

Special Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

7 February 2025

Fly Tipping - Update



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 in July 2024 the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ESCOSC) agreed its work programme for 2024 - 2025. 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 July 2024 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 several years. In 2014/5 a multiagency taskforce was set up to tackle the issue as fly tipping levels were rising year on year. Since its inception Operation Stop It has reduced fly tipping until the pandemic when it increased and has since reduced again.
- 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 highlights the following areas:
 - Durham's approach;
 - Comparison nationally and regionally;
 - What gets fly tipped and where.
 - Detail of various campaigns
 - 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

Legal Implications

Tackling flytipping has a range of legislative and legal implications for the service and legal.

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable.

Climate Change

Waste management is a key theme to tackle climate change, tackling fly tipping is an important feature to have positive impact on climate change.

Human Rights

Not applicable.

Crime and Disorder

Fly tipping is a criminal offence and the work in the report shows how it effects this agenda.

Staffing

Not applicable.

Accommodation

Not applicable.

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable