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## Briefing Note

# Dog Waste Bin Collection Issues

For Finance, Governance & Estates Committee 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### Background

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 we received a complaint from a local resident that the dog waste bins on Pitt Lane and Brighton Road were overflowing and causing a health risk. The Resident stressed that the bins had not been emptied at that point for at least 10 days. We reported this to waste matters at Mid Sussex District Council the same day and informed the resident that we would follow this up but that the dog bins should be emptied once a week, usually on a Thursday.



On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026 we inspected all the dog waste bins in the Parish and discovered that some bins on South Avenue had been emptied, but that the dog waste bins on Pitt Lane and Brighton Road had not been touched. Again, this was reported to MSDC cc'ing in Cllr Rodney Jackson (MSDC) and Cllr Alison Bennett (MSDC), they were advised that the bin on Orchard Way had also not been emptied.



Cllr Rodney Jackson escalated this to Simon Hughes (MSDC) and Cllr Chris Hobbs (MSDC) on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

The Maintenance Officer was asked to monitor all the dog waste bins collected by MSDC and on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 there had been no improvement, with no feedback from MSDC. At this time there were

many complaints mostly online, with hints of a petition being signed by angry residents. It had also become clear that Hurstpierpoint was not the only area being affected, with reports from Burgess Hill as well. It was clear that the bins had not been emptied for two to three weeks, with an extra waste bag being tied to the side of the dog waste bins. In some locations these side bags were already full or has fallen off.

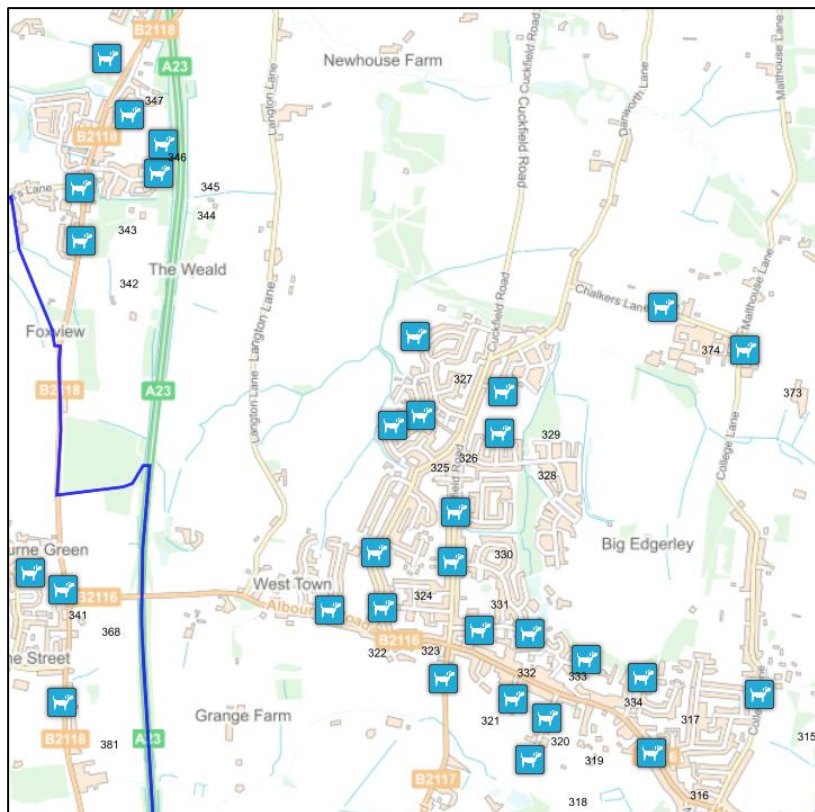
On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026, the waste matters team responded to my original email and stated:

***Thank you for letting us know. The dog waste bins are scheduled to be emptied every Thursday, so they should be attended to today. Please could you let us know if there continue to be any issues with bins 320 (Pitt Lane) or 321 (Brighton Road), or if they are still overflowing after today's collection? We can then follow this up with our teams. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.***

We responded to Waste matters thanking them for the response and that we could confirm that the bins had been emptied, but that we would continue to monitor the bins more closely going forward and will notify them if there were any missed every Friday morning. We included a list of bins that we had been confirmed as overflowing, as they were heavily used locations. This included dog waste bins 316,320,321,322,324, and 343.

The Maintenance Officer and/or Estate and Facilities Manager will check the state of the Dog waste bins every Friday and will report any missed bins that day. Some of the bins were viewed on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026, confirming that if they are not emptied this week (12<sup>th</sup> February 2026), there will be a clear indication.

### Plan of all Dog Waste Bins in the Parish



### Financial Implications

Although the majority of dog waste bins are owned and maintained by MSDC, the Parish Council is charged for the collection and disposal of the waste. The origins of this arrangement are uncertain but it may be that the Parish Council had requested extra bins and was required to fund the ongoing costs if MSDC agreed to install them. Last year MSDC charged the Parish Council to £4,232.80 plus VAT for this arrangement.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee is asked to consider the current service provided by MSDC and agree what, if any, action should be taken.