CASE STUDY: LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC PURSE
From January 2012 to June 2014 Tower Hamlets Council experienced an unprecedented number of thefts of commercial bins used on housing estates and at communal refuse points.
The Council lost a total of 82 commercial bins over the two and a half year period, costing £41,793 of public money to replace. It was believed that they were being stolen and sold on at scrap yards.

In June 2014 the Council started using SmartWater® traceable liquids to protect the bins and reduce losses to the public purse. Each bin was marked with SmartWater and deterrent signage was used to warn thieves about its use.

ACHIEVING RESULTS
Since the introduction of SmartWater the Council has recorded a reduction of 100% with no further thefts reported.

TESTIMONIALS
“SmartWater appears to be a strong deterrent to would-be thieves and is providing a cost effective solution to the problem.”
Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Lutfur Rahman

“We have sent out a clear message that the theft of council assets will not be tolerated. The theft of metal bins is far from a victimless crime, they cost everyone from residents who have their waste collection service disrupted to the taxpayers who ultimately foots the bill for the replacements.”
Cllr Shahed Ali, cabinet member for Clean and Green