Overview & Scrutiny Committee 8 September 2021

Enfield's Strategic Approach to Flytipping

Striving for excellence





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Background



National context - Flytipping a national problem

What is flytipping?

- Fly-tipping is rubbish left on the street or the other land without arrangements for its collection and without agreement with the council
- It is illegal to fly-tip, no matter how small, and is therefore a criminal offence

National context:

- Flytipping incidences has increased nationally
- For the 2019/20 year, local authorities in England dealt with just under 1 million (976,000) fly-tipping incidents, an increase of 2% from the 957,000 reported in 2018/19
- Just under two thirds (65%) of fly-tips involved waste originating from houses. Total incidents involving this waste were 632,000 in 2019/20, an increase of 7% from 588,000 in 2018/19
- The most common place for fly-tipping to occur was on highways (pavements and roads), which accounted for over two fifths (43%) of total incidents in 2019/20. In 2019/20, the number of highway incidents was 419,000, which was an increase of 6% from 396,000 in 2018/19

National and regional context - DEFRA Flytipping Actions Data 2019/20

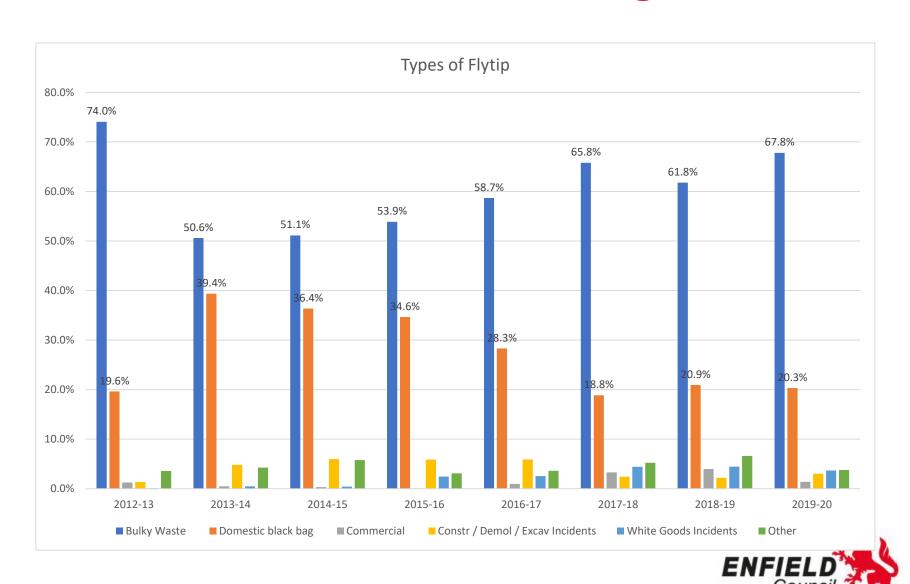
How does Enfield compare within national context:

- 314 Local Authorities completed this annual return
- Enfield's key enforcement actions were high top quartile as below:
- We were 1st out of all 314 Local Authorities for 'Duty of Care' inspection actions this is predominately proactive work we do to check that businesses are disposing of their waste legally
- 6th highest for 'statutory notice actions'
- 13th highest for 'total enforcement actions'
- 15th highest for flytipping FPNs
- 23rd highest for littering FPNs in conjunction with flytipping
- However, we are aiming to increase robust enforcement further

Local context – London Borough of Enfield

- Flytipping in Enfield (2019/20):
- Most flytips are found on pavements and roads (93.1%)
- Most waste (67.8%) is bulky waste which includes house clearance, old furniture, small scale DIY
- This is followed by miscellaneous black bag waste (20.3%)
- Bulky waste has increased since 2013/14 (hence decision to introduce free bulky waste collections) whereas black bag waste has been decreasing
- Commercial waste makes up around 1.4% and has decreased since 2018/19
- Construction and demolition fly tips are around have decreased since 2013/14

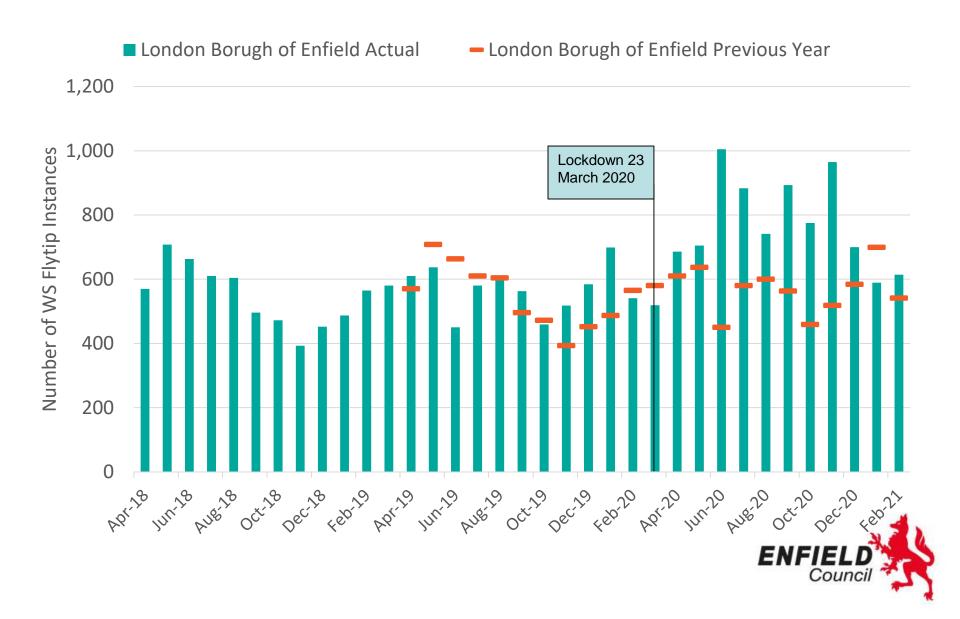
Local context – London Borough of Enfield



Impact of COVID-19 on fly-tipping

- A number of councils reported an increase in incidents of fly-tipping during the first lockdown in April 2020
- This was largely linked to the closure of tips and household recycling centres, and with a surge in home renovation projects and rubbish clear outs
- Liverpool Council reported that they experienced a 25% increase in incidents of fly-tipping that remained high even as lockdown restrictions were eased in August 2020
- In February 2021, Stoke City Council reported a 30% increase since the first lockdown came into force
- Hertfordshire County Council reporting a 60% increase in flytipping (August 2021)
- Enfield showed a significant increase in flytip incidences as lockdown started to ease, with a spike in June 2020
- Statistics on fly-tipping during the COVID-19 pandemic are not yet publicly available.

Covid Impact – Flytipping in Enfield



Key Challenges and Issues



Key challenges and Issues

- Regular 'Turnover' in the resident population, transient residents and culturally diverse population
- Lack of awareness about proper waste disposal (their 'Duty of Care')
- Over-occupied properties
- Converted properties with little space for bin/waste storage or recycling (e.g. flats above shops)
- Over-generation of business waste
- Deliberate flytipping
- Perceived low threat of being caught?
- Flytipping on private land
- Legal processes to be followed (e.g. identification of the offender, sufficiency of evidence, court time)

Household fly tipping - Rubbish from Houses and Flats







Type of Waste	Possible causes	Possible factors
Black sacks and carrier bags Mattresses, furniture, household goods Packaging (boxes, Cardboard and wrapping)	Excess rubbish generated Overcrowded properties or HMOs Lack of understanding of correct collection point and day (or keep dumping rubbish in the wrong place so that people think it is a collection point)	Transient population, hard to reach groups, language barriers Lack of landlord/agent responsibility (tenant changeovers) Lack of awareness of leaving rubbish in this way is a flytipping offence Perception or lack of awareness of not getting caught and fined or prosecuted Lack of space for bins for converted properties Planning breaches
		Lack of civic pride



Household fly tipping - Rubbish from Flats above Shops





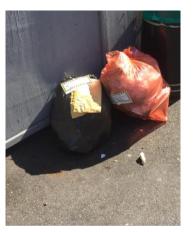


Type of Waste	Possible causes	Possible factors
Black sacks and carrier bags	Limited space to store rubbish inside the flat	Transient population, hard to reach groups, language barriers
Mattresses, furniture, household goods	Lack of understanding of the collection point and day Habit/culture of leaving	Lack of landlord/agent responsibility
Packaging (boxes, Cardboard and wrapping)	waste by bulk bins, litter bin or street corner which becomes an unofficial collection point	Perception or lack of awareness of not getting caught and fined or prosecuted
		Lack of space for bins for converted properties
		Planning breaches
		Lack of civic pride



Commercial fly tip - Rubbish from Businesses







Type of Waste	Possible causes	Possible factors
Black sacks and carrier bags Packaging (boxes, Cardboard and wrapping)	Lack of awareness of requirement for proper disposal of business waste Perception that will not be caught Seeking to avoid cost of proper disposal and dispose of in domestic waste Over generation of waste	No waste contract or underpaying for the amount of waste generated Small quantities of waste produced and with a small profit margin some businesses take the risk of fly-tipping to cut down on costs New staff in the business



Serious Organised Crime







Type of Waste	Possible causes	Possible factors
Building materials Large levels of household Rubbish White goods Hazardous waste (eg	Lack of awareness Amongst householders of their duty to dispose of rubbish properly (duty of care) Residents do not realise that the business is acting illegally if they are not	Opportunistic way of unscrupulous operator to avoid collection and disposal costs No civic pride; operator not living locally to the area or Enfield, not socially linked to the
asbestos)	Householder might find offer of disposing of DIY/household waste too tempting as usually low cost	There is a perception that the operator will not get caught and fined or their vehicle seized Incursions, encampments and unlicensed waste sites



Enfield's Strategic approach to tackling flytipping



Strategic approach – cross team & partnership working

We work closely with a number of services to tackle flytipping in the borough:

Waste Services – provision of bins/bags and their collection

Recycling and
Outreach team –
education of
residents

Street Cleansing
Team – removal of
flytips and sweeping
the streets

Waste Enforcement
Team – enforcement
of waste offences

Community Safety – CCTV centre

External partners such as the Police and Environment Agency

Preventing Recurrence

- Through Intelligence led approach:
- Targeted enforcement and intelligence led not just reactive to reports of flytipping
- Intelligence led hotspots mapped for fly tipping (top 25 roads etc)
- Regular proactive patrols by Waste Enforcement Officers of the hotspot locations to search evidence in fly tips
- Street Cleansing staff also search flytips for evidence before removal and pass to waste enforcement officers (very successful partnership working)
- Problem solving and designing out the issue:
- Identify the cause or source of the rubbish and address (e.g. unaware of collection point, over generation/insufficient bins, private land not being managed)
- Erect temporary signage warning about flytipping
- Alleygating schemes for rear alleys to prevent flytipping
- Use of CCTV to try to identify offenders and act as a deterrent
- Boarding off sites to prevent flytipping









Communication and Awareness

- General publicity/communications:
- Communications campaigns
- Use of social media used to publicise enforcement actions
- Resident Engagement:
- Communication and resident engagement around how to manage and recycle waste
- Outreach team proactively engage with households through targeted face-to-face engagement and direct communications such as letters (kerbside, flats above shops and flats)
- Neighbourhood communications:
- Raise awareness of flytips and being addressed by putting searched rubbish into brightly coloured bags which are labelled with stickers
- Awareness/education letters delivered to households in roads where flytipping is found by Waste Enforcement Officers
- Landlords, Agents and Resident Groups:
- Awareness raising with landlords and agents of private rented HMOs as licence condition requires proper waste storage and disposal
- Presentations to resident groups and forums







Robust Enforcement

- Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN):
- May 2016 the introduction of Fixed Penalty Notices for flytipping. Prior to this there were no FPNs and prosecution was the only enforcement option available
- The legislation set the FPN at £200 which was later increased to the £400 maximum
- FPN served whilst on site where possible
- Repeat offenders will be prosecuted rather than subsequent FPNs issued
- Since 2016, as with many councils, the focus has been on issuing FPNs and keeping less severe waste offences out of court – more expedient, timely and less expensive
- Notices under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and other legislation:
- Serve a range of notices to require clearance of flytips and works to prevent recurrence
- Maximum penalties are £20,000 or an unlimited fine and imprisonment for the most serious cases
- Police and Criminal Evidence Interviews:
- Undertake doorstep interviews with suspected offenders or at civic centre
- Joint Operations with the Police
- Stop and search of waste carrier vehicles with the Police and VOSA
- Operations with the Police to seize vehicles involved in flytipping









