

IMPROVING PLACES SELECT COMMISSION

- Date and Time :-** Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 1.30 p.m.
- Venue:-** Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.
- Membership:-** Councillors Wyatt (Chair), Tinsley (Vice-Chair), Aveyard, Bennett-Sylvester, Browne, C Carter, Castledine-Dack, T Collingham, Cowen, Ellis, Havard, Jones, Khan, McNeely, Monk, Reynolds, Taylor.
- Co-opted Members:-** Mrs. K. Bacon, Mrs. M. Jacques.

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view [via the Council's website](#). The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 December 2022 (Pages 3 - 17)

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 December 2022 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of items listed on the agenda.

4. Questions from members of the public and the press

To receive questions relating to items of business on the agenda from members of the public or press who are present at the meeting.

5. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.

6. Fly Tipping Update (Pages 19 - 65)

To receive an annual update in respect of the Council's deterrent and enforcement activity in response to fly-tipping.

7. Work Programme (Pages 67 - 82)

To consider and endorse an updated outline of scrutiny work and to discuss an outline preliminary scope for a spring 2023 review in response to the nature crisis.

8. Urgent Business

To consider any item which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

9. Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Improving Places Select Commission will take place on 21 March 2023, commencing at 1.30 pm in Rotherham Town Hall.

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Tuesday 13 December 2022

Present:- Councillors Wyatt (Chair), Aveyard, Bennett-Sylvester, Browne, C Carter, Castledine-Dack, T. Collingham, Cowen, Ellis, Havard, Hunter, Jones, McNeely, Taylor and Tinsley (Vice-chair).

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Khan and Monk and Mrs. Jacques.

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at:-

<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

38. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2022

Resolved:-

1. That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 October 2022 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In respect of agenda item 6, Cllr Jones declared a personal interest as a member of one of the Friends of Cemetery groups

In respect of agenda item 9, Cllr Tinsley declared a personal interest as a volunteer.

40. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

The Chair confirmed that questions from members of the public had been submitted.

1. Ms. Shazia Yousaf asked the following question: After all of Dignity's failures and dishonesty to their customers, why has RMBC not kept on top of their progresses. Appears RMBC lacks the resources or will power to keep Dignity under close scrutiny, which in turn leads to distrust from the public. How can RMBC show to the public that Dignity will be and is being held to account?

The response from the Cabinet Member noted that, as shown in the annual report, the Council had so far received £232,935 that the Council have charged Dignity for areas of the contract that had not met the contractual requirement. Responsibility for the management of the contract was transferred from R&E to Legal Services in November of 2021. There are performance Management meetings monthly of Bereavement officers with Dignity, and quarterly meetings of the internal group of officers. There three Council officers ensuring there is robust contract management.

Supplementary: Can the minutes of the meetings be shared with the public, or can the public get involved in the meetings?

The response from the Cabinet Member was that this is a commercial contract, so under the commercial rules for local government, they are not public meetings in that sense. Much of the information that the Council does hold is included in the annual report, which is brought to public meetings like this one. That can be challenged by Members of the Public.

2. Ms. Nida Khan asked the following question: Rotherham Borough Council has fined Dignity for its failures and not-fit-for-purpose service. How has Rotherham Borough Council been held accountable for its failures, and what action has been taken against those responsible?

The response from the Cabinet Member affirmed that since the contract had been managed by Legal Services, the Service had maintained openness and transparency. The Council had numerous arrangements in place to ensure that it is accountable, including scrutiny meetings such as these where questions can be asked. Robust contract performance management measures were in place to show that going forward there was zero tolerance for failure.

Supplementary: Have you had scrutiny meetings before, or is this a new approach to resolve this problem?

The response from the Cabinet Member noted that the Bereavement Services annual reports had been submitted for scrutiny since 2016. Every year, Elected Members and the public have had a chance to challenge Dignity.

3. Ms. Nida Khan asked the following question: Why is Rotherham Borough Council not allowing Dignity to make independent decisions and keep its promises, as lines keep getting blurred as to who is in charge of what.

The response from the Cabinet Member noted that since taking over responsibility for the management of the contract, the Service has been working to clarify that governance of contract management was the Council's role, and operations was the responsibility of Dignity. Therefore, the Council was allowing Dignity to make decisions and should not be intervening in operational issues. The Council were then holding Dignity to account for their promises through our contract management process.

Supplementary: Related to a specific funeral that was initially cancelled, did RMBC have to intervene for Dignity to do its job?

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The response from the Cabinet Member noted that in the specific case the Superintendent Registrar had communicated with the Rotherham Business Lead who oversaw action taken on the operational side to ensure the funeral went ahead.

4. Mr. Saghir Hussain asked the following question: Where are the scrutiny reports and inspection reports; how are the reports managed; where is the audit trail of inspection visits; and are these accessible by the public?

The response from the Cabinet Member clarified that scrutiny reports were available on the Council website and were available to members of the public, and the inspection reports of the gravesites were done by Bereavement Services officers who were happy to send the information in response to a Freedom of Information (FOI) request.

Supplementary: Why are the inspection reports not included in the scrutiny annual reports?

The annual report and performance reports came to this committee (Improving Places Select Commission). The visits and operational inspections do not come to this committee, but these could be accessed through an FOI request.

5. Mr. M. Osman Suleman asked the following question: Why can't we find any established social media group, social liaison groups to join in our efforts. Or any of their contact details?

The response from the Service was that details of Friends groups were available on the Council's Website. Any cemetery that has a social media presence had a link to this on the Council's website.

6. Mr. M. Osman Suleman asked the following question: Can you please explain how £250,000 has been invested in the Muslim burial area at East Herringthorpe cemetery and over what time period?

The response from the Cabinet Member was that £250,000 had been invested in East Herringthorpe this year. In relation to investment decisions by Dignity the question should be addressed to them. The Dignity Operational Director offered a schedule with detail of the investments made outside the meeting.

Supplementary: The work has not been completed so far regarding paths and drainage. Can you provide assurance that all the remaining works will be completed in full as soon as possible?

The response from the Operational Director noted the remaining paths had been started but had encountered weather issues, so a

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definite date was not known. The Service had previously hoped it would be completed by December and assures that the Service will do everything necessary. The work on drainage has not been halted, and that the necessary expert-to-expert geology and hydrology report had been commissioned to define and solve the problem. When the report is received, this will be disclosed. It was hoped that the findings in the report would enable the Service to address drainage issues effectively.

7. Mr. Arshad Mahmood was sent the answer to this question in writing following the meeting: Dignity and RMBC are proud promoters of equality and diversity across race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, and disability. Why do we not yet have a Muslim liaison officer within Dignity, based at the Rotherham office, overseeing the needs of the Muslim community?

The response from the Service was: This is a question which we will forward to Dignity to provide you with a response as staffing matters are operational and it would be for Dignity to consider. We have requested that they provide you with a direct response.

8. Mr Arshad Mahmood was sent the answer to this question in writing following the meeting: Why have we only been given two days to read a vast document before submitting a question to the committee?

The response from the Service was: The Council procedure rules are set out in the Constitution and the process for the publication of Reports are set out in the Local Government Act 1972. The reports were available 5 days prior to the meeting as required under both.

9. Mr. Farooq Tareen asked the following question: After Dignity staff were given training on Muslim Faith Burial, why does the report claim an incorrect information?

The response from the Cabinet Member invited Mr Tareen to share the details, and he will address the point.

Supplementary: In respect of Muslim burials, once the death has taken place, the burial procedure should take place as soon as possible, rather than within 24-hours. This timeframe has been confusing to staff who were under the impression that the burial can be anytime in the next 24 hours. Can the 24-hour limit be removed and replaced with "as soon as possible"?

The response from the Cabinet Member noted that the advice was as soon as possible, no later than 24 hours. Within the rules governing the coroner's releasing the body and post-mortem requirements, etc, 24 hours should be the latest timeframe with the expectation being as soon as possible.

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10. Mr. Farooq Tareen asked the following question: Did you say in the last meeting that you became aware of the water issue on 18 April of this year? In 2016, Dignity offices contacted a group called EH to report a water issue. EH was called in to deal with the drainage problem. Their report is available on their website. In 2020, the Clancy report noted there was water and the ground was being saturated every time it rains.

The response from the Cabinet Member noted that the paperwork had been examined when this was formally raised with Dignity, the information had not been referenced in the formal process. The main focus now was to resolve the issue. It was hoped that the investment being made will clear the issue and that going forward, the Service ensure that the drainage system works and that there be no water retention.

11. Mr. Arshad Azam asked the following question: From a performance management perspective, how can the commercial element, the contract, be separated from the day-to-day operations, and the community cannot be engaged. Why is RMBC saying that within this assurance process why can the community not be engaged?

The response from the Cabinet Member emphasised that the rules around commercial contracts require the Council to respect the confidentiality so there were certain proprietary things that we cannot disclose.

Supplementary: How might members of the community be engaged in the operational processes, for example around decisions such as the decision to extend the burial hours?

The response from the Cabinet Member noted that the five-year plan was and the annual report was publicly available. It was the finance and commercial elements which were confidential. Regarding out-of-hours burials, this was publicised extensively within the community. There were burial committees that were engaged through the normal process. The contract was being managed by the service agreement officers. If the five-year plan dates and objectives were not delivered, there were financial penalties, like those enforced on Dignity colleagues this year. To seek specifics about the operational delivery of the 5-year plan objectives, that is a question to address to Dignity directly.

12. Mr. Arshad Azam asked the following question: "Friends of.....," social media groups, emails to mosque leaders and Muslim Bereavement Liaison Group - to name a few - are methods of contact that have been aired by Dignity and RMBC. Why can't we simply sit round a table and discuss matters in hand?

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The response from the Cabinet member noted that, in terms of engagement, the council had engaged with approximately 30 groups including burial committees, faith groups, and mosques. But going forward, the desire was to have Dignity manage operational issues, and RMBC will be over the contract. An external review had been commissioned with an expert advisor who can clarify certain areas.

Supplementary: What authority does this external advisor from London have over the diverse Muslim community of Rotherham, why not engage with the local Muslim community?

Brother Omar manages the largest cemetery in the country which is award winning. He was an advisor to ministers regarding burials and is being consulted to come to Rotherham to meet with the stakeholders and give an expert view. Has advised the Ministry of Justice on Muslim burials and will provides an expert view outside of the Council and Dignity.

41. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair confirmed that there was no reason to exclude members of the public or press from observing any items on the agenda.

42. BEREAVEMENT SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Consideration was given to an annual report in respect of Bereavement Services. This report was presented by the Cabinet Member for Customer Services and Finance and by the Head of Legal Services. Also presenting were the Business Leader and Operational Director who were in attendance as representatives of the contractor, Dignity Funerals, Ltd. The Cabinet Member noted recent penalties to the contractor associated with breaches of the contract. Some areas of performance had been higher than the target. Religious awareness training had also been delivered, and faith leaders had been enlisted as active participants in discussions of service provision going forward.

The Operational Director acknowledged that Dignity had not fully delivered on the contract. A substantial investment programme which had invested well over a million pounds was described. The activities had included works such as road surfacing to improve safety and accessibility of cemetery sites. It was felt that these efforts had changed the quality of service delivery vastly. These changes should have been done many years ago to improve facilities and access to sites at Maltby, Greasbrough Lane, and East Herringthorpe. The Operational Director acknowledged years of quality not being up to standard and noted the need for more burial space. This was being addressed through the planning process. The Business Leader who runs the day-to-day operations noted several areas of service improvements, throughout the crematoriums. The Service provider had given consideration to re-evaluating prices for burial fees.

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Late burial times had been delivered, working alongside Glendale to ensure religious requirements for a late burial throughout the week can be achieved up to 6.30pm with no additional costs. Improvements had also been made to lighting and tarmac paths to allow burials to take place safely during the winter months.

The Service provider had also undertaken consultation with the community and with "Friends of" groups on the running of service functions. Comments were welcomed, and feedback was thoughtfully and seriously considered. The Service provider had undertaken events with the community, recognising multiple faiths in the community as well. A natural burial ground at Rawmarsh had also been established. The Business Leader welcomed a further opportunity to speak in depth about this work on another occasion. A section in Greasbrough Lane was being replanted with birch trees, Glendale was preparing a new burial ground area for planting with meadow plants. Graves were planned which would be dug by hand, and red robin shrubs were being planted. The addition of a Friends Group Room at East Herringthorpe had also been established for use by all cemetery site users. Electricity was being connected to the room, after which an appointment could be booked to have the room available for general activities. A performance management framework was in place with Glendale, involving cemetery supervisor walks to inspect and create a report that is monitored with Glendale in regular meetings using a performance framework to improve performance. Tarmac paths had been installed towards the end of Maltby Cemetery, with further work being finished at East Herringthorpe. Additional taps and rubbish bins had been provided within the cemeteries, as the Service provider were continuing to improve.

In discussion, the Chair noted the production of the five-year plan, which had been requested as part of the September 2021 scrutiny discussion of the previous year's report. The progress on green burials was also noted and the investments that had been made by the provider in improving service delivery.

Clarification was requested regarding the timescale of delivery of the Muslim burial development. The response from the Service Provider noted that the contactors were on the site now. The Provider had hoped the works would be done before getting into any adverse winter weather conditions. There had been equipment stolen from the site, and contractors doing the works were the same as those working at the Maltby site.

Clarification was also requested regarding refunds of certain burial fees. With regards to the weekend burial fee, the response from Service Providers noted that several people had been refunded. Information currently on the Council website directed people who had been charged the fee to contact Dignity. The Service Providers had been working with members of the public to relay relevant information to the community.

Members noted the five-year plan was positive, but it had been observed that the plans were not very reader friendly to cemetery site visitors. It was noted that without a cemetery map, it can be hard to understand the content of the five-year plan. A publicly displayed plan and map was proposed along with a follow-up seminar for all members of all wards to facilitate a more detailed discussion.

Members requested assurances that the Service Providers were responding to reports of anti-social behaviour, vandalism, and thefts from graves. It had been noted that the five-year plan included assessment of feasibility of CCTV installation by December 2023. The response from Service providers noted that three sites experienced vandalism and theft especially during the winter season. The Service had been discussing the provision of extra security with the relevant security officers. One of the quotes received had proposed the installation of a big pole in the middle of the cemetery for the purpose of providing electricity for the CCTV. This was felt to be unsightly, but temporary measures had been explored in order to ensure security was provided at the site.

Members requested more information around the reasons for the historic underinvestment. The response from the Operational Director noted that there had not been enough commitment to the contract previously. Although it was difficult to comment on history of operations before the current directors were in leadership. It was noted that the directors were all different now.

Members requested assurances regarding drainage surveys which were projected to take two years to complete. The response from the Operational Director noted that after clearing the drains, some of which were over a century old, the issue had not resolved, which suggested that some of the drains have collapsed. Work to address this was on the five-year plan and progress would be monitored.

Members requested clarification of the agreed method and standards which were referenced in the performance rating of red, amber and green, with four performance measures in red. The response from the Operational Director noted that these measures reflected the desired level of maintenance, including how the landscape is maintained, and the desire for performance to improve in these areas. There was still work to do to improve performance in these areas. Dignity's goal as a national business was supporting people who had lost family and friends to be able to remember them in a way that was positive.

Members requested clarification around the measures within the five-year plan that seemed basic, such as additional seating benches at six of the eight cemetery sites. The response from the Operational Director noted that whether these were replacement or new benches was not known, but the approach to the five-year plan included as much detail as possible so that the full scope of improvement could be monitored.

Members noted the heart of the issues was equalities and the importance of meeting the needs of a diverse community. It was noted that improvements had resulted from the involvement of community members. Clarification was requested regarding the representation of equalities on the initial equality screening, and the amber rating for equality and diversity as a key performance indicator. The response from the Head of Legal Services noted that the role of the Council was limited to contract management. The operational side was for Dignity to complete. This was one of the contract performance issues that the Council's Bereavement Services team had raised with Dignity to seek improved performance. Dignity was still working on this area. There were equalities issues and the Council's Bereavement Services team does raise these with Dignity as part of the performance management framework. For the Service completing the initial equalities screening form, the report was about the performance of Dignity. Dignity had commissioned their own report as to the offer and the Council had commissioned an independent report to ensure that in the performance of the contract, equalities objectives are being met. It was noted that the contract with Dignity was one of the Council's 350 contracts for services to be provided which the Council has outsourced. The Council expects providers to then meet equalities requirements as they have conduct of the operational day to day matters.

Members expressed interest in further information regarding consultation with neighbourhood residents who live near the sites where there are late burials around any impact to the wider community. The response from the Service providers noted that Dignity respect staff and expect them to be treated with respect. Dignity worked with the community and residents as well.

The Chair noted that many sites do not receive the benefit of support from Dignity; therefore, the Friends groups played an important role in fundraising and in funding applications for additional work. It was felt that this engagement work was key.

Resolved:-

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the feedback from Members be noted.
3. That an all-member session be convened to facilitate a further dialogue around improvements to Service delivery in the five-year plan.
4. That Bereavement Services and Dignity work together to better demonstrate how equalities duties are adhered to in contract management and operational delivery.

43. ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

Consideration was given to an annual report and presentation in respect of progress in self-management of the Council's allotments by the Rotherham Allotments Alliance (RAA). The report was presented by the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, the Green Spaces Manager and representatives of the Rotherham Allotments Alliance. The Cabinet Member noted all the work that had been done throughout the year by the RAA and thanked the representatives for their hard work to ensure the success of the model which had been adopted. The model allowed allotment holders with close knowledge of their allotments to take control of their own allotment environments. A key element in 2021, and even more this year, had been involving local groups and reinvesting in the community. The RAA year ran from January to December, and recent progress had been made in improving web presence, undertaking and completing projects, and preparing the way for the the upcoming head lease agreement.

Performance Indicators had been requested from the RAA as part of the Service Level Agreement that runs alongside the self-management model. It was noted that Lowfield was the only site that was not fully tenanted. The forward plan for 2023 included preparing this site ready for letting. Getting rid of asbestos had been a significant challenge, which had been addressed using the moneys the authority had put aside. It was also noted that the process of preparing the lease to be signed had been protracted. The Administrator of the RAA worked with local Elected Members where possible to coordinate efforts, including the thirteen site societies that collaborate with the RAA.

The RAA used portable, battery-operated CCTV cameras to alleviate instances of vandalism. The RAA work to ensure allotment holders know their responsibilities, and if allotment holders breached the law, the RAA reported this. Improvement works to a number of sites were described, including extensive waste removal. Part of what the RAA was trying to do was general education and encouragement of allotment holders of how to make the best use of sites for growing fruit and vegetables for families, and not for piling plastic rubbish and wood. Photographs were presented depicting overgrown conditions that had been rectified through the efforts of the RAA. Community payback services had saved resources, and a further approach that had been successful was taking on smaller plots which some holders find more manageable. The RAA had been reaching out to community groups.

In discussion, the Chair noted the nearly full sites and new plots being developed. The community payback scheme had also been a boon to the RAA community that had become accessible under the self-management model. It was felt that this was an example of strong partnership working.

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Members requested further information about how the RAA worked with schools. The response from RAA representatives noted that they work with schools. A nursery had taken a plot on the site. Limitations around the powers of the RAA to lease a plot to schools were discussed. It was noted that the local authority retains the statutory designation as allotment authority.

Further details were requested in respect of a specific site on Psalter Lane. The response from representatives of the RAA was that this site had been considered for incorporation into the RAA, but the site sadly was well known for fly tipping. It therefore posed a significant cost risk to the RAA to take on. The site inspections were undertaken every six months. Usually, these were done personally by the Chair or the Administrator, and any rubbish found on the sites was addressed with the plot holder responsible to remedy the issue.

Members noted that the capital allocated by the local authority was coming to an end and requested additional information around the forward financial plans. The response from the RAA representatives noted the external funding from place, as well as the lottery. The RAA administrator had recently attended workshops to develop the potential of applications for further external funding opportunities. The small surplus from the year before last had been deployed to pay for clearance projects. The funding for extra projects and waste removal had come from this year's revenue fund, and the RAA had been able to do even more. At the end of the year, the exact amount left over to be carried over was known. A wooded site at Swinton had been leased as a pasture. The RAA also had been able to put aside ten percent for reserves. The directors had been putting in their own time wherever possible, whilst ensuring health and safety risk assessments are in place and any hazards accounted for. This meant that next year, the RAA would deliver significant savings again by doing things themselves.

The Chair noted the importance of allotments, given the implications of rising cost of living and potential mental health benefits. Members also noted the importance of links with Ward Members for support.

Resolved:-

1. That the progress of the transfer be noted.
2. That the comments of Members in respect of the arising issues be noted.

44. TOWN CENTRE UPDATE

Consideration was given to a presentation in respect of progress in delivery of the Town Centre Masterplan, which included several project areas for regeneration and development interventions in the public realm in Rotherham Town Centre. This update followed on from a spotlight

review undertaken in November 2021 which examined external sources for funding these projects. Delivery of development opportunities were described. Secured external funding was noted as part of the presentation.

The presentation described the projects that would be part of the Leisure and Culture Quarter, including a cinema and hotel, six restaurants, and a public square. These plans worked around the riverside and the scheme of flood defence works already completed. The plans for connecting Forge Island to Riverside Gardens were described and the progress in respect of the Forge Island and Riverside Gardens plans were described. Indicative visualisations of the designs of these interventions were also provided. In respect of the interventions associated with Corporation Street, these would be described further in a January Cabinet report and would involve disposal of some of the Council's land in that site to enable the development to happen. At the moment the Council sought acquisition by agreement with owner rather than a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). The Service reported preliminary discussions had been positive. A planning application was in progress to address the site which had been an eyesore. It was noted that connections in this area would be pedestrian-friendly, to help foster an atmosphere in which people would want to spend time. Progress in delivery of the Riverside Residential Project was also described.

In respect of the Markets and Library Scheme, it was noted that this would include a new community hub, improvements to the public realm, and Town Centre connections. A contractor had just been appointed to take the project forward, and it was noted that the contractor had experience of working in markets. A challenge was anticipated around managing the construction at the same site with traders already present. It was observed that much would be happening in the Town Centre from now through 2025. In terms of challenges around timescales, it was noted that The Snail Yard had not progressed at the speed desired. Challenges with contractors and resource limitations were articulated as well as specifics of the site and interim arrangements to address what had been a vacant area and a building which did not have a future in the Town Centre. Bridge Gate had been completed and College Street works and additional car parking spaces were noted. This work was connecting key developments with high quality public realm interventions including better lighting and improved environment. Through the Future High Street Fund, a project at Grimm and Co. had been undertaken, with extra funding through the Mayoral Combined Authority (gainshare) had enabled the project to proceed without disruptions.

In discussion, Members expressed interest in further highlighting the chapel on a bridge. The response from officers noted this had been raised previously as a historic site of interest although it was not associated with a project in the current scheme of funding. A previous scrutiny discussion had noted the significance as part of the cultural offer.

Members emphasised the promised pace of the work and the need to

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maintain projects that are already built. Members noted that there were enduring concerns about safety of the Town Centre and the success of businesses there. It was felt that the direction of travel was right, but timetables were an issue. The response from officers noted that the Service were cognisant of the challenges encountered by businesses in the Town Centre and the importance of building and maintaining momentum in delivery of the Town Centre projects. The last few years had seen Rotherham making the most of funding at historic levels and having success at bringing that funding in for Rotherham. Challenges during the pandemic had been experienced, as with all sectors, the construction industry had experienced limitations. These limitations in the construction market had flowed through to the projects such as the Snail Yard. Momentum remained important, and the message to businesses was observable progress. This was the same message to investors coming in. The Forge Island scheme was fully let, and the local economy would continue to build on this confidence in the future pipeline. Members noted the work going on in the background and emphasised the importance of timescales to local people and local businesses.

Resolved:-

1. That the report be noted.

45. COUNCIL-OWNED LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

Consideration was given to a report and schedule of local defibrillators. Over the past few years, there had been an improvement in the number of defibrillators located throughout the borough. Some of these were sourced directly by Asset Management, whilst others were sourced through ward and parish Councillors. The presentation described how the defibrillator equipment is housed, with each defibrillator in a metal cabinet and displaying a contact number for emergency services. A few types of defibrillators were located throughout the borough. Each defibrillator had a nominated guardian. If the defibrillator were to be used, the guardian would be notified directly. These defibrillators, including those in other buildings such as neighbourhood and community buildings, used to be inspected by the Ambulance Service; this changed last year. Particularly in neighbourhood sites, there had been a lack of information on the guardians for defibrillators in those sites. In recent months the Service had managed to identify the guardians, ensuring that the defibrillators were still at the sites in working order and with fully charged battery. The Service go out every week and check all the sites as part of the normal inspections. It was noted that defibrillators can cost up to £1500 each. If a defibrillator went missing, there could be a lead time for replacement. The Service was on the register and were notified if the defibrillators are used. The next day, the Service would ensure the defibrillator was back up and running. Some external information had circulated which had highlighted sites that were not Council sites. The Service provided assurances that records would be kept up to date. The Service provided further assurances that the systems and register in place could be add to the

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Council's mapping system. The Service ensured that they are supplied with a list of guardians for other sites.

