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**Decision Session**  
**Cabinet Member for Environmental Services**

4 December, 2012

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities, Culture and Public Realm)

**Petitions requesting the reinstatement of litter bins**

**Summary**

1. This report responds to two petitions received at Council on 11 October 2012:
  - a. From 561 residents of Dunnington: “We the undersigned ask City of York Council to replace some of the litter bins removed from Dunnington Village”. Some of the petitioners refer specifically to bins removed from: The Children’s Activity Park, the bus stop on York Street, and the corner of Eastfield Lane and Church Balk
  - b. From 1,530 residents in Fulford, Huntington and New Earswick: “We believe that removing 349 litter and dog bins is a false economy that will only lead to more litter and support the Liberal Democrat campaign to restore the bins removed from York”
2. Council referred the petitions to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services.

**Background**

3. During June 2012 approximately 320 litter bins were removed from service across the city; this was part of the implementation of a saving agreed in the 12/13 budget setting by Budget Council.
4. The bins removed were identified by the team responsible for servicing them; there were three criteria used :
  - Bin was being misused (e.g. for commercial or household waste)
  - Bin was under used

- Bin was wrongly located

### **Consultation**

5. Where members, residents or local businesses felt that a particular bin should not have been removed we have worked with them to agree reinstatement or relocation where possible. This has resulted in the reinstatement of 12 bins and the relocation of 17 others across 14 wards (see annex).
6. This work continues to take place and ongoing talks with the Dunnington in Bloom group and the Parish Council have led to us to agreement that the replacement of one of the bins in Dunnington will be sufficient to meet their needs.
7. Furthermore, as part of the Smarter York initiative we have also donated 2 of the bins removed in June to the sports club at Dunnington to assist them with keeping their local area tidy. We have provided the bins free of charge and the sports club along with their members are servicing them.

### **Options**

8. The Cabinet could:
  - a. Continue to listen to the views of members, residents and local businesses and implement changes where appropriate, at the same time being aware of budgetary restrictions, and using the Smarter York objectives.
  - b. Restore all the bins as suggested by the second petition.

### **Analysis**

9. By agreeing to option a. budget savings will be delivered as agreed and local needs will be met. This option is recommended.

### **Council Plan**

10. Through the proposed measures we will support the following areas of the Council Plan:
  - Build Stronger Communities – by talking to and listening to views.
  - Protect the Environment – maintaining a level of service required for each local area.

11. We will also continue to use the Smarter York initiative as a driver for change and improvement in services.

### **Implications**

12. **Financial:** A saving of £40k was delivered in 2012/13 through the reduction in the number of litter bins.
13. There are no Human Resources, Equality, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT, or Property implications.

### **Risk Management**

14. There are no known risks.

### **Recommendations**

15. The Cabinet Member is recommended to:
- i. Note the receipt of the petitions
  - ii. Note the work undertaken with communities as set out in paragraphs 6 and 7

REASON: In response to petitions received.

### **Contact Details**

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**Report  
Approved**

**Date** 22 Nov 12

**Wards Affected:** *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Annex – List of Reinstatements & Relocations**