Why we should remove internal refuse systems from high-risk residential buildings

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Safer homes, better neighbourhoods, cleaner world

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# **Waste Materials**

- 30,000 incidents/yr
- Mobile fuel source
- Fire spread
- Toxic smoke



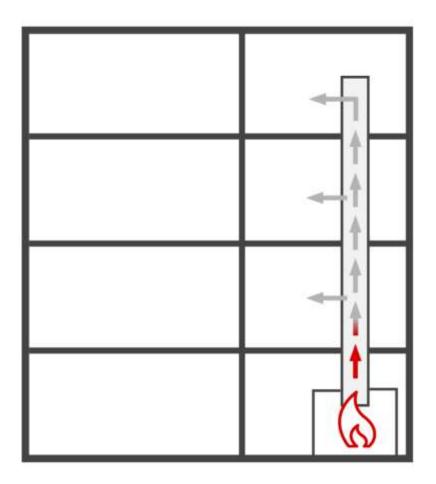




Why are we still storing combustible waste materials inside HRRBs?

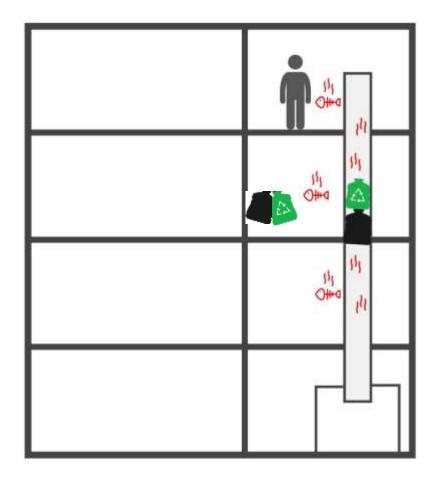
## What is the Risk?

- Internal refuse chutes and bin rooms
- Increased volume
- Increased combustibility
- Vulnerability to ignition



## **Can we remove it?**

- Manage risk
- Mitigate consequences
- Why not remove the risk altogether?
- Odour
- Blockages
- Maintenance
- No recycling



## **That Won't Work!** 2.s 247 5 চ C ୯

Yes it will!

#### **LB Hounslow Fire Safety Strategy**

- Exceed Minimum Standards
- Decommissioning Refuse Chutes
- External Waste & Recycling Hubs



#### **Listening to Residents**

- Fire Safety
- Antisocial Behaviour
- Service Charges
- Ability to Recycle
- Litter & Fly-tipping





#### **Effective Communication**

- Resident Benefits
- Safer, Cleaner Environment
- Easier to Recycle
- Assisted Collections
- Involving Local Schoolchildren



#### **Progress so far**

- Lower fire risk
- No ASB
- No odour
- Less litter
- Huge increase in recycling



# So should we continue to store combustible waste materials inside HRRBs?

## 10 golden rules for bin storage

- Capacity
- Accessibility
- Safety
- Visibility
- Ease of use
- Communicate
- Segregate
- Secure
- Beautify
- Enforce

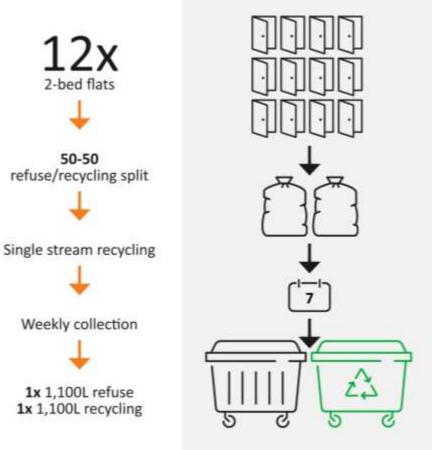
#### Capacity

Provide the right number of waste and recycling bins

#### **BS5906 Storage of Waste**

- Dwellings x (bedrooms x 70L + 30L)
- Split between refuse/recycling
- Segregated/co-mixed
- Collection frequency