In discussion, the Chair noted the maintenance responsibilities associated with a defibrillator throughout its life cycle, including testing and replacing of renewables such as pads and batteries. In respect of obtaining information about the guardians throughout the borough, assurances were requested that the Service was confident that the list is complete regarding library and theatre sites. The response from officers noted the current status of library and theatre defibrillators.

Members noted that defibrillators registered with the British Heart Foundation could be referenced on public websites such as <https://www.defibfinder.uk>. This website, for example, indicated whether each defibrillator is active or inactive. Assurances were requested around resiliency of the guardianship of defibrillators belonging to the Council, if only one staff member is nominated as a guardian. The response from the Service confirmed that one person is nominated, however, if this team member were not in the office the day that a defibrillator is used, the notification email would also go to Asset Management and would be picked up by half a dozen members of staff.

Members referenced specific defibrillators and associated time limitations. Further clarification was requested around which defibrillators are owned by Rotherham MBC. The response from the Head of Asset Management noted that the external ones at the front of riverside with football and redevelopment would be useful, so this is being looked at. The overall distribution of defibs was an area that required further consideration. Members noted that, where there may be a shortage of funding, there were excellent local charities who help with funding.

Members noted the need for sub-guardians. The example offered was that Civic Officers at the Town Hall cannot update the registry after inspecting the defibrillators at the Town Hall because they are not designated sub-guardians. This means that Asset Management must be contacted to request that the registry be updated, which creates an extra step. A further example was provided of a specific defibrillator that had been registered but was not appearing on the registry. The response from officers noted that clarity around how this information is collected and reported about coverage is an area of ongoing work.

Resolved:-

1. That the report and schedule be noted.
2. That clarification be provided in respect of defibrillator governance, including updated guardianship information, usage data, and maintenance procedures for defibrillators in the borough, including those that have been in use, or that have been deployed but not used.

IMPROVING PLACES SELECT COMMISSION- 13/12/22

3. That consideration be given to strategic placement of defibrillators throughout the borough, taking into account the proximity and volume of people and the hours of public access to defibrillators that are housed indoors.
4. That an update be submitted in 12 months' time.

46. WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to an updated work programme including an outline schedule of scrutiny work for the remainder of the 2022-23 municipal year.

Resolved:-

1. That the report and proposed schedule of work be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement.

47. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair advised that there were no urgent items of business requiring a decision at the meeting.

48. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:-

1. That the next meeting of the Improving Places Select Commission will take place on 7 February 2023 commencing at 1.30pm.

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Public Report
Improving Places Select Commission

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Places Select Commission – 07 February 2023

Report Title

Fly-tipping in Rotherham - Update

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

This report provides an update in relation to levels of fly-tipping and enforcement activity in Rotherham and an overview of the national and local position in relation to fly-tipping.

Recommendations

1. That members note the work carried out by the Council to tackle fly-tipping

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Government Fly-tipping statistics for England, 2020 to 2021

Appendix 2 Equalities Screening Assessment

Appendix 3 Carbon Impact

Background Papers

Government Fly-tipping Statistics 2020 - 21 ([Fly-tipping statistics for England - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)
(www.gov.uk))

The Environmental Protection Act 1990

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Fly-tipping in Rotherham - Update

1. Background

- 1.1 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 provides powers to Local Authorities to issue fines and/or prosecute offences relating to fly-tipping, which is the illegal disposal of household, industrial, commercial or other 'controlled' waste. The waste can be liquid or solid. Controlled waste includes garden refuse and larger domestic items such as fridges and mattresses.
- 1.2 The most recent Government fly-tipping statistics for England is for 2019/20 and demonstrates the scale of fly-tipping nationally. For the 2019/20 financial year, local authorities in England dealt with 976,000 fly-tipping incidents, an increase of 2% from the 957,000 reported in 2018/19. The most recent national statistics relating to fly-tipping are attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.3 Table 1 below describes the number of fly-tips removed by the Council since 2017 and shows the number of fly-tips removed proactively by the service has increased significantly since 2017 due to improvements in the working practices within the service. Many more fly-tips are now identified and removed by the service without being reported by the public. As a result of this the level of fly-tipping reported by the public has fallen each year following a peak in 2019 and is 3% lower in 2021 compared to 2017.

Table 1 – Fly-tips Removed 2017-2022

Fly-tips Removed	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Reported by the Public (reactive)	4012	3401	5028	4046	3877	2824
Identified by Council Officers (proactive)	332	2116	1164	2278	2100	2865
Total	4344	5517	6192	6324	5977	5689

- 1.4 Table 2 below describes the types of fly-tips being removed, categorised as either single items, e.g. bags of waste or a single mattress, or large fly-tips. The data shows that the number of large fly-tips has fallen since the peak in 2018 and by around 40% since 2017 however the number of small fly-tips has increased significantly over the period.

Table 2 – Types of Fly-tips Removed

Types of Fly-tips Removed	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Single Items, e.g. waste bags, single mattresses	1260	1903	2609	3752	4197	3619
Large or multiple items	3084	3614	3583	2572	1780	2070
Total	4344	5517	6192	6324	5977	5689

- 1.5 Local authorities have powers available to investigate, clear and take appropriate enforcement action in relation to small scale fly-tipping on public land. The Environment Agency have responsibility for dealing with larger-scale fly-tipping, hazardous waste and fly-tipping by organised gangs.
- 1.6 It is noteworthy that with any fly-tipping on private land, it is normally the responsibility of the landowner to remove the waste. The Council and the Environment Agency have legal powers to require landowners to clear fly-tipped waste from their land, along with powers to enter the land and clear it, potentially seeking reimbursement for costs related to it.
- 1.7 Regulation and Enforcement Services discharge the powers available under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to issue fixed penalty notices or prosecute offenders. Fixed Penalty Notices to a value of £400 are issued to those caught fly-tipping, generally of household items or smaller amounts. Where offenders fail to pay a fixed penalty fine, tip large amounts, or work on a commercial basis, then consideration of prosecution will be undertaken.
- 1.8 Where an individual is convicted by the Court, the Environmental Protection Act 1990 provides for unlimited fines and/or a custodial sentence up to 12 months and up to 5 years imprisonment when convicted on indictment.
- 1.9 The Council also has the powers to seize vehicles which have been used to commit fly-tipping offences.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 Fly-tipping impacts directly on the environment particularly on flora and fauna as well as effecting the quality of life of residents. Whilst urban areas tend to suffer more from household waste and items being deposited on streets, rural areas are impacted by large scale fly-tipping of waste which, on occasion, blocks the highway.
- 2.2 There is inevitably a significant cost to the Council both reputationally and as a result of the actual financial costs of clearing, investigating and disposing of fly-tipping. The clearance and disposal costs for 2021 have been estimated at around £200,569.49. Investigation of fly-tipping accounts for an estimated 14% of the overall Regulation and Enforcement budget which equates to approx. £115,000 per year. It is reasonable therefore to estimate that the total cost of dealing with fly-tipping in the borough is around £315,569.49 per year.

