

Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd
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FAO [REDACTED]

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Date 9 June 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Sainsbury's supermarkets Ltd – Islington

**Environmental Protection Act 1990 – Sec 99
Schedule 4 Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005**

Thank you for your letter of 12th May in relation to my proposal for charging for the return of abandoned shopping trolleys. Please accept my apology for late reply – I have been on annual leave.

I am pleased to hear that Sainsbury's takes the abandonment of shopping trolleys seriously and that you have taken steps to retrieve any trolleys that are taken away from your stores and left on the streets of Islington to become a nuisance for local people.

Your retrieval scheme in Islington may date back to 2007 when Islington first wrote to businesses including Sainsbury's about the problem of abandoned trolleys. Since then it would seem that more Sainsbury stores have opened within Islington – and that there are now 8 stores around the borough.

I note the reference to your contracted trolley retrieval scheme and that abandoned trolleys are retrieved 5 days per week and in accordance with the DEFRA guidance of 72 hours maximum for trolley retrievals on land.

(I have been contacted by your contractor - Trolleywise – but felt it inappropriate to speak to them although they said they had permission to speak to me on behalf of Sainsbury's).

Without knowing the precise details of your retrieval scheme – my first thought is that the collection times are quite 'loose' and trolleys could be on Islington's streets for up to three days before they are collected. As the retrieval scheme is based over 5 days – I assume no collections are made at the weekend when trolleys are likely to be removed from stores and later abandoned.

You also state 'that if Sainsbury's are notified of trolleys found outside the boundaries of a store they are retrieved as a priority' – who is it that you expect to notify you – shoppers, residents, the Local Authority?

What happens if you don't receive a notification – is this the nub of the problem?.

Unfortunately the problem of abandoned shopping trolleys is becoming an issue and I need to consider the most appropriate way to tackle the problem. Current legislation would enable me to recover abandoned trolleys from Islington streets and pass the financial burden of doing so back to the owners.

If businesses have robust deterrent or trolley collection schemes in place then the abandonment of trolleys should not pose too much of a problem for them nor the residents of Islington.

This is my preferred option and one that I will be presenting to our Members in due course. Your letter and my reply will be included in my report on the consultation exercise.

With regard to the breakdown of the proposed charges – this is the actual cost of each of the elements when provided by a third party contractor.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenny Wilks', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenny Wilks

Head of Street Environment Services