Tactical Approach – Domestic Waste Flytipping

- Waste enforcement officers are ward based
- Check the collection day and correct collection point for the dumped rubbish
- Search rubbish
- Follow up any identification found (e.g. letters or labels with names and addresses)
- Try to establish root cause for the flytipping
- Liaise, as needed with the strategic waste & recycling team (education, larger bin needed, recycling etc)
- Seek removal of the waste, or remove flytip quickly
- Serve a fixed penalty notice:
- £150 single bag (legally considered as littering)
- £400 more than one bag
- Educate (pictorial letters) about collection day and collection point to help prevent a recurrence also, and serve S46 notice if needed about how/when to present their waste for collection
- Erect temporary signage to warn about flytipping
- If waste cannot be tracked to an offender (e.g. mattresses), this is cleared and if it is a significant/persistent problem then a fuller investigation and CCTV will be used
- Use of 'Operation Payback' to clear rubbish on land not on the public highway or rear alleys – their service suspended at present
- Communication campaigns and use of social media

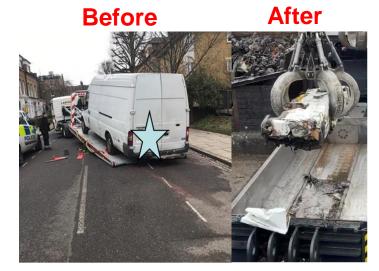
Tactical Approach – Commercial Waste Flytipping

- Commercial waste includes waste from businesses
- Visits to businesses to check records demonstrating proper arrangements for the lawful disposal of their waste over the previous two years
- If the business cannot show these records they are issued with a 'producer notice' that they must show/send these records to the officer within either seven or fourteen days
- If the records are not produced, then a Fixed Penalty Notice for £400 is issued
- Joint operations with the Police to 'stop and search' Waste Carrier vehicles to check their licences to transport and dispose of waste
- Joint operations with the Police and Environment Agency to large scale flytips and encampments with unlicensed waste disposal sites
- Joint operations with the Police to seize vehicles found to have been involved in flytipping, and then crush the vehicles

Serious Organised Crime

- Flytipping can involve serious organised crime and can include all types of flytipping such as household, commercial and construction waste
- For large scale criminal activities we work in partnership with the Environment Agency & the Police (as the EA the enforcement responsibility for large flytips)
- We need to liaise with the EA as they may be already observing the activity/SOC group & gathering evidence
- We share any CCTV footage and vehicle registration number plates with the EA and Police
- Enfield's Waste Enforcement Team were recently recognised at a regional Strategic Waste Crime Partnership Conference for excellent joint working and problem solving – resulting in the reduction of large serious organised crime flytipping incidents in Enfield by half between 2017 and 2019





Outcomes - Waste Enforcement Actions

Year	FPN	Notices	Prosecutions	Proactive Street Inspections	Total Actions
2017/18	651	736	85	7,792	9,264
2018/19	452	347	107	5,375	6,281
2019/20	321	767	34	4,678	5,800
2020/21	568	1,066	0*	4,921	6,555
Apr-Aug 2021 (5 Months)	1,068	302	0**	3,522	4,892

^{*}The Magistrates' court reduced the amount of time allocated to Councils so we are unable to bring as many waste prosecutions, so we have set up access to the electronic Single Justice System to increase the volume of cases presented for prosecution.

^{**} The court is now permitting us to submit waste enforcement prosecutions through the electronic Single Justice System from October 2021, but restricting us to only 12 prosecution cases in court per month (face to face) for ALL Enfield Council's prosecutions

Recent Service Changes



Waste Enforcement Resources

Previous Resources

- There are 7 waste enforcement officers in the team covering 21 wards and a Team Leader
- The officers are allocated geographical wards
- 5 deployable CCTV cameras and public CCTV centre
- High volumes of incoming work
- Proactive work undertaken
- Contracted Service for littering and to support flytipping enforcement

Recently increased resources

- 2 additional new waste enforcement posts dedicated to council housing estates
- Purchasing 11 new deployable CCTV cameras
- Restructure to create 2 additional new posts in the waste enforcement team to support the waste enforcement officers/process
 - Business support officer
 - Technical officer responsible for CCTV deployment, footage etc

Free Bulky Waste Collection service

- Press release 14.7.2021 intention to introduce free bulky waste collections
- Report pre-published on 02nd August
 - Free bulky collection
 - Limit on number of items
 - Unlimited number of collection (monitored to ensure no abuse of system)
 - Charge for Large Electricals/ White Goods (encourage retailers to collect when new goods purchased)
 - Implementation September



New Council Housing Waste Collection Service

- Additional 3 refuse collection crews to carry out refuse collection from Council Housing Estates.
- This will create the capacity required to provide an enhanced collection service
 that will provide an additional collection at each location per week and the
 removal of any excess refuse (flytipping) Outcome Clean and Tidy.
- To have an immediate impact we will phase the new service to ensure the outcomes are being achieved and target the most problematic locations first; these locations will be identified by consultation with Councillors, Housing and Waste Operations







New on-street communal – flats above shops

- 2 'Main Road' Street cleansing cage vehicles have now been given RCV's (Refuse Collection Vehicle)
- Provides these teams with considerable increase in capacity to collect more waste (more time working less time tipping)
- Daily clear all/check of FAS bins on the main roads (Green Lanes, Hertford Road, Bowes Road, etc) and hotspot/high priority locations;
- Leave these locations 'clean and tidy'







New Approach to Fly Tipping removal on Council Housing Estates

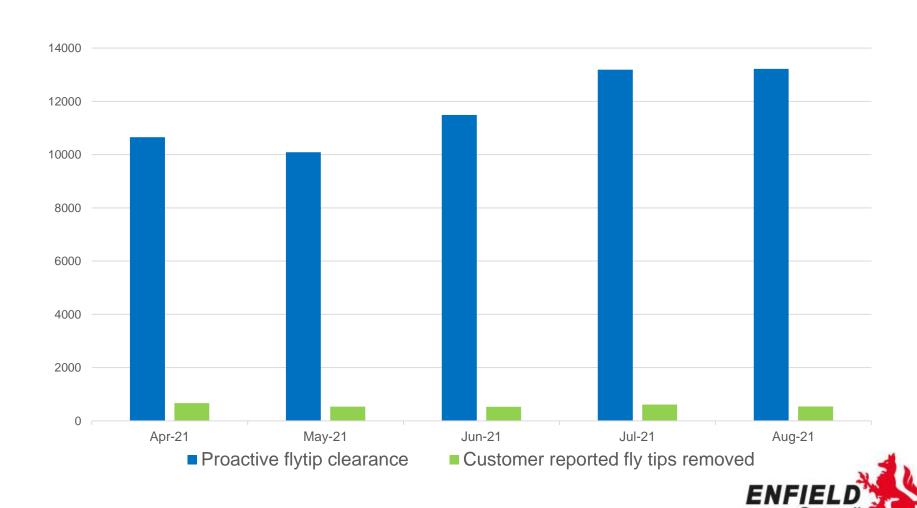
- Additional 4 crews commenced 09/08/21
- Ward based approach for fly tipping with crews now collecting fly tips from public highway and council housing areas

Fly lip Crew 1	PONDERS END	Fly Tip Crew 9	ENFIELD HIGHWAY
	SOUTHBURY	Thy tip crew 3	TOWN
Fly Tip Crew 2	JUBILEE		CHASE
	HASELBURY	Fly Tip Crew 10	COCKFOSTERS
		rly lip clew 10	HIGHLANDS
Fly Tip Crew 3	LOWER EDMONTON		GRANGE
Fly Tip Crew 4	EDMONTON GREEN		PALMERS GREEN
		Fly Tip Crew 11	WINCHMORE HILL
Fly Tip Crew 5, 6 and 7	UPPER EDMONTON		BUSH HILL PARK
Fly Tip Crew 8	TURKEY STREET		BOWES
	ENFIELD LOCK	Fly Tip Crew 12	SOUTHGATE GREEN
			SOUTHGATE

- New crews funded by Council Housing
- £500k investment in Street Cleansing from Waste Service Change



Increased resources – reported and proactive flytip removals



Additional Waste Services Improvements

Mobile phones

- ordered for all Waste Services vehicles (x46) to improve communication and feedback from crews
- Mid-Sept delivery date

Bartec Devices for Street Cleansing Teams

- In cab devices that allow crews to record fly tips that are collected digitally
- Automatic GPS tracking in device so incidents are time, date and location stamped
- Crew record what items are collected digitally to allow real time reporting that fly tips have been cleared
- Provisional timescales for implementation 4-6 months



New Communications Campaign 2021/22



Communications campaign – War on Grime

- New communications officer dedicated to this campaign (12month fixed term)
- Works alongside the flytip crews and waste enforcement teams
- Publicises the work in tackling flytipping
- New visuals and media posts





We are taking rubbish dumping seriously and issuing fines to those who choose to mess up our borough.

Please report rubbish dumping / fly tipping at https://new.enfield.gov.uk/.../fly-tipping-and-litter/ Let's Beat it Together



Live messaging on social media





CLEARED: Picardy House, Cedar Road, Enfield

Tell us who did this and we will issue them with a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecute them for dumping rubbish.

Help to keep our borough clean. www.enfield.gov.uk/cleanerenfield #CleanerEnfield

CLEARED: Barrowell Green, Palmers Green Tell us who did this and we will issue them with a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecute them for dumping rubbish.

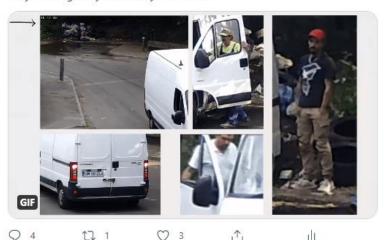
Help to keep our borough clean. www.enfield.gov.uk/cleanerenfield

#CleanerEnfield

Enfield Council . 1h

The council is investigating allegations of 'fly-tipping'. Can you help us? Our cameras have picked up photos of vehicles and individuals whom we would like to exclude from our enquiries. Do you recognise anyone or any vehicle? Do you recognise yourself or your vehicle?

Posts on Social Media



Enfield Council @ @EnfieldCouncil · 2h

CLEARED - dumped rubbish in Devonshire Mews, removed by Enfield Council clearance crews today.

We're keeping Enfield clean and we've declared war on grime crime: new.enfield.gov.uk/news-and-event...

Report dumping at new.enfield.gov.uk/services/rubbi... or direct message us.





Dumping rubbish is irresponsible and we'll seek you out and take action against you when we catch you.

We're pretty good at fining fly tippers, did you know we ranked 15th in the UK for the number of FPNs we issued in 2019/20.

Bin it responsibly.



12:38 PM - Jul 15, 2021 - Twitter Web App

View Tweet activity

2 Retweets 4 Likes

Changing behaviours



Case studies from other Local Authorities



Case study: Haringey targeting fly-tipping hot spots

- Fly tipped waste often occurs with more frequency in "hot spot" areas where waste has been deposited and collected for many years, becoming
 informal collection points.
- Using the three strands of the Haringey's fly-tipping strategy communications, intervention and enforcement they used data to pinpoint the locations around the borough which suffer the highest number of fly tips.

Their plan:

- Have a visible presence in each hot spot area, both through communications and officer presence.
- Produce highly localised communications to make sure residents are aware of the issues.
- Work with local champions, including resident or trader groups and members, to engage the community and drive a local response.

8 week timeline:

- Phase 1 (weeks 1-2): Intelligence gathering, site visits and analysis;
- Phase 2 (weeks 3-4): Advice and education, ensuring residents have the necessary capacity to store and dispose of waste correctly;
- Phase 3 (weeks 5-6): Designing in innovative solutions for waste presentation where possible;
- Phase 4 (weeks 7-8): Enforcing where necessary.

Results:

• Initial trials of the hotspot approach have been rewarded with some success. There has been a reduction of fly tipping in the ten worst hotspot locations by concentrating and coordinating efforts and using new approaches. The first hot spot targeted in Feb 2019 resulted in a 25% decrease in fly tips in this area in the following month.