2.3 There has been a significant increase in the number of cases requiring investigation by Regulation and Enforcement in 2022 compared to previous years. This is due to a number of factors including the use of CCTV and fly-tips proactively identified by officers. Table 3 below details the numbers of investigations carried out since 2017.

2.4 **Table 3 – Fly-tipping reports to Regulation and Enforcement Services, 2017 to 2022**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Fly-tipping reports to Regulation and Enforcement for investigation	1590	1337	1988	1897	1914	3122

2.5 Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, enforcement activities had been increasing however this has been impacted in recent years as can be noted from the table below. Whilst numbers did reduce during 2020 and 2021 they are now showing signs of recovery and the management team are focussed on increasing enforcement activity. Table 4 below provides a numerical representation of the actions undertaken.

Table 4 – Fly-tipping Enforcement actions 2017 to 2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Small fly-tipping FPNs issued	12	5	21	3	6	16
Large fly-tipping FPNs issued	6	15	30	81	34	35
Fly-tipping prosecution case files	14	26	18	12	17	30
Duty of care producers issued	106	147	178	80	155	72
Commercial Duty of Care FPNs	37	51	63	20	10	32
Domestic Duty of care FPNs	0	0	1	8	2	12
Duty of care prosecutions	0	3	1	3	1	7
Simple cautions Issued	4	1	0	1	0	1
Total Actions	179	248	312	208	225	205

2.6 Approximately 16.7% of Regulation and Enforcement investigations are fly-tipping related. Each of these cases typically involve Officers visiting the incident site, gathering evidence, collecting photos from the scene, conducting interviews under caution, issuing fines and preparing prosecution files for Court. It should be noted that the issuance of fines and prosecutions are reliant

on sufficient evidence of the offender which, despite thorough investigation, is lacking in most incidents.

- 2.7 The Council has been working for a number of years to bring fly tipping offenders to justice, this has included significant investment in areas such as CCTV and Out of Hours Enforcement as well as targeted activity within the service to improve work with partners and across Council departments. There is a target in the Council's Year Ahead Plan for fly tipping prosecution, which is set at 37 and the Council is set to achieve this target.
- 2.8 CCTV has proven very successful contributing to successful prosecutions, including two custodial sentences of 20 weeks in 2018 and 2 years in 2019, being handed down by the Court. Whilst positive, the increasing levels of CCTV assets also have resource implications in term of officer time and expertise to manage the associated systems.
- 2.9 As a result of this work, the Council performs well when compared to other local authorities and the work undertaken in Rotherham is very well recognised by other Local Authorities with five Councils having visited Rotherham over the past few years to learn the methods deployed here.
- 2.10 In the latest national data set available, which shows 2020 to 2021 data, Rotherham took 2,694 actions relating to fly tipping, which is the 4th highest in the Yorkshire and Humber Region and higher than the Council's neighbours in South Yorkshire. When you look at fixed penalty notices for the same period, Rotherham is the third highest in the Yorkshire and Humber Region (249 fixed penalty notices). Whilst performance is good, the Council continues to look to do more and there is a plan in place, which has been developed working with Scrutiny, to continue to improve enforcement activity.

2.11 **Enviro-Crime Action Plan**

The Council has an Enviro-crime action plan which addresses how fly-tipping is tackled across the Borough and how cleansing and enforcement interact to ensure the best possible outcomes. Areas of work included in the plan are:

- Benchmarking against neighbouring Local Authorities
- Reviewing resources and equipment
- Process mapping
- Fly-tipping hotspot identification
- The effectiveness of partnership working
- Data analysis to identify and monitor hotspots
- The effectiveness of campaigns and other communications

The action plan focuses on three main objectives: Prevention, Education and Enforcement. (see Appendix 4)

2.12 *Objective 1 - Prevention*

- Improve Communication with the public

- Householders Duty Of Care, those that do not follow the rules i.e. right bin-right day – recycling, fly-tipping, bins left on streets.
- Designing out crime in hot spot areas.
- Deploying more prevention tools such as signage and CCTV
- Working with private landowners to secure their land or property.
- Work with local businesses to manage waste effectively.

2.13 *Objective 2 - Education*

- To educate people about the impact of enviro-crime and how to dispose of waste correctly through.
- An education package focussed on effective management of waste and waste offences.
- Effective communications to promote the environment
- Effective communications to promote enforcement activity to deter offences, including regular campaigns under #getridreyt
- Promote volunteering opportunities and the work of volunteers.

2.14 *Objective 3 - Enforce*

- Deployment of CCTV capability to identify offences
- Use of partnerships to increase capability such as working closely with neighbourhood policing teams
- Effective actions at all stages of the waste life-cycle
- Increase enforcement outputs such as producers, fines and prosecutions
- Effective place-based working to problem-solve locations
- Ensure cleansing and enforcement services are closely aligned

Pilot Scheme

2.15 As part of the action plan a Pilot Scheme has been introduced in Eastwood tackling the issue of fly-tipping.

2.16 In October 2022, a 6-month contract was awarded to Clifton Learning Partnership to deploy one staff member to undertake education and engagement work in Eastwood, for 6 hours per week.

2.17 The following sets out a broad overview and the focus areas for the programme.

- This investment is for a dedicated individual who will engage with the community on cross-service issues.
- Waste, Neighbourhoods, and Enforcement deal with many related issues in the community and we are looking to educate and engage on a weekly basis to see if we can have real impact and understanding from within the community.

- Many of the focus areas will be week on week, but some ad-hoc communications will be required when performing activities throughout the community.

