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## **Introduction**

Bradford on Avon Town Council has a Service Delegation from Wiltshire Council, so now collects litter from bins in the town itself. Outside of the town Wiltshire Council continues to provide this service, including in the parishes of Winsley and Wingfield. In addition to Wiltshire Council bins, parishes often have additional litter bins under a separate contract. Idverde was contractor for both Wiltshire Council, Winsley Parish Council (PC) and Wingfield PC.

The Parish Clerk of Winsley PC, who is also the clerk of Wingwood PC, contacted the Town Council in March asking for advice as the contractor idverde was ending the contract to collect from the parish litter bins to the end of March 2026. After further correspondence, and a request from the clerk of those parishes, the Town Council offered to help by adding these weekly parish collections in the two villages to our existing bin collection runs on a trial basis. Given the timescales, we have provided a responsive solution to the risk of bins overflowing and not being emptied in those parishes.

## **The approach**

When Bradford on Avon Town Council started the service delegation from Wiltshire Council we brought many services in-house. In Bradford on Avon, bins are now collected by the Town Wardens on a central round every day, a round for the south of town (three times a week), and a round for the north of town (three times a week). We have improved the service vastly. Where before we received frequent complaints about the service, under our provision complaints are minimal. We have also increased rates of recycling. Running services directly we can adjust and respond to circumstances, such as traffic and where there is greater or less use, such as for events or in the country park on very warm days in the summer.

We have added the Winsley PC bins to the north of town and Wingfield PC bins to the south of town, with the town wardens using an electric vehicle to do these collections. Our estimate was that this would typically add about half an hour a week for the Wingfield bin collections and an hour a week for the Winsley bin collections. The mixed waste goes into our normal waste stream, collected by our contractor for recycling/ disposal. There are some bins in Winsley and Wingfield that continue to be the responsibility of Wiltshire Council and its contractor.

## **Service**

We have costed the service based on the costs for waste from the existing town council bins, and on our estimated time taken for the town wardens to collect. The vehicle costs



are negligible as we are using electrical vehicles and extending our existing operations. The collections are undertaken under a waste licence from the Environment Agency, also costed.

This is on a 12 month trial basis for weekly collections. There were problems with overflowing bins and missed collections before we took on this work. We believe we are already providing a good service, with our collections starting around Easter. We use electric vehicles thus lower overall emissions, and we believe are more efficient than before. We can work with the Parish Clerk to improve the service further, by giving them feedback that they didn't previously receive.