

Responses to Fly Tipping, Litter and Waste Management working group recommendations

Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Title of the review: Fly Tipping, Litter and Waste Management working group

Date review completed: 27 July 2026

Date Presented to Cabinet: 3 September 2026

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Marje Paling

Chair of the review group: Councillor Catherine Pope

Officer supporting the review: Emma McGinlay & Ben Hopewell

Response due to the Overview Committee (28 days): 1 October 2026

Guidance

The final report and recommendations from the above review have been considered by Cabinet and a written response to the recommendations from the responsible Cabinet Member to the Overview Committee is required within 28 days of the date the review was presented to Cabinet.

Recommendation 1

Communications - that the Council enhances public communications on:

- Recycling contamination, correct materials, and dangerous materials (Lithium batteries)
- Bulky waste and what constitutes fly tipping, including fly tips on private land
- Resident use of Household Waste Recycling Centres and expectations around waste separation
- Food waste collections ahead of implementation date
- Targeted local littering issues such as cigarette butts and incorrect disposal behaviours
- Residents' responsibilities under the Household Waste Duty of Care Regulations

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ✓ Partly accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

It was noted that positive work on this had already happened, which had reduced contamination rates, but support for further work was given. Communications to work with the relevant officers on relevant campaigns.

Recommendation 2

Online Reporting - that the Council promotes the use of the online reporting system for fly tipping (including photo uploads) to improve reporting efficiency and enforcement outcomes.

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

This project was already underway to improve the reporting mechanism. Comms campaigned will help with promotion once completed.

Recommendation 3

Hazardous Waste and Asbestos - the working group express concerns to the current procedure and delays to collections of hazardous waste and recommends that the Council:

- Considers introducing clear on-site signage or messaging for complex fly tipping cases (e.g. asbestos fly tipping) to explain delays and manage public expectations
- Works with the County Council to review current processes where appropriate, particularly in light of Local Government Reorganisation
- Reviews how communication could be clearer where hazardous waste cannot be removed immediately

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

The service area would review procedures to ensure safe systems of working are maintained and any relevant procedures or signage as required.

Recommendation 4

WISE Enforcement Coverage - the working group recognises the positive aspects of the current contract and wishes to maintain appropriate scrutiny by recommending that the Council:

- Reviews the geographical spread of WISE enforcement activity to ensure appropriate coverage across all wards, including lower-density areas
- Monitors and reviews enforcement data on an ongoing basis

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

The monitoring of the contract and enforcement data is a regular occurrence, and we will encourage the enforcement activity to be spread as required.

Recommendation 5

Intelligence Sharing - that the Council continues to strengthen intelligence sharing between enforcement and operational teams, particularly in relation to:

- Fly tipping hotspots
- Use of fly tipping capture data

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

We will ensure relevant intelligence is shared, as required and allowed by law, to ensure all teams are working with the most up to date knowledge.

Recommendation 6

Member Engagement (Ward Walks) That the Council fosters Member-led ward engagement (e.g. ward walks with enforcement teams) in areas of concern with a focus on targeted hotspot areas rather than whole ward coverage.

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

We will look to introduce ward walks, at an agreed time between members and officers, as requested by members. The roll out of this will be where officer time permits.

Recommendation 7

Community Litter Picking Groups - that the Council strengthens engagement and partnership with community litter

picking groups, by:

- Creating clearer reporting routes for organised litter picks
- Ensuring timely collection of gathered waste
- Exploring opportunities for joint activity with enforcement teams (WISE)
- Promoting, celebrating, and recognising the work of volunteer litter pickers
- Improving public awareness of litter picking activity (e.g. blue bags awaiting collection)
- Ensuring clearer communication of support available, including equipment, safe handling information, and guidance

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

We are already undertaking work in this area and will continue to strengthen this relationship using the suggested actions. We would encourage councillors to organise litter picking groups within their own communities and to promote the initiative in Full Council.

Recommendation 8

Education and Behaviour Change - that the Council supports increased educational engagement on fly tipping litter and waste management, including:

- Work with schools on littering and environmental crime
- Public awareness campaigns aligned with national messaging
- Use of operational data to guide service deployment
- A stronger focus on locally relevant issues (e.g. cigarette butts, battery disposal, littering behaviours within the Borough)

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☒ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

We will work with relevant departments in the council to influence a change in behaviour and education.

Recommendation 9

Enforcement Tools / CCTV - the working group acknowledges the financial, legal and resource constraints of using additional enforcement tools and recommends that the Council:

- Reviews whether additional enforcement tools (e.g. enhanced technology such as CCTV) could be utilised, subject to cost
- Focuses on targeted use in identified hotspot areas with regular fly tipping and graffiti
- Considers introducing a process whereby persistent fly-tipping hotspots, evidenced through repeated reports and intelligence, trigger a formal review to determine whether the deployment of CCTV or other enforcement tools would be appropriate and operationally feasible
- Considers future opportunities for collaboration through Local Government Reorganisation

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ☐ Partly Accepted ☒ Do not accept ☐

The financial, resources and legal constraints make this area harder to change in the short term but we will complete a review of working practices and opportunities in line with Local Government Reorganisation work.

Recommendation 10

National Policy and Partnership Working - that the Council:

- Keeps under review the impact of national waste policy changes (including the Emissions Trading Scheme, Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility)
- Works in partnership with the Waste Disposal Authority and other councils
- Reviews and works collaboratively with national organisations such as APSE or LGA on best practice and guidance
- Considers implications in the context of Local Government Reorganisation and longer-term planning
- Focuses on ongoing monitoring and reviews rather than immediate implementation

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ✓ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

We will continue to work in collaborate with our partners and other organisations to ensure we are working to the best of our ability within agreed and up to date procedures. We will ensure that we adhere to national changes and consider how Local Government Reorganisation can benefit the service we provide.

Recommendation 11

Transformation of Waste Services - that the Council recognises the achievements of the Waste Services, Customers Services and Transformation teams in implementing the Whitespace system, which had enabled improved data collection, enhanced service monitoring, and more informed operational decision-making.

(Please tick) Recommendation Accepted ✓ Partly Accepted ☐ Do not accept ☐

We want to place our sincere thanks on record to all of the staff who have had a part in the transformation of Waste Services over the past 2 years. The teams have shown exemplary collaborative working through the implementation of Whitespace and have had a great impact on how we deliver our services. Thank you to the entire waste service, the customer services team and the transformation team.