

For the attention of Andrew Hetherington,  
Assistant Coroner for the City of Sunderland,  
Civic Centre,  
Burdon Road,  
Sunderland  
SR2 7DN

30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Sir

We write in response to the Regulation 28 Report to prevent future deaths as a result of the investigation into the death of James Ryan McLaren. Section 7 of the report requires that CIWM is under a duty to respond to the report within 56 days, namely by 3 December 2018 to contain details of action or proposed to be taken, setting out a timetable for action.

The actions for CIWM were to raise members' awareness nationally of the issue and risk, and to provide a reminder to employers and employees to consider a heightened check to look for people who may be sheltering in bins particularly in colder months.

In 2014 CIWM in association with Biffa and Street Link produced a report 'Research into the issues, risks and prevention of people sleeping in bins'

[https://wlfu3o6m8a45atds1tysz915-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Streetlink\\_CIWM\\_Biffa-Research-Report-Final\\_Feb14.pdf](https://wlfu3o6m8a45atds1tysz915-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Streetlink_CIWM_Biffa-Research-Report-Final_Feb14.pdf)

This report promotes the use of the WISH guidance document WASTE25 which was published in 2010 and is still relevant today. CIWM fully supports the work of WISH and is an active member of the organisation. CIWM and the other organisations involved in the report and the guidance document continue to promote their operational use as they remain as relevant now as when they were published.

Over the past few years, there have been a number of campaigns by waste collection companies such as the B&M and Shelter 'Refuse not Refuge' annual winter campaign which launched in 2013 and publications such as Skip Hire magazine and The Big Issue 'Whack a Bin' campaign in 2015. These campaigns, undertaken by individual operators in association with homeless charities, have been promoted to CIWM members via the weekly member newsletter and social media. This year CIWM published a press statement which was circulated to members to show support of the B&M campaign and to also highlight the use of WASTE25 guidance to waste producers.

[https://www.ciwm.co.uk/ciwm/news/2018/ciwm\\_welcomes\\_b\\_m\\_waste\\_refuse\\_not\\_refuge\\_campaign.aspx](https://www.ciwm.co.uk/ciwm/news/2018/ciwm_welcomes_b_m_waste_refuse_not_refuge_campaign.aspx)



In 2016 three waste management companies joined forces together with CIWM, ESA and HSE to pool resources to share information and create industry wide initiatives to save lives and formed the Steering Group 'People in Bins'. The intention of the Steering Group was to include more organisation members over time and work with local authorities too. This remains the aim of the group, however there are difficulties in involving as many organisations as we would like.

Under the Health and Safety campaign 'This time it's personal' umbrella, CIWM are in the process of restarting the 'People in Bins' Steering Group with the original members and including LARAC and ROSPA; the objectives of the group will be to:

- help to share the WASTE25 guidance document more widely with waste producers to ensure the contents of the bins are being checked when they are in use and when collected
- help people to be aware that large bins are not for sleeping in
- encourage waste companies to ensure collection crews receive training to check large bins before they are emptied being particularly vigilant when large bins are stored in unlit areas
- create a standard single page do's and don'ts document to encourage waste companies to issue this to their customers to encourage them to follow WASTE25 guidance to ensure waste presented has been checked prior to collection and that the bin storage area is well maintained, has adequate lighting and that bins are locked over night
- encourage waste companies to record incidents of intercepting people sheltering in bins to enable data to be gathered on common locations; times of year; etc to enable a more detailed and targeted campaign in following years
- encourage waste collection companies to share photographs of good and bad practice of bin storage areas so that waste producers can improve standards of bin storage areas thereby making the bins inaccessible to public access
- CIWM would like to undertake an update to the 2014 report to see how the situation has changed since this date.

A telephone meeting took place involving HSE, LARAC, ROSPA, WISH, CIWM, Hart District Council, O'Donovan Waste Disposal Ltd, Coastal Recycling Limited and Biffa on 7 November to discuss the above objectives. Since this date CIWM has produced imagery promoting the use of WASTE25 guidance and encourages waste producers and waste collectors to check the bins while filling and unloading. These images have been and continue to be shared on Twitter and LinkedIn regularly.

CIWM will aim to write an article for the CIWM journal / website to promote the 'People in Bins' Steering Group and call for volunteer waste collection companies to get involved by providing data to mirror the 2014 report by February 2019.

Yours faithfully



 FCIWM, Chartered Waste Manager, CEnv  
Executive Director

