



**Teesside University
Campus Services**

**Report for Environment Scrutiny Committee
18 January 2018**

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1 Introduction

1.1 Teesside University has been asked to attend the Middlesbrough Council Environment Scrutiny Committee to discuss the following points:

- *What arrangements, if any, the University has between the students and/or landlords in relation to end of term property clearances. For example, if it does not do so already, is there a potential for the University to liaise with students and landlords and the Council to ensure bulky items from end of term house clearances are correctly disposed of.*
- *To develop an understanding of the current arrangements in place in relation to student accommodation including expectations of landlords/students regarding end of term clearances – both University campuses and landlords of privately-rented accommodation; and whether there is any monitoring in place of landlords of student accommodation and what this entails.*

2 University Accommodation

2.1 Teesside University has 979 University-owned bed spaces in various locations close to the Campus. These locations are:

King Edward Square
Parkside Halls and Houses, between Park Lane and Park Road North
Woodlands Halls on Woodlands Road
Central Halls on Borough Road

See Appendix 1 for a map showing the location of these properties.

2.2 Teesside University adheres to the UUK Accommodation Code of Practice, details of which can found at the following website.

<http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/policy-and-analysis/Pages/accommodation-code-of-practice.aspx> for student accommodation. This covers general waste and recycling but makes no specific reference to large items of waste.

2.3 Teesside University also has 50 bed spaces in University Managed Housing, which are owned by various local landlords but where the relationship is managed by the University.

2.4 Teesside University closely monitors the property provided under the University Managed Housing scheme, with regular checks on the condition of the accommodation and meetings with the landlords, as required. Teesside University does not, however, check on the landlords' processes for disposing of their own property.

2.5 Where students move to Middlesbrough but do not use either University-owned property or University Managed Housing, these arrangements are not monitored or managed in any way by the University. The landlords concerned are not in any way connected to the University and nor does the University keep a log or record of these arrangements.

2.6 Students' Union

2.6.1 Teesside University Students' Union (SU) are a separate entity to the University.

2.6.2 Teesside University Students' Union recognises a number of good student landlords and letting agencies but is not a part of the contracts between students and their landlords. Any student landlords or letting agencies that appear on the SU website are accredited, either by ANUK or by the SU. The stated objectives of this accreditation are to encourage, acknowledge, raise awareness of and actively promote good standards and management practices in student accommodation.

2.6.3 Details of ANUK's accreditation scheme can be found at <http://www.anuk.org.uk/accreditation/ten-key-good-practice-points>

2.6.4 The SU accredited landlords and agencies are listed online. If the Council has specific issues with one of these named landlords with regard to inappropriate disposal of waste, contact should be made with the SU in writing.

2.6.5 The Students' Union offers free guidance to student tenants including a written Student Housing Guide. The 'Be a Good Tenant' section advises students to report all disrepair, keep the garden and bin areas clean and tidy, and respect the property. The importance of the moving out inspection and returning the property as found is emphasised and students depend on this to recover their deposit from their landlord.

3 Waste Management

3.1 All large furniture and white goods in University-owned residences are the property of the University and are disposed of appropriately, via the University's waste disposal contractor, taking into account the relevant legislation, and waste transfer notes are received and filed as required.

3.2 All building waste generated by the University or its contractors is collected and disposed of in accordance with the relevant legislation.

3.3 All waste generated by students in University-owned accommodation, of whatever size or category, is collected in various waste compounds around the campus, from where it is collected by the Council and the University's waste contractor.

- 3.4 Students' domestic waste in University-owned accommodation is collected by University staff every weekday morning to ensure that it is dealt with quickly and that it is stored in the correct place until collection.
- 3.5 The University works with the British Heart Foundation and encourages students to donate any unwanted good quality goods to this charity. This is promoted regularly but especially at the end of the academic year.

There are two large permanent donation bins on Campus and smaller temporary collection bins are put out at various times throughout the year.

In 2017, 532 bags were donated by staff and students, weighing approximately 4.2 tonnes, with a value to BHF of around £7,000.

- 3.6 Mattresses are disposed of at the end of every year by the University's waste contractor. These are recycled, as far as is practical. None are sent to landfill.
- 3.7 All large furniture and white goods in University Managed Housing are the property of the landlord and, as stated in 2.5, the University does not monitor the disposal of these goods.

3.8 Fly tipping

The University has previously expressed concern about fly-tipping which can occur on Albert Road, which is in close proximity to student accommodation.

4 Concluding Comments

- 4.1 The University is confident that all waste generated from all of the property for which it is responsible is disposed of appropriately and with full regard for legislation and environmental impact.
- 4.2 The University would be happy to provide landlords of University Managed housing with a point of contact within the Council with regard to the appropriate disposal of large items of waste at the end of leases. It is not believed that it is appropriate for the University to become involved in monitoring the disposal of waste from landlords, as this is beyond its remit.
- 4.3 As the University has no formal relationship with other landlords, it is not believed that it would be appropriate to liaise with them regarding waste disposal.
- 4.4 The University will amend the "exit" letter sent to all students in University-owned accommodation asking that they dispose of waste appropriately and that they ask Campus Services Accommodation for assistance with any large items.

Appendix 1 - Map showing location of University-owned student accommodation

Campus Map

