



Report to Policy Review Scrutiny Committee

Subject: To improve the Response to Fly Tipping within Gedling Borough

Date: 29th January 2008

Author: Scrutiny Officer

1.0 Purpose of the Report

To update members on the progress of the working group's review into Fly tipping.

2.0 Background

This review commenced in June 2007 and a final report was drafted in December 2007.

3.0 Proposal

That working group members read the attached report and endorse the recommendations made by the Chair of the working group.

4.0 Recommendations

That this report and its recommendations be passed on to Cabinet for consideration for implementation.



Report to Policy Review Scrutiny Committee

Subject To Improve the Response to Fly Tipping within Gedling Borough

Authors Caroline McKenzie, Business Support Manager, Direct Services, Andy Callingham, Environmental Protection Manager, Planning and Environment, Tracy Lack, Scrutiny Officer, Democratic and Community Services.

Date 14th December 2007

1.0 Purpose of the Report

To review the Council's response to fly tipping and to consider the options to improve the tackling of fly tipping and other environmental crime, such as graffiti within the borough of Gedling.

2.0 The scope of the review

2.1 The working group sought to gather information on some of the problems associated with fly tipping within the Gedling Borough. The group aimed to establish the extent, nature and impact of fly tipping and to explore how fly tipping could be further reduced. The working group's scope is attached at Appendix 1.

3.0 Background

3.1 This working group comprised Councillors P. Feeney (Chair), C. Pratt, P. Andrews, T Barton, B. Miller, G. Tuncliffe and W. Doe. Officers: T. Lack (Scrutiny Officer), D. Parton (Head of Direct Services), C. McKenzie (Business Support Manager), A. Callingham (Environmental Protection Manager) and K. Nealon (Community Protection Manager).

4.0 Information gathering

4.1 The working group gathered various information relating to the issue of fly tipping both within Gedling Borough area and in other authorities. This included question and answer sessions with officers (Gedling Borough and Nottinghamshire County Council), responses to a questionnaire sent out to Gedling Borough Parish Councils, news media and a public information leaflet.

4.2 Current data, strategies and legislation - Gedling Borough Council (Appendix 2)

- 4.3 Questionnaire and findings from Parish Councils (Appendix 3).
- 4.4 Question and answer session with Mr M. Allen - Head of Waste Management, Nottinghamshire County Council (Appendix 4).
- 4.5 Nottingham Evening Post: Broxtowe fly-tippers return after cleanup - 10th October 2007
- 4.6 Nottingham Evening Post: County forks out £1.1m to clean up flytipping - 10th October 2007
- 4.7 Sunday Mirror: Tagged... for fly-tipping 16 tonnes in just one night - 28th October 2007
- 4.8 Your Waste, Your Responsibility (public leaflet): Nottinghamshire Fly Tipping Forum - November 2007

5.0 Findings

- 5.1 The Council runs publicity campaigns on fly tipping on a regular basis, asking residents to be its eyes and ears and to report all incidents on a hotline free phone number.
- 5.2 The current process for investigation and clearance of fly tipping is that after it is initially reported and the Council have collected all the available details including any evidence there is as to who may have committed the offence from the person reporting the incident, a Direct Services inspector visits and arranges for its removal if no evidence is found, within a day where possible.
- 5.3 If there is some evidence, then the inspector will contact the Neighbourhood Wardens, who then visit the site to gather and process the evidence in, accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE), then they will inform Direct Services that they can remove it from site.
- 5.4 However, due to resource factors, the pressure on the Wardens to deal with other anti-social behaviour issues, as well as dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti and other environmental crime, visits to gather evidence can take some time. Likewise within Direct Services, and as a consequence of the recent increase in the amount of graffiti needing removal, fly tipping is dealt with as and when the resources are available.
- 5.5 Fly tipping may therefore accumulate at the site. This gives the impression that the Council is not responding to the report of the incident and residents expect it to be dealt with as a matter of priority.
- 5.6 Although the Council has successfully prosecuted a number of people for fly tipping offences over the past 5 years (from a zero baseline- 5 successful prosecutions between 2003 –2006), it is proving increasingly difficult to maintain a high quality level of investigation and case management to ensure that the maximum number of offences are successfully prosecuted in court.
- 5.7 Over the years, it is not only fly tipping that has increased, other environmental crime, such as, the graffiti problem and dog fouling is also on the increase, reports of graffiti have increased from 94 in 2003/04 to 191 in 2006/07 with 246 reports in the first 6 months of 2007/08, Environmental Protection has seen a

year on year increase of 15% of requests for service.

- 5.8 Targets have been set through the Local Area Agreement (LAA) within Nottinghamshire to decrease our 2004/05 fly tipping incidents figure by 5%. On current trends this figure is not likely to be achieved in any district of the County and a new approach is needed if any reduction is going to be achieved. Fly tipping is also part of Best Value Performance Indicator BV199 and may be included in the new set of indicators being proposed by the Government
- 5.9 A questionnaire was sent to all Parish Councils within the Borough requesting information on their perceptions of fly tipping within their parishes and regular meetings with Council Officers have taken place. A summary of the Parish Council responses are included at Appendix 3.
- 5.10 The Parish Councils have identified particular issues relating to fly tipping within their parishes. They are concerned these are not being tackled effectively. Accordingly, the Scrutiny working group have requested that officers look at ways of improving the enforcement and clearing up of fly tipping.
- 5.11 The working group acknowledge the various information (responses) given by Nottinghamshire County Council in relation to waste disposal and fly tipping and note the opportunities for further joint working (Appendix 4).
- 5.12 Having reviewed a selection of newspaper media (4.5 - 4.7) the working group acknowledge that fly tipping is a prominent issue in many local authorities and that nationally, fly tipping appears to be on the increase.
- 5.13 The working group endorse the production and dissemination of the 'Your Waste, Your Responsibility' (4.8) public information leaflet produced by the Fly Tipping Forum and funded by the Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement (LAA). The working group note that this will be delivered to every householder within the Gedling Borough area in tandem with the Council's 'Contacts' magazine (Winter 2007) which also publicises the Councils' fly tipping and graffiti telephone hotline.

6.0 Proposals

- 6.1 To appoint a team within the Direct Services Department to tackle these incidents faster and be more proactive in the removal of graffiti rather than reactive. It is evident that there are insufficient resources to deal with these issues. Instead of waiting for a call the team would spend some time visiting the hotspots, obtaining permission if on private property, and removing graffiti when first spotted. At present, a Waste Management inspector raises an order and on one day every fortnight a team (if available) would go out and blitz the graffiti. It would be preferable to clean it as soon as possible to improve the appearance of a neighbourhood. This team would also deal with fly tipping more proactively.

If extra staff were available within the Direct Services Department, then the response time would be within 2 working days (unless specialist equipment was required) for fly tipping which would hopefully prevent further accumulations. Graffiti removal would take place on a daily basis (subject to no inclement weather) and the team would also respond to reports of dog

fouling, cleansing after road traffic accidents and removing road killed animals. They would also assist in removing fallen leaves during November each year.

- 6.2 To appoint an Environmental Enforcement Officer within the Environmental Protection Section. This dedicated officer would be fully trained and readily available to concentrate on dealing with fly tipping cases, from start to finish, this will produce stronger, more robust and reliable evidence for presentation to court. This will result in more prosecutions and a higher success rate, this will lead to more positive publicity and hopefully will result in less fly tipping in the Borough as potential fly tippers become aware that they are much more likely to be caught and prosecuted. This officer would also play a proactive role in checking duty of care documentation and ensuring waste carriers are licensed. The Council has the power to check how commercial organisations dispose of their waste and the Council can take out legal proceedings against any organisation that is not complying with the waste disposal requirements of the new Act.
- 6.3 The Environmental Enforcement Officer will build on the existing covert surveillance techniques by the Council to ensure that the fly tipping hotspots identified by the parishes are monitored to comply with legal standards.
- 6.4 Direct Services and Environmental Protection staff already work closely together but this proposal will enable us to improve further the strong relationship the Departments have in dealing with environmental crime and fully utilise the corporate technology available.

