

**Environment and  
Sustainable Communities  
Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee**

**24 November 2021**

**Fly Tipping**



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**Report of Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods  
and Climate Change**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide members of Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information relating to the work of Durham County Council to address fly tipping issues.

**Executive summary**

- 2 At its meeting on the 16 July 2021 the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ESCOSC) agreed its work programme for 2021 – 2022. Included within that work programme was an item on fly tipping.
- 3 The attached presentation provides an overview about how Durham is performing, and the actions being taken to tackle this key community issue.

**Recommendations**

- 4 That Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive and note the content of the report and presentation and comment on it accordingly.

## **Background**

- 5 Members of the ESCOSC have received regular updates in relation to fly tipping to advise members of current levels of fly tipping; initiatives to reduce fly tipping and future plans.
- 6 At its meeting on 16 July 2021 the ESCOSC considered and agreed its work programme for the ensuing municipal year. Included within that work programme was an item on fly tipping which members were keen to continue to monitor.
- 7 In accordance with that decision arrangements have been made for the Neighbourhood Protection Manager to attend a meeting of the committee and provide information on fly tipping in County Durham.
- 8 Fly tipping is a key concern from our communities and has been a priority to continue to tackle for a number of years. In 2014/5 a multiagency taskforce was set up to tackle the issue which was rising year on year to the point. Since its inception Operation Stop It has reduced fly tipping until the pandemic.
- 9 This report and the associated presentation will bring the committee up to date on how Durham is performing and outline the key actions that have been taken and are planned.
- 10 The Presentation that accompanies this report highlight the following areas:
  - A national perspective
  - A breakdown on flytipping statistics
  - A comparison on regional authorities
  - Waste in perspective
  - Educational/ Awareness activities
  - Enforcement activities
  - Future Plans

## **Conclusion**

- 11 Fly tipping remains a concern for Durham communities, we all have a responsibility to ensure we dispose of our waste correctly. Durham has performed well in tackling this issue but there is more to do.

## **Background papers**

**None**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

The expanded fly tipping team has widened the legal measure that are used to prosecute those that fly tip.

### **Finance**

Fly tipping costs a significant amount each year to clear and enforce against which is borne mainly by Durham County Council.

### **Consultation**

Not applicable.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable.

### **Climate Change**

Waste tipped misses the opportunity to help ensure it can be reused or recycled so negatively impacting on our climate.

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Fly tipping is a serious criminal offence and the approach taken helps meet our public duty to detect and deter crime.

### **Staffing**

Neighbourhood Wardens continue to have fly tipping as a priority.

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable.

### **Risk**

Nor applicable.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable.