

COUNCIL – 8 NOVEMBER 2016

ITEM 6 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR M B WYATT TO COUNCILLOR A V SMITH

Can the Portfolio Holder for Environment supply information on the number of fly tipping incidents and the cost of any clean up since 2011.

RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR A V SMITH

Fly tipping in North West Leicestershire remains an on-going issue which the teams in Community Services continue to tackle. DEFRA publish national fly tipping statistics which include the number of fly tips reported and the estimated costs of clear up. As an authority we do not allocate costs for each fly tip we clear up but we use DEFRA cost guidelines based on the type of fly tip. For example, a single black bag according to DEFRA equates to £7.00 of costs. Multiple loads can be up to £350 although the authority can amend this if the fly tip costs in excess of this. For example, a tip of asbestos waste would cost more to clear than a pile of bricks. Our reported data since 2011/12 is as follows (data between 2011 and 2014 included some duplication, new system introduced in 2014/15);

Year	Fly tip incidents	Cost of dealing with fly tips
2011/12	1033	£50,044
2012/13	1156	£41,301
2013/14	1110	£42,220
2014/15	697	£31,664
2015/16	746*	£34,116

*The figures for 2015-16 are taken from NWLDC current data and have not yet been audited by DEFRA.

The size of the majority of fly tips in NWL is about the size of a car boot load or less. 60% of fly tips are household waste which are either single items or waste contained in a single black bag. The next highest numbers of fly tips are tyres (8%), construction (7%), green waste (5%), commercial waste (5%), white goods such as freezers and cookers (4%), and vehicle parts (4%). NWLDC are 115 out of all 234 districts for cost of clearing fly tips (excludes city council's and London boroughs).

We use a range of tools for combating fly tipping;

- Deploying mobile cameras at known hotspots
- Display signage (tigers eyes posters)
- School education visits
- Stop & search interventions with police
- Roadshows and stands at DIY stores-Buildbase/Wickes/Harlows
- Duty of care leaflets sent out in Building Control letters
- Information articles for housing tenants magazine "In Touch"
- Facebook/twitter/press articles
- Campaigns including the Keep Britain Tidy Award Winning Lorry Litter campaign

These have been enhanced by the Government introducing on 9 May 2016 a fixed penalty notice option to deal with “low level” offences relating to the illegal disposal of controlled waste contrary to section 33 of the Environmental Protection Act 2016 1990 (fly tipping). There is no definition of what constitutes “low level”. The value of the penalty can be set between £150 and £400. Due to the seriousness of the offence NWLDC set the figure at £400. Since its introduction we have issued 3 FPN’s for this offence. Littering and dog fouling are set at £80.

Since 1 April 2016 the numbers of Fixed Penalty Notices issued by NWLDC are as follows:

- Littering – 30
- Flytipping – 3
- Dog Fouling – 3