

Biffa Press Release

22/04/2008

Knives Out for Bin Men

Knives carelessly dumped in bin bags by homeowners are putting waste collectors at risk.

Knives, hypodermic needles, circular saw blades and broken glass are regularly found poking out of the side of bin bags. Now Biffa is teaming up with local authorities to urge residents to think carefully before they throw such things away.

Biffa advises that any sharp object, such as knives, glass and crockery, should be well wrapped up. A note should be left on the bin to warn the collection operatives there is something sharp inside and so it can be put in the back of the collection vehicle safely. Once in the truck it does not pose a safety hazard.

Biffa manager, Trevor Elliott said, "I'd urge people to use caution when throwing away sharp objects. Injuries can be very serious, requiring medical attention and a worrying wait for blood tests. Any sharp items must be wrapped up as there is no way for our collection operatives to know if there is anything dangerous in the black sack until it pokes through and then it may be too late."

Paul Barton, Deputy Director of Community Services for Tandridge District Council, said: Over the last few years a few of our refuse collectors have received injuries, some serious, from sharp objects. We urge residents to think carefully about what they put in their bin.

Further press information from
Biffa on 0121 661 6713.