Initiatives used:

- Warning signage has proven to help ward off illegal dumpers
- Social media groups created to increase intelligence sharing has helped more residents come forward with information to help catch the fly tippers. At least four fixed penalty notices have been served as a result
- Landlords threatened with Community Protection Notices to improve waste containment at their properties
- The use of 'drop boxes' to contain waste from flats above shops is being piloted for timed collection zones
- Enforcement against traders who disguise their commercial waste as domestic waste at the council tax-payers expense
- Red bags are now used by our Enforcement Officers after they have searched through for fly tip evidence a visual message to the public the Haringey are active and investigating these offences

Case study: Newham Council changing fly-tipping behaviours

Newham Council worked with Keep Britain Tidy to co-design pilot schemes with residents.

Crime Scene Investigation tape

CSI tape was wrapped around a fly-tip, highlighted with a large colour-coded sticker to identify the date, and left in place for several days to show that fly-tipping is illegal.
 During that time the enforcement team investigated the fly-tip and then crews cleared the rubbish. During the trial the crews recorded up to 70 per cent fall in fly-tipping.

Chalk paint stencil messages

• Stencils were put in place when a fly-tip was removed and highlighted the cost of removing fly-tips. The aim of the chalk paint stencils intervention was to highlight that fly-tips don't just simply disappear, but have lasting impacts on the community. Fly-tips reduced at these sites by almost 70 per cent too.

As these resident-created initiatives proved so effective, since July 2020 they have been put in place across the borough as part of a rolling programme. The CSI tape and the chalk paint stencils are now being introduced at a dozen sites at a time in Newham's worst fly-tipping spots – based on information from residents and Council staff.

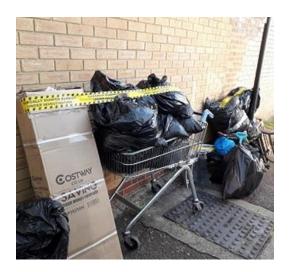
Empowering children in schools

 This pilot was designed to educate young people about fly-tipping and its impacts and the positive things that can be done to keep their environment clean. This led to a 79 per cent increase in students reporting that they know a lot about fly-tipping.

Love your ward weekends

 More than 400 people attended a series of four 'pop-up' community events held in residential housing estates in Little Ilford and Stratford. They included on-the-day clearance of items residents wanted to get rid of as well as 'swishing' or clothes swapping events, repairing of clothes, educational activities from the Council's recycling team and beautification of the area through resident created murals and planters.

The majority of those who took part said they would think twice about fly-tipping in the future and better understood the lasting effect it has on the community.







Case study: Merton enforcement campaign

Merton Council launched a "We Are Watching You" campaign as part of their strategy to reduce fly-tipping. The campaign aimed increase enforcement against fly-tipping and communicate to residents that fly-tipping can lead to fines and in some cases, a criminal record and prison sentences.

The Council used CCTV and resident reports to trace the owners of fly-tipped items. As part of the operations, the team also seized three vehicles suspected of being linked with fly-tipping offences, of which two have been destroyed.

During the campaign the Council issued a total of 33 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to people responsible for smaller fly tip offences. These notices, which have led to £400 on-the-spot fines, were issued for incidents such as dumping a bag of rubbish by a public litter bin.





Further actions being explored

- Increased visibility and publicity:
- Publish films (images and footage) of suspected flytippers (to get the public's help to identify them)
- Use of 'crime scene' tape and temporary stencils around flytips that have been searched for evidence
- Re-instate talks about flytipping, waste and recycling in schools
- Resources:
- 'Welcome to the Borough packs' seek to issue information about waste disposal arrangements to new residents of the borough, citizenship ceremony attendees and landlords and letting agents
- Tactical approach:
- Seeking increased court time for prosecutions of flytipping and other waste offences



Possible 'asks' of Government

- Ban cash transactions for waste removal
- Reinstatement of site waste management plans for all demolition and development works
- Allow the recording of Section 34 offences on the Police National Criminal Records database
- Waste transfer notes should be in a standardised legal format
- Create a new offence of advertising without the required waste carriers licence or environment permit
- Amend the courts' sentencing guidelines to include aggravating factors for waste offences (eg trespass, cost of clearance, damage to fences/gates)

Discussion

 Recognition that our approach to tackling flytipping that compares well to other Councils

- Understanding of the key issues and challenges in tackling flytipping
- What more can we explore to address the challenges in tackling flytipping

