

Smart waste bins to be trialled in West Lothian

Smart waste bins which compact rubbish dumped in them and help keep the area cleaner are being trialled in Linlithgow this summer.

The BigBelly bins also use Cloud-based technology to inform the council when they need emptied and put a stop to the surrounding areas being covered in rubbish pulled out by scavenging birds or vermin.

West Lothian Council Countryside Manager Andy Johnston told a meeting of Linlithgow's Local Area Committee the BigBelly bins would be placed at sites around Linlithgow Loch.

The bins are enclosed so birds cannot extract rubbish or food wrappers and they also crush down carry-out food containers and so can take more rubbish before needing emptied- saving on operational costs.

The bins present a sealed look to the outside similar to the way that clothing banks do, with a large collection tray which is pulled out and then drops the rubbish into the body of the bin.

The firm BigBelly brands itself as "smart solutions for cities" and guarantees an end to overflowing waste bins and fly-blown litter.

They have been rolled out for use in high traffic areas of Scottish cities in the last two years.

By Stuart Sommerville, LDR

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