

Love Solihull Community Litter Picking Guidelines

All individuals carrying out litter picking on Solihull MBC land should follow these guidelines. Activities that do not follow these guidelines are carried out at your own risk.

Keeping Safe on your litter pick:

- Only litter pick if this is something that you feel comfortable and safe doing.
- If using Love Solihull equipment, please ensure you have completed either the Love Solihull Community Litter Picking initiative [registration form](#) (if litter picking as an individual or small informal group) or an event register (if attending an organised community litter pick)
- Only pick up litter using a litter picker - **please do not use your hands**
- We strongly recommend wearing gloves whilst litter picking
- Before going out litter picking, please review the Community Litter Picking Risk Assessment
- Children under 16 years of age should be supervised by a responsible adult at all times
- When litter picking near roads and on rights of way, please ensure that you **wear an orange or yellow high-visibility vest** (orange volunteer vests are available from Love Solihull when registering), please refrain from litter picking in the highway, on narrow verges or central reservations where there is no footpath, or next to roads with speed limits over 30mph.
- Before taking any photos of people on the litter pick, ensure that they have given consent and understand where the photo may be displayed
- For your safety, **do not enter any water body** or water channel during your litter pick
- Once you have completed the litter pick, **wash your hands as soon as possible**, also consider carrying hand sanitiser to clean your hands during your litter pick.
- Please report equipment defects or any issues or concerns to Love Solihull or your group leader

Love Solihull bags

- Please use the green 'Love Solihull' bags provided, as this differentiates litter waste from fly tipping or side waste
- Up to three Love Solihull bags can be left next to any **SMBC public litter bin** and these will be automatically collected by our contractor.
- If you need to leave more than three bags next to a bin, please e-mail the bin location details to lovesolihull@solihull.gov.uk
- If you need to leave bags in any location other than next to a council bin, please leave them in an area easily accessible for a vehicle and report the location to lovesolihull@solihull.gov.uk – in these instances it may be useful to provide a photo or the location and a map reference
- For larger community litter picks, the group leader should contact the Love Solihull team in advance of your litter pick to agree collection points. A special collection will then be arranged at the

earliest opportunity after your litter pick. The collection point will need to be near to a road, driveway or car park

- Please do not leave bags next to any buildings in case the bags are ignited prior to collection
- Please do not use the Love Solihull bags for green waste (i.e. shrubbery cuttings) without first contacting the Love Solihull team

What to do if you find:

- **Fly-tipping** - Suspected cases of fly tipping should not be moved. Report to SMBC Connect for further investigation and collection
- **Needles** - Please call SMBC Connect for safe collection and disposal
- **Knives / Weapons** – Instruction provided by West Midlands Police:
 - Weapons to be photographed in situ and shared with the Police
 - Location to be recorded and noted so it can be shared with the Police
 - Weapons/knives to be brought to the front office at Solihull Police Station (confirm with the Police desk where the photos and noted location information needs to be sent)
 - Firearms should not be touched and left in situ. Please call the Police for further advice
- **Inaccessible litter on SMBC land** – Please report to SMBC Connect for safe collection

Recommended PPE and additional equipment List:

- Fully charged mobile phone in case of emergencies
- Thick gloves
- High visibility vest (available from Love Solihull)
- Hand sanitiser and anti-bacterial wipes

Useful contact information:

Solihull MBC Connect

Tel: 0121 704 8000

Website: www.solihull.gov.uk - report a problem online by completing a web form

Email: connectcc@solihull.gov.uk

Love Solihull

Email: lovesolihull@solihull.gov.uk

Website: www.lovesolihull.org

Newsletter: Sign up to the 'Love Solihull' Stay Connected newsletter via www.solihull.gov.uk

West Midlands Police

Emergency Tel: 999

Non-emergency Tel: 101

Website: www.west-midlands.police.uk

Neighbourhood Updates: Sign up to WM Now www.wmnow.co.uk

If you require further clarification or have any questions or feedback relating to these Guidelines and the Community Litter Picking Risk Assessment, then please get in touch.

If you are involved in an incident or accident while litter picking that has resulted in ill health or injury, or if you are involved in an event where no harm has been caused but had the potential to cause injury or ill health, please report this to the Love Solihull team immediately.

Best wishes & stay safe,
The Love Solihull Team

Thank you for your support in helping to clean up Solihull!