

Focus Groups - Falls Prevention and DementiaGo:

Scrutiny Investigation on Waste Enforcement (08/02/19)

26 attendees

Containers / boxes

- A large number of the group noted that they had noticed that staff who empty the recycling carts place the upper box inside the central box once the cart has been emptied, and it was asked why this was done. It was noted that the upper box often got stuck and they were not strong enough to take it out and therefore it was asked if it would be possible for staff to not do this? It was also suggested that a sticker could be used by those persons who do not want the recycling cart to be left in this way, once emptied.
- Another suggestion by the group members was that a sticker/something visual could be included on the recycling cart and the bins to inform the collection staff that homes have medical/mobile difficulties.
- A number of individuals also noted that they did not know how to order new bins/recycling receptacles. They were not aware that they can order blue boxes with net covers.
- It was noted that the bins/recycling carts were fragile and often broke, and it was asked how much this cost the Council?
- One person asked if it was possible to have more than one brown garden waste bin?

Recycling materials

- Many were not sure where to place some items e.g. in which box does foil go? Questions were also asked regarding cartons, flower pots and black plastics.
- It was noted that everyone in the group used the food waste bin and the recycling boxes.
- Several questions were raised regarding soft plastics. They were aware that soft plastics cannot be recycled and it was asked if the Council had any ideas or initiatives for these rather than to dispose them in the residual waste bin.
- They liked the laminated information sheets that were available in the sessions and individuals from the DementiaGo group felt that these were especially useful since they had lost their short term memory.