2.18 The programme aims to gain insight into:

- To gain understanding of why residents are not complying with the Councils waste scheme. This includes but is not limited to, right bin right day, recycling, storing of waste and additional waste bins applications
- To gain understanding into why some fly tip. Or what their understanding is of fly-tipping
- To gain understanding around why waste is allowed to build up in premises

2.19 The programme's key areas for engagement focus include:

- Helping residents understand what bin goes out on what day
- Helping residents understand what the different colour bins are for and what should go in them
- Giving residents understanding of what contamination is and why bins are left
- Helping residents understand the importance of putting bins back away safely and secure after collections
- Helping residents understand the additional bin applications and process and criteria
- Helping residents understand what waste minimisation is and their role in it
- Helping residents understand landlord responsibilities and their rights

2.20 In addition, there will be ad-hoc focus areas including Community clean-up days, and promotion and engagement.

2.21 In order to detect and deter offences of fly-tipping and littering, Enforcement and Regulatory services have:

- Deployed Local Authority Support Enforcement Officers to enforce littering. This has resulted in 66 littering FPNs in Eastwood to date in 2022.
- Conducted daily patrols to identify fly-tipping, search for evidence, review CCTV and make door to door enquiries in the vicinity of each deposit. This has resulted in 28 fly-tipping FPNs in Eastwood in 2022. Some cases are now being heard in Court due to non-payment.
- Written to all Landlords to ensure waste is managed appropriately both within premises and also responsibly disposed of. A high-profile case of non-compliance with Duty of Care for waste displayed by Landlord will be seen as a key milestone in 2023.

2.22 The results of this pilot scheme will shape the council's fly-tipping action plan when tackling fly-tipping across the borough.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 This report is for the purposes of scrutiny and therefore members are asked to note the content.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 No consultation is necessary at the stage.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 The update reflects the current position in relation to fly-tipping.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)

- 6.1 Regulation and Enforcement costs are not recorded specifically in relation fly-tipping, rather costs are associated with the wider enviro-crime work which includes littering for example. However, currently, the overwhelming majority of enviro-crime work relates to fly-tipping. As the team carry out a range of enforcement and regulatory activities, enviro-crime being just one element, costs are apportioned to different strands of work. The cost of investigating fly-tipping incidents currently is estimated to be approximately £115,000 per annum, based on an estimate that 14% of officer time is spent on this activity.

- 6.2 The clearance and disposal costs for 2021 have been estimated at around £200,569.49.

7. Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)

- 7.1 Section 33(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 details the offence of fly-tipping, including offences of 'knowingly causing' or 'knowingly permitting' fly-tipping.

- 7.2 Section 33(8) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 states that anyone who commits an offence is liable to an unlimited fine and/or a custodial sentence of up to twelve months upon summary conviction. On conviction on indictment [i.e. Crown Court] the custodial term increases to a maximum of 5 years.

- 7.3 Section 33(ZA) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 makes provision for the issuing of a fixed penalty fine, which upon payment discharges the liability to conviction for the offence to which it relates. In Rotherham the level of the fixed penalty fine is set to £400 with a reduced fee of £200 if the fine is paid within 10 days.

- 7.4 Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 establishes a general duty of care. Anyone who produces, imports, keeps, stores, transports, treats or

disposes of controlled waste must take all reasonable steps to ensure that waste is managed properly. It also applies to anyone who acts as a broker and has control of waste.

- 7.5 Section 34(2A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, inserted by the Waste (Household Waste Duty of Care) (England and Wales) Regulations 2005, places specific duty of care obligations on householders. Householders must ensure that household waste is properly disposed of by taking all reasonable measures to ensure that the transfer by him of household waste is only to an authorised person. Household waste is defined in section 75(5) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and includes waste from domestic properties, caravans and residential homes.
- 7.6 Where offences are committed relating to the general and householder duty of care, Section 34(6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, those responsible are liable upon summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum; and on conviction on indictment, to an unlimited fine.
- 7.7 The Council has the power to seize and dispose of vehicles used for fly-tipping. Local authorities can stop, search and seize vehicles they suspect are being used for fly-tipping (this must be done in the presence of a police officer). Vehicles which have been used for fly-tipping can also be forfeited to cover the local authority's costs for investigation, enforcement and cleaning-up of any pollution caused by the fly-tipping. It is an offence to transport controlled waste without being registered under Section 1 of the Control of Pollution (Amendment) Act 1989. There is also a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £300 for failure to produce registration documents on request.
- 7.8 The Council must remove and dispose of fly-tipped waste if it's on public land or land owned by the Council. Council's must also keep any Highway they are responsible for clean and clear from waste. Relevant land is land where all of the following apply:-
- it's open to the air on at least one side
 - it's under their direct control
 - it's publicly accessible (with or without payment)

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 8.1 Human resources implications are outlined within the report concerning the impacts on staffing capacity, capability and resources.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 9.1 No implications

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 10.1 A screening assessment is attached at Appendix 2.

10.2 A full impact assessment is not required at this stage as the report is a position statement of the work being currently undertaken by the Council

11. Implications for CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no direct implications for climate change that are measurable in relation to fly tipped material. However, release of carbon into the environment from fly tipped material will add to the overall emissions where otherwise the carbon might be captured through correct disposal or recycling.

11.2 There is significant risk from fly-tipping that are linked to biodiversity and impacts on the denaturing of the Borough. This is particularly so with contamination of environments and habitats from a range of toxic chemicals impacting directly on the health of fauna and flora. Additionally, the trapping of small vertebrates and invertebrates in the waste impacts directly on populations along with reducing food available to predators.

11.3 Fly-tipping adds plastic waste to the environment which enters the food chain both for predators and humans through ingestion by prey organisms.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 No implications at this stage.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Failure to effectively tackle fly-tipping will negatively impact on the Council's image whilst failing to deliver national and local priorities.

13.2 Failure to have robust capacity and capabilities to take action relating to fly-tipping risks identifying the Borough as a place to attract fly tippers, consequently increasing the number and scale of incidents.

Accountable Officer(s)

Emma Ellis -

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07748 143370 sam.barstow@Rotherham.gov.uk

Approvals obtained on behalf of:-

	Named Officer	Date
Chief Executive	Sharon Kemp	Click here to enter a date.
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Richard Young	12/01/23

Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Michelle Scales	25/01/23
Assistant Director of Human Resources (if appropriate)	John Crutchley	11/01/23
Head of Human Resources (if appropriate)		Click here to enter a date.

*Report Author: Richard Bramall***Error! Reference source not found.**

This report is published on the Council's [website](#).