#### Accessibility

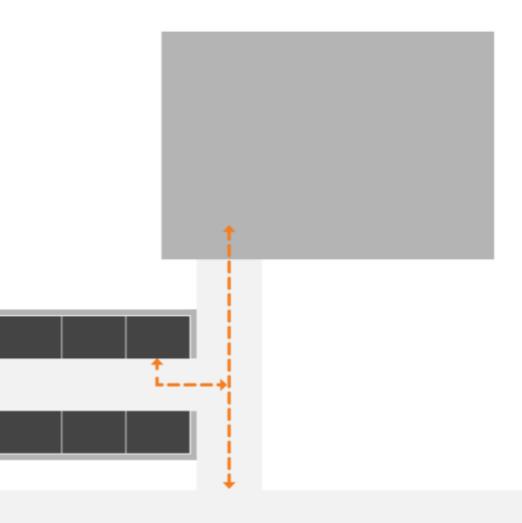
Site the bins in an accessible location for residents and collectors

#### Residents

- 30m max travel distance
- Main walking route

#### Collectors

• Max pull distance 10m/25m

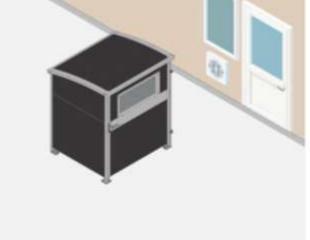


#### **Safety**

Secure bins at a safe distance from dwellings

- CFPA-E guidance
- Secure bins at least 6m from dwelling
- Or within 30min FR structure

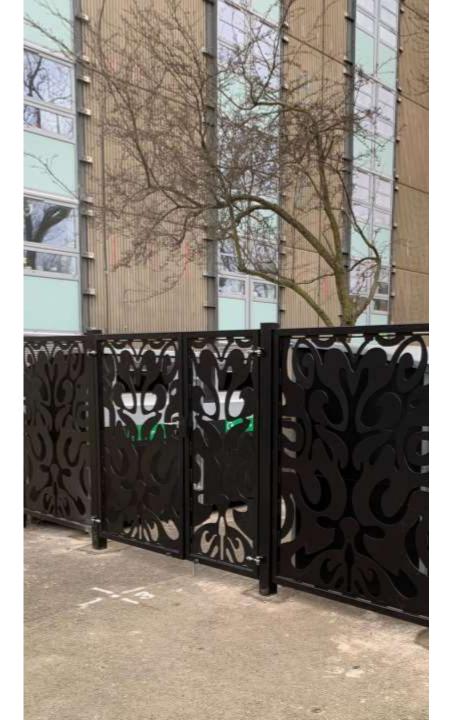




#### Visibility

**Ensure good surveillance but screen from road** 

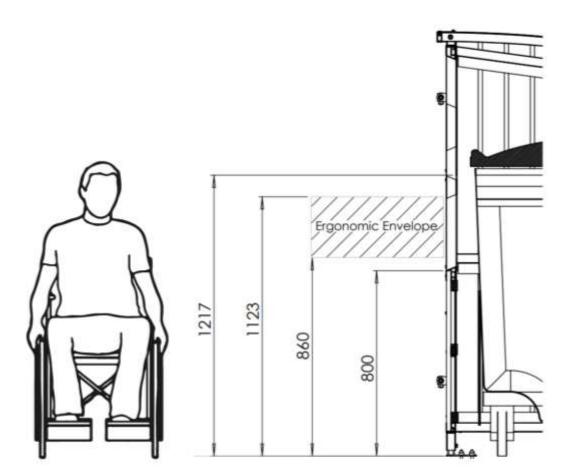
- Locate in view of residents
- Avoid hidden areas
- Face away from street
- Provide additional screen planting



#### **Ease of use**

Make them easy for *everyone* to use

- Remove obstacles
- Hands-free use
- Wheelchair-accessible



#### Communicate

Clearly signpost what can be placed in each bin

- Define what can/cannot be placed in bin
- Define who is permitted to use it
- Tell them where they can take excluded items
- Penalties for non-compliance



#### Segregate

Right stuff, right bin

- Exclude refuse bags using apertures
- Tailor for at-source segregation or mixed
- Eliminate space for bulk or provide



#### Secure

**Exclude unauthorised users with controlled access** 

- Secure area if possible
- Include/exclude nearby houses
- Specific access for commercial users?
- Key/fob/app-controlled access



#### **Beautify**

Enhance, maintain, clean

- Create Neighbourhood Assets
- Place to meet and greet
- Add greenroof/planters for biodiversity
- Clean regularly



#### Enforce

Monitor correct usage and prosecute if necessary

- Investigate any sidewaste, recharge
- Redeployable CCTV if necessary
- Self-funding enforcement service



# There is a viable alternative to refuse chutes and internal bin rooms

BUT

FOLLOW THE STEPS!

## **THANK YOU**

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