I in the Liberal Democrats are committed to improving our recycling rates here in Liverpool, but we must not lose sight of keeping our city clean, dealing with the increasing rat problem, and keeping our bin collections regular.

Could you please provide clarity on the following issues:

- 1. On what basis are collection crews deeming a purple bin “additional” and subsequently removing it?** We would like to understand what criteria or guidance are being used by crews to determine whether a bin is classed as “additional.”
- 2. Do collection crews engage with residents before removing a bin, or does this process occur automatically?** It would be helpful to know whether residents are given any opportunity to verify their entitlement to an additional bin prior to removal.
- 3. What safeguards are in place to protect residents who have legitimately paid the £25 administrative and handling fee for an additional bin from having it unfairly removed?** There is understandable concern that legitimate bin holders could be inadvertently penalised.
- 4. If a bin has been incorrectly removed, will residents be required to pay the £25 fee again to have it returned or replaced?** We would appreciate clarity on the process for rectifying such cases without unfair additional costs to residents.

Given the public interest in this matter, a clear response from the Council would be greatly appreciated to reassure residents and ensure fairness in the implementation of any waste collection policies.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. I look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely

Cllr Carl Cashman
Leader of the Opposition, Liverpool City Council