

Secure Needle/Drug Waste Bins

“This Council notes with concern the rising number of needles being discarded and drug paraphernalia waste in Belfast city centre from intravenous drug use. Since the City has come out of the pandemic, it has seen an increase in the number of vulnerable people suffering from addiction issues in the City centre. With this increase, it has seen that needles and syringes are not only being discarded in public places but also in some standard public waste bins in the City Centre, potentially putting the public and Council staff at increased risk of a sharp’s injury.

It notes also that Glasgow has recently installed a new secure disposal bin to reduce drug-related litter and for service users to positively discard needles after they have finished injecting and improve collective community safety in its City centre.

This Council will, therefore, commit to working with relevant partners, including the Public Health Agency, Government Departments, PSNI, BIDs, businesses and organisations supporting the vulnerable in the City centre core, towards the installation of specific needle/drug waste bins in key locations that are known to have high incidences of needle finds.”

Proposer: Councillor Smyth

Seconder: Councillor McCusker