7.0 Financial issues

- 7.1 The Planning and Environment Department have submitted a capital and revenue bid (bid no.P&E R4) to the sum of £24,522 in the first year and £30,801 in year 2, for an Environmental Enforcement Officer on band 6 (subject to job evaluation).
- 7.2 The Direct Services Department have submitted a capital bid for £10,000 (bid no. DC11) and revenue bid (bid no DR1) in the sum of £44,400 for two drivers on band 4 and a suitable vehicle.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 That the working group of the Policy Review Scrutiny Committee support these initiatives to improve the appearance of the Borough and makes a recommendation to Cabinet for further funding to be made available.
- 8.2 That this Council endorse the Department for the Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) group's attempts to develop a more effective (fit for purpose) remedy to support enforcement in relation to fly tipping.
- 8.3 That this Council develop a fly tipping policy / statement of intent
- 8.4 That in wards where fly tipping is a problem, that members consider merging their respective 'Member's Pots' to fund free bulky household waste collection (flying skips).
- 8.5 That the Area Based Initiatives (ABI's) are continued to be used as forums for

raising awareness around fly tipping and consider funding flying skips if requested by the ABI forum.

- 8.6 That a copy of this report is sent to all the ABI co-ordinators.
- 8.7 That a copy of this report is sent to all Parish Councils who co-operated with this review through completing the fly tipping questionnaire that was sent out to them.
- 8.8 That officers be requested to contact each Parish council and respond to individual comments made (through their questionnaires) to inform them how the Council is addressing issues around fly tipping.
- 8.9 That fly tipping information for the public is standardised where possible across neighbouring authorities.
- 8.10 That Officers continue to regularly publicise the various ways in which the public can report fly tipping to this Council i.e. telephoning (free phone), Emailing, or visiting the Customer Service Area / One Stop Shop or by completing an electronic form on the Council's website. Also to request that Parish Councils display information relating to waste disposal.
- 8.11 That the Council continue to publicise any prosecutions for fly tipping to act as a deterrent.
- 8.12 That this Council analyse the cost of collecting and disposing of fly tipped waste and the alternative cost of providing facilities (e.g. flying skips).
- 8.13 That the Portfolio Holders for Safe and Sustainable Neighbourhoods and Direct Services and Property liaise with their counterparts at Nottinghamshire County Council to ensure progress on the following issues:

To extend the range of waste allowed at the Civic Amenity sites making it easier and more convenient for householders and small traders to legally dispose of waste. To work to improve the service provision of household waste and recycling centres. To progress the commitment to assist householders with trade vehicles to dispose of their own household waste.

To publicise opportunities for the disposal of controlled non-household waste (e.g. building rubble) in conjunction with Nottinghamshire County Council and approach them to provide more facilities.

To review publicity (i.e. the fly tipping leaflet and poster campaign which commenced late November 2007 in conjunction with the other Nottinghamshire districts) to raise awareness around what rubbish can be taken where.

To provide information about the opening times of household waste and recycling centres and investigate alternative disposal centres (including commercial) and services on the web site, telephone help line. To request that Nottinghamshire County Council notify Gedling Borough Council of any changes to arrangements so that these can be publicised by Gedling Borough Council.

- 8.14 That this working group revisit the issue of fly tipping in 12-18 months time.

9.0 Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

10.0 Wards Affected

All Wards



Scope

Scrutiny committee: Policy Review

Working Group: Fly tipping

Chair of group: P. Feeney

**Working group members: C. Pratt, P. Andrews, G. Tunicliffe,
T. Barton, B. Miller, W. Doe**

Portfolio holder/s: R. Nicholson and G. Clarke

(1) Scope

Why this review is being undertaken...
(list the specific outcomes)

To review Gedling Borough Council's procedures for the management of unauthorised waste disposal (fly tipping) within the Borough including financial costs and the environmental implications and the achievement of performance objectives. In particular the working group aim -

To determine the extent, nature and impact of fly tipping

To explore how fly tipping could be further reduced

(this review will only look at illegally deposited waste and will not include abandoned vehicles)

Aims

The specific issues to consider/examine are...

To determine whether policies and resources allocated to deal with fly tipping are appropriate and make proposals for improvement.

(2) Timetable

The review will commence in: June 2007

Milestones: none

The review will report in: (interim report October 2007) January 2008

Committee dates: 17th July, 18th September, and 13th November 2007

29th January, 25th March 2008.

Frequency of meetings: every 4 weeks

(3) Information gathering and consultees

The working group has requested the following information:

Fly-tipping data (for the last five years to gauge the extent of the problem)

Council fly-tipping strategies

The legislative position

What are the main questions to be asked and of what parties?

To ascertain from Council Officers-

- Who apart from the Council is responsible for dealing with fly tipping?
- The costs of collection and disposal of fly-tipped waste
- How, when and why fly-tipping occurs i.e. the 'hot spots'
- What actions can be taken to identify fly tippers?
- Is the problem of fly tipping increasing?
- What information about collection of non-standard waste such as furniture, rubble etc. and garden waste does the Council give to the public?
- In what format is the information provided in (telephone, leaflets, newsletter, Website etc)?
- Does the Council provide any information about other facilities (such as Civic Amenity sites or charity furniture collection schemes)? If so how is this provided?
- Is there a charge for the collection of non-standard waste or garden waste? If so, what are the charges?
- How long does it normally take for non-standard or garden wastes to be collected?
- What policies or procedures does the Council have in terms of fly tipping?
- Does the Council adopt different approaches to dealing with fly-tipping on public land and (b) private land?
- How does the Council deal with the fly tipping of hazardous, industrial and commercial waste?
- What specific resources does the Council employ to deal with fly tipping?
- What are the barriers to tackling fly-tipping effectively?
- What actions could be taken to reduce or eliminate fly tipping? i.e. are there any alternative forms of waste disposal that could be promoted?
- What is the national policy influence on fly tipping?
- How does the Council and its partners (EA) enforce fly tipping legislation?

The working group will be inviting the following persons/organisations to one or more meetings to help with the review:

Parish / Town Councils (written submissions of their views)

Nottingham County Council (M. Allen- Head of Waste Management)

Visits

The working group might need to consider a visit to:

A waste disposal site at Colwick

(4) How the community will be consulted, informed and involved

The working group wishes to consult through:

N/A

(5) Resources

The working group is supported by:

Tracy Lack (Scrutiny Officer)

David Parton (Head of Direct Services)

Caroline McKenzie (Business Support Manager)

Andy Callingham (Environmental Protection Manager)

Kevin Nealon (Community Protection Manager)

(6) How the effectiveness of the review will be measured

After the initial review the working group will....

If appropriate report back to cabinet with some recommendations to make improvements to the existing arrangements for dealing with fly tipping

Have the conclusions and recommendations addressed the outcomes of the scope?

Information from Gedling Borough Council Direct Services and Environmental Protection Departments.

The working group requested the following information:

Fly-tipping data (for the last five years to gauge the extent of the problem)

Council fly-tipping strategies

The legislative position

What are the main questions to be asked and of what parties?

To ascertain from Council Officers-

- Who apart from the Council is responsible for dealing with fly tipping?
Private landowners and companies such as Severn Trent, Railtrack, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency.
It was noted that there are a lot of agencies responsible- the above were a few examples.
- The costs of collection and disposal of fly-tipped waste
Estimate £2000 a month, over last 3 years risen from £25k to £40k
It was noted that fly tipping is on the increase this year.
- How, when and why fly-tipping occurs
Mostly rural roads, lay bys, garage areas and car parks, basically anywhere and anytime, probably fly tip partly cost of trade disposal, too lazy, nature of perpetrators, criminal intent, refusal at tips plus length of queues.
- Is the problem of fly tipping increasing?
It was but seems to be steady now.
- What information about collection of non-standard waste such as furniture, rubble etc. and garden waste does the Council give to the public?
We offer a bulky household waste collection for large household waste items which costs £7 for first item and £3 for each subsequent item. Fridges and freezers are free of charge. We also give information about the household waste recycling centres (HWRC) aka tips. If building rubble suggest skip hire or skip bag. It was noted that the disposal of waste is chargeable at £30 per year.
- In what format is the information provided in (telephone, leaflets, newsletter, Website etc)?
On website, in annual leaflet, Contacts articles, over the phone, referrals to Notts CC for HWRC, face to face. Press releases if changes.
- Does the Council provide any information about other facilities (such as Civic Amenity sites or charity furniture collection schemes)? If so how is this provided?
Yes on website, on phone, face to face and in annual leaflet we did annually until last year.
- Is there a charge for the collection of non-standard waste or garden waste? If so, what are the charges?
As above for bulky household waste, £30 a year for garden waste bin plus

£12 per extra bin.