Official Statistics

Fly-tipping statistics for England, 2020 to 2021

Updated 8 December 2021

Applies to England

Contents

1. [Key points](#)
2. [Background on data reporting and data caveats](#)

This statistical notice provides statistics on fly-tipping incidents recorded by Local Authorities in England, for April 2020 to March 2021. It covers trends in the number of fly-tipping incidents, with a breakdown by land type, waste type and size. It also covers enforcement and prosecution actions undertaken for fly-tipping incidents. It excludes the majority of private-land

incidents and large scale incidents dealt with by the Environment Agency.

The 2020/21 reporting period covers the first year of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic may have impacted on the levels of fly-tipping seen in 2020/21.

3. [Total number of fly-tipping incidents in England](#)
4. [Fly-tipping incidents in England by land type](#)
5. [Fly-tipping incidents in England by waste type](#)
6. [Fly-tipping incidents in England by size](#)
7. [Fly-tipping enforcement and prosecution](#)
8. [What you need to know about this release](#)
9. [About these statistics](#)

[Print this page](#)

1. Key points

- For the 2020/21 year, local authorities **in England** dealt with **1.13 million fly-tipping incidents, an increase of 16%** from the 980,000 reported in 2019/20.
- **As in the previous year, just under two thirds (65%)** of fly-tips involved **household waste**. Total incidents involving household waste were **737,000** in 2020/21, an **increase of 16%** from 635,000 incidents in 2019/20.
- The **most common place** for fly-tipping to occur was on **highways (pavements and roads)**, which accounted for **over two fifths (43%)** of total incidents in 2020/21, the same as in 2019/20. In 2020/21, the number of highway incidents was 485,000, which was an **increase of 16%** from 419,000 in 2019/20.
- The **most common size category** for fly-tipping incidents in 2020/21 was equivalent to a **'small van load'** (34% of total incidents), followed by the equivalent of a **'car boot or less'** (26%).
- In 2020/21, 39,000 or 4% of total incidents were of 'tipper lorry load' size or larger, which is an increase of 16% from 33,000 in 2019/20. For these **large fly-tipping incidents**, the cost of clearance to local authorities in England in 2020/21 was **£11.6 million**, compared with £10.9 million in 2019/20.
- Local authorities carried out **456,000 enforcement actions** in 2020/21, a **decrease of 18,000 actions (4%)** from 474,000 in 2019/20.
- The number of **fixed penalty notices** issued was **57,600** in 2020/21, a **decrease of 24%** from 75,400 in 2019/20. This is the second most common action after investigations and

accounted for **13%** of all actions in 2020/21.

- The number of court fines issued **decreased by 51%** from 2,672 **to 1,313** in 2020/21, with the value of total fines **decreasing to £440,000** (a decrease of 62% on the £1,170,000 total value of fines in 2019/20).

2. Background on data reporting and data caveats

These data are based on incidents and actions reported through WasteDataFlow. The intention is to capture all fly tipping incidents, whether reported by staff or customers, and enforcement actions taken by local authorities in response to fly tipping incidents.

Local authorities gather their data from a number of different sources, and data can often be collected and reported by separate teams. There is a level of discretion in applying the reporting guidance. This can lead to some differences in how local authorities record incidents. The nature of fly-tipping means that there can be relatively high variation between years and between local authorities. Changes in data collection and reporting over time mean that trends should be interpreted with caution.

We had been aware of a small number of local authorities who have switched to only reporting customer or staff reported fly-tipping incidents for the detailed breakdown by local authority. We had been able to capture/reflect/estimate all incidents in the total incidents figure for England to retain consistency of the national headline figure. In 2018/19, Defra were aware that four local authorities had provided figures based on customer reported fly-tips only.

To determine the extent of this and to improve the transparency in reported data, Defra undertook an exercise with all local authorities for their 2019/20 data to ask whether they were reporting the number of incidents for customer reported, staff reported or both customer/public and staff reported

incidents.

This showed that the majority of local authorities are reporting all fly-tipping incidents, whether reported by staff or customers in 2019/20. Around 10% of local authorities reported that they were either just providing figures based on customer reported fly-tips only, or just those incidents reported by staff. In previous years, estimates were made for 'all incidents' for a very small number of local authorities where the figures provided were known not to be based on 'all incidents'; these estimated figures were included in the national incident totals.

From 2019/20, for those local authorities that are not reporting 'all incidents', no estimates have been made for 'all incidents'. This is due to the number of local authorities concerned and lack of data to make reliable estimates for 'all incidents'. The reporting basis for each local authority is available in the published [dataset](#).

2.1 Revisions

Revisions have been made to 2019/20 incidents data for Redcar and Cleveland and actions data for Hounslow and Swale. The 2019/20 reporting basis has also been updated to 'all incidents' for the following local authorities: Basingstoke and Deane, Cannock Chase, Canterbury, Cotswold, Hastings, Mole Valley, Tamworth, Thanet and West Oxfordshire. These revisions have been made due to new or revised data being received after publication. For more detail, please see the [revisions](#) section.

2.2 Assessing the figures

In assessing the figures, local authorities should not be ranked or classified as 'good' or 'poor' performers based purely on numbers of fly-tips. Direct comparison between local authorities is not appropriate and especially where the local authority may be reporting on staff and/or customer incidents. The situation is complex and can be influenced by population density, housing stock, demographics, commuter routes, the rigour with

which local authorities identify incidents or encourage the public to report incidents, training of street crews, and increased use of more sophisticated methods for capturing and reporting incidents. Those reporting higher incident numbers are often those being more pro-active and rigorous in identifying incidents. Large authorities may have large enforcement teams using modern, sophisticated methods (e.g. covert surveillance, SmartWater etc.) to catch professional fly-tippers.

Trends over time for a particular local authority may be a fairer comparison and a time series of total incidents for each local authority is available for [download](#). The detailed dataset makes clear the reporting basis for each local authority.

Cost data is only published for clearance costs for 'tipper lorry load' and 'significant/multi load' incident categories and enforcement costs for 'prosecutions' and 'injunctions' action categories, which are reported directly by local authorities

Please note that due to high numbers of incidents being reported as 'other unidentified' for land type and waste type in 2020/21, some caution is needed in the interpretation of year-on-year changes.

Percentage changes presented in this statistical notice are based on unrounded figures.

Further information about the data is available at the end of this release.

2.3 Impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on fly-tipping

