

# Taking control of the Waste Problem in Dublin

## Responding to the bin-bag changes

### Dublin City Council wants to end the bin bags on our streets.

If done right and we have the proper alternatives in put in place, this change should play a major role in the fight to keep our streets cleaner.

If it is done badly, households will end up paying more, they'll have less incentive to reduce waste, there will be a greater prospect of wheelie bins left on streets and no recognition that many households don't have the physical space for bins.

### Dublin's dysfunctional waste system

The lack of consultation with communities, the lack of communication to residents and the lack of alternatives to bins reflects the level of dysfunction.

Waste management should be about keeping our streets clean, not making a profit.

DCC relies on private companies for household waste collection and yet exerts little or no power over them. DCC executives tried to negotiate with the bin collectors on the roll out of compactors across the community but to no avail.

We want greater ambition for our communities and for our city. We want DCC to be able to invest in shared collection points, more recycling, more composting and exert greater control of waste management in the city.

### Some facts on waste

- This year, Dublin City Council is spending **almost €87m on litter management, street cleaning, collection of almost 3000 tonnes of illegally dumped waste and on waste enforcement.** It's far from enough.
- Since January 2024, all households **under law should have a brown bin collection.** Most of those with bags currently don't get this service. There are only two brings centres for over 27,000 households across the whole of the north inner city.
- Bin costs are set to rise AGAIN this year – waste collection companies will not be able to export waste beyond EU borders from this year. The deposit return scheme and increasing oil prices are also having an impact.
- Municipal waste recycling rates remain too low at only 41%, well below our EU target of 55% by 2025.

### Our proposed changes

- **Change who collects waste.** We've introduced draft legislation to amend the Waste Management Act 1996 to provide for a single waste operator for Dublin. We believe this must pave the way for the re-municipalisation of waste collection into local authorities.
- **Change who holds the bin contract.** Landlords must be made accountable for the bin collection for the properties they rent out.
- **Change how waste is collected.** We want to see the introduction of shared collection points and other innovations for household collection, greater number of bring centres and greater funding for local authorities to implement these changes.