- How long does it normally take for non-standard or garden wastes to be collected?
Garden waste is collected fortnightly April to December and monthly January to March. Bulky waste is collected within a week normally (after payment if not free of charge).
- What policies or procedures does the Council have in terms of fly tipping?
We have procedures for recording, investigating and removal. It was noted that these policies are sparse. It was also noted that with regard to enforcement- wardens need training to show them how to build an effective case against fly tipping and that they need to find the perpetrator, get an admission and get the evidence.
- Does the Council adopt different approaches to dealing with fly-tipping on (a) public land and (b) private land?
Yes we remove from public but not private unless paid to do so. Encourage private landowner to clear it or possibly prosecute if no action taken.
- What specific resources does the Council employ to deal with fly tipping?
Part of Waste Management inspector's duties and part of operational work undertaken by various staff. Community Protection Manager, Neighbourhood wardens and Technical Officer incorporated as part of their duties.
- What are the barriers to tackling fly-tipping effectively?
Very rarely seen and often no evidence. Surveillance very difficult and costly to arrange; obtaining criminal standard of proof to prosecute perpetrator is very hard. The complexity of taking case forward. Witnesses unwilling to give evidence, alleged offenders difficult to trace and limited powers to trace. It was noted that the Area Based Initiatives (ABI's) can be a useful forum for public awareness raising as the public can be given all the necessary information to help them address fly tipping. It was noted that any education or publicity via the media helps the raise the profile of dealing with fly tipping and environmental crime.
- What actions could be taken to reduce or eliminate fly tipping?
More high profile cases, more CCTV, more national coverage, stiffer penalties, consistent sentences. National focus and policies need to look to reduce it. Increase in landfill tax may have an impact on increase in fly tipping, no consideration of consequences. Improved access to disposal sites, make it easy to get rid of waste. More education, more prosecutions, higher penalties, increase publicity of cases. Civil Administrative penalties. Improved co-ordination between agencies on actions. It was noted that the Department for Rural affairs (DEFRA) are looking to introduce civil administrative penalties which could operate in terms of applying a penalty (i.e. a restitution order/fine) before it gets to the Magistrates Court.
- What actions can be taken to identify fly tippers?
Surveillance and better dissemination of information of repeat offenders from EA, other districts and police. Police stop and searches.

- How does the Council deal with the fly tipping of hazardous, industrial and commercial waste?

We investigate, if evidence try to take action, otherwise remove it, if necessary by specialist company. If frequent, set up as hotspot and monitor on regular basis.

It was noted that sometimes the environment agency are involved and that specialist companies are used when there are unidentified chemicals.

- What is the national policy influence on fly tipping?

Landfill tax and other waste disposal issues.

It was noted that there is no national policy as such but the above measures.

- How does the Council and its partners (EA) enforce fly tipping legislation?

Regular meetings – fly tipping forums and Local Area Agreement (LAA) meetings.

It was noted that environmental crime has risen (partly through Gedling Borough Council advertising for the public to report it) but the resources haven't risen to deal with it.

Parish Council Fly Tipping Questionnaire Responses

Parish Councils:

- [A] Bestwood S. Albans
- [B] Burton Joyce
- [C] Calverton ✓
- [D] Colwick
- [E] Lambley ✓
- [F] Linby ✓
- [G] Newstead ✓
- [H] Papplewick ✓
- [I] Ravenshead ✓
- [J] Stoke Bardolph ✓
- [K] Woodborough ✓

(1) Do you feel there is a problem with fly tipping in your parish? YES / NO
(please delete as appropriate)

If YES please detail the extent of the problem, as you perceive it

- [C] Yes we have many country lanes- many with lay bys making fly tipping easy with little chance of being caught.
- [E] Yes abandoned area's not used by the public that have become unsightly.
- [F] Yes.
- [G] Yes there is a regularity of fly tipping within the parish.
- [H] Yes fly tipping occurs at a number of locations around the parish on a fairly typical basis.
- [I] Yes most lay bys around Ravenshead. Longdale Lane, Blidworth Waye, Nottingham Road. Pumping Station area.
- [J] Yes regular tipping of rubbish in an area not overlooked by any properties.
- [K] Occasionally- perhaps monthly on the road between Woodborough and Lambley.

(2) Can you identify any particular fly tipping 'hot spots' within your parish area?
YES / NO (please delete as appropriate)

If YES please detail these particular areas

- [C] Yes- Gravelly Hollows is a perfect site for fly tipping- it is now a dead end road with many lay bys, entrances to farms and forestry paths. Oxton road has many lay bys for use by fly tippers. Green lanes and footpaths are also used.
- [E] Yes- Cat foot lane, Spring Lane opposite Crimea Farm.
- [F] Hayden Lane (entrance to a field) and Quarry Lane.
- [G] Cemetery car park, Freckland Woods entrance, Station Avenue and Station road, Hucknall Road.
- [H] Lay bys on B683, Blidworth Waye, and (Walters Hill) both official and unofficial. Beneath Calverton Mineral Line Bridge on B683 Moor Road. Ash lane at junction with Saw Pit Lane.
- [I] Yes most lay bys around Ravenshead. Longdale Lane, Blidworth Waye,

Nottingham Road Pumping Station area.

[J] Cats Lane, Riverside (near Poplars Sports Ground).

[K] Perhaps monthly on the road between Woodborough and Lambley.

(3) If there is a problem with fly tipping in your parish can you please indicate the nature of the problem (i.e. is it old furniture, builders rubble, tyres etc?)

[C] Visual examination of roads, footpaths etc revealed black plastic bags full of rubbish, piles of broken fencing, cardboard cartons from children's games, tyres, concrete blocks, and garden waste.

[E] Garden rubbish, furniture, tyres, clothes, toys.

[F] Black rubbish bags with household rubbish. Builder's rubble. Plastic crates and rubbish that has been previously incinerated.

[G] Domestic waste, fridges/furniture, commercial waste.

[H] Miscellaneous rubbish including furniture, garden waste, electrical items and small amounts of builders waste.

[I] All of these.

[J] Tyres, asbestos, furniture, bags of garden rubbish, building rubble, plumbing rubbish.

[K] General rubbish but also electrical items frequently.

(4) Are there any regular events in your parish i.e. car boot sales etc that you feel have contributed to the problem of fly tipping? YES / NO (please delete as appropriate)

[C] Yes.

[E] No.

[F] No.

[G] No.

[H] No.

[I] No.

[J] No.

[K] No.

If YES please give examples

[C] We have regular car boot sales which creates some localised fly tipping around the site but this seems to be cleared up within a day or so.

(5) Is there anything you feel Gedling Borough Council, its partner agencies and others i.e. land owners and utilities etc could do further to help prevent and address fly tipping? YES / NO (Please delete as appropriate)

If YES please detail your suggestions

[C] Calverton has a modern well-run waste disposal unit which is open early morning until dusk on a daily basis. This must reduce fly tipping in the area. Important- in order to maintain the level of fly tipping no restriction on using the waste disposal unit must ever be considered. e.g. vouchers, area restrictions, panes etc. Consideration to publishing a price list for small amounts of commercial waste could be considered.

[E] Do not leave area's overgrown or unkempt. Fly tipping only seems to appear in these places.

[F] To address some of the negative attitudes reflected at recycling facilities (Ashfield sites not Gedling) the workers are not very helpful at the Kirkby site and this puts the

public off and encourages fly tipping, the Hucknall site is friendly. To provide more flying skips on a more regular basis.

[G] Identify and prosecute vigorously. Increase fines.

[H] Better enforcement including notices and covert surveillance of hot spots.

[I] N/A.

[J] Install cameras- warning notices. Always prosecute when possible with maximum fines.

[K] We have reported evidence of likely culprits but never got feedback. Do you follow up this evidence?

(6) Have you any other views or suggestions you would like the working group to take into account in terms of fly tipping?

[C] Would welcome some consideration to a form of compensation being paid to landowners who have to dispose of illegal waste including asbestos and other toxic waste.

[E] All recycling centres and tips should take any rubbish including small amounts of tyres and building rubble. Private users should be allowed to unload one van full of rubbish per week.

[F] As question 5. However the fee that Gedling Borough Council charges to collect large pieces of furniture i.e. three piece suites, can be prohibitive to some householders and could encourage the practice of flytipping.

[G] Encourage re-cycling. Use fly skips more regularly.

[H] Persuade Nottingham County Council to accept trade waste refuse for recycling at civic amenity sites and allow access by vans.

[I] N/A.

[J] For Gedling tip to be more user friendly- many items now not accepted by the tip.

[K] N/A.

(7) Is there anything you as a Parish Council feel you could do to assist in dealing with the problem of fly tipping?

[C] We would object most strongly to any form of restrictions to the use of the waste disposal unit.

[E] Only report fly tipping as and when we see it.

[F] We can report it to the authorities as we have no means of clearing this up. All we can do is litter picks- which Linby does on a regular basis.

[G] Report incidents immediately.

[H] Report incidents via a dedicated telephone/email hotline to Gedling Borough Council.

[I] N/A.

[J] All instances are reported and cameras have been requested for Cat Lane.

[K] We could do regular inspections if helpful.

Questions for Mick Allen – Head of Waste Management (Nottinghamshire County Council)

1. What is the Nottinghamshire County Council Policy on the use of commercial vehicles to dispose of household waste?

Drivers of commercial vehicles can use the vehicle to dispose of their own household waste. The only exceptions to this rule would be;

- *where a vehicle is linked to the waste being disposed of e.g. a carpet van disposing of carpets, a sofa van disposing of sofas.*
- *where a vehicle exceeds a size which hinders the safe operation of the site e.g. a cargo tipper.*

2. What is the Nottinghamshire County Council's disposal route for organic solvents- both domestic and commercial quantities?

It depends what kind of organic solvent is being disposed of. e.g. for household organic hazardous solvents we would use a specialist contractor e.g. Special Waste Services (SWS), for industrial we would refer the company to the Environment Agency for further advice or to an appropriate company e.g. SWS.

Nottinghamshire County Council accepts small amounts of paints and thinners etc- these go to a specialist waste service organised through Nottinghamshire County Council's contract with Veolia. Some nearly full tins of paints can be given to voluntary groups to be used for community facilities.

3. What are the disposal arrangements for tyres?

Tyres are not household waste and we are not responsible for them. For tyres flytipped on County Council land we do offer WCA's disposal through licensed transfer stations, and the tyres are then taken to recycling facilities where they are recycled. Members of the public with tyres can dispose of them at their local tyre company i.e. Motorway Tyres, ATS and for a small environmental charge of between 50p to £2. The tyres are then recycled.

There are some areas within the Nottinghamshire County Council area where people fly tip large volumes of tyres.

4. Are there any funds available for a public education campaign to help reduce fly tipping?

Yes – The county council has spent a substantial amount of its own funds on supporting the work of the LAA flytipping group and the flytipping forum including paying for leaflets and adverts.

5. Are there any opportunities for joint partnership working in relation to the prevention and enforcement of fly tipping?

Yes again – the county council and all the districts in Nottinghamshire are working together through the LAA flytipping group. The partners are working together to share best practice and have jointly funded training for enforcement officers and are purchasing additional CCTV equipment which will be managed and operated by the EA on behalf of the partnership.

There are also leaflets being produced that will go to all houses in the County explaining how and where households can dispose of waste. This will include the householders 'duty of care'. Some authorities like Mansfield District Council are looking to establish waste disposal facilities in their depot for trade waste.

6. Does Nottinghamshire County Council have any plans for restricting the disposal of waste?

The county council is committed to providing a high quality, cost effective waste disposal service for its customers – both the WCA's through the provision of new facilities to handle recyclable, green and residual waste and the public direct through an improved network of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). These improvements will in the large be provided through the long term PFI Waste contract with Veolia Environmental Services.

In order to ensure the best service is provided to legitimate users of the HWRCs the county council is looking at new and improved ways of managing inappropriate use of facilities, and is currently considering options to improve control at the sites taking into account best practice elsewhere in the UK. This could potentially include permits for all householders or just those wishing to use vans or trailers to dispose of household waste. A full assessment of the potential impact of any scheme will be undertaken as proposals are developed, and changes to the way the sites operate will be consulted upon in accordance with the Nottinghamshire County Council public engagement policy prior to being implemented.

Mick Allen
Head of Waste Management
Nottinghamshire County Council
8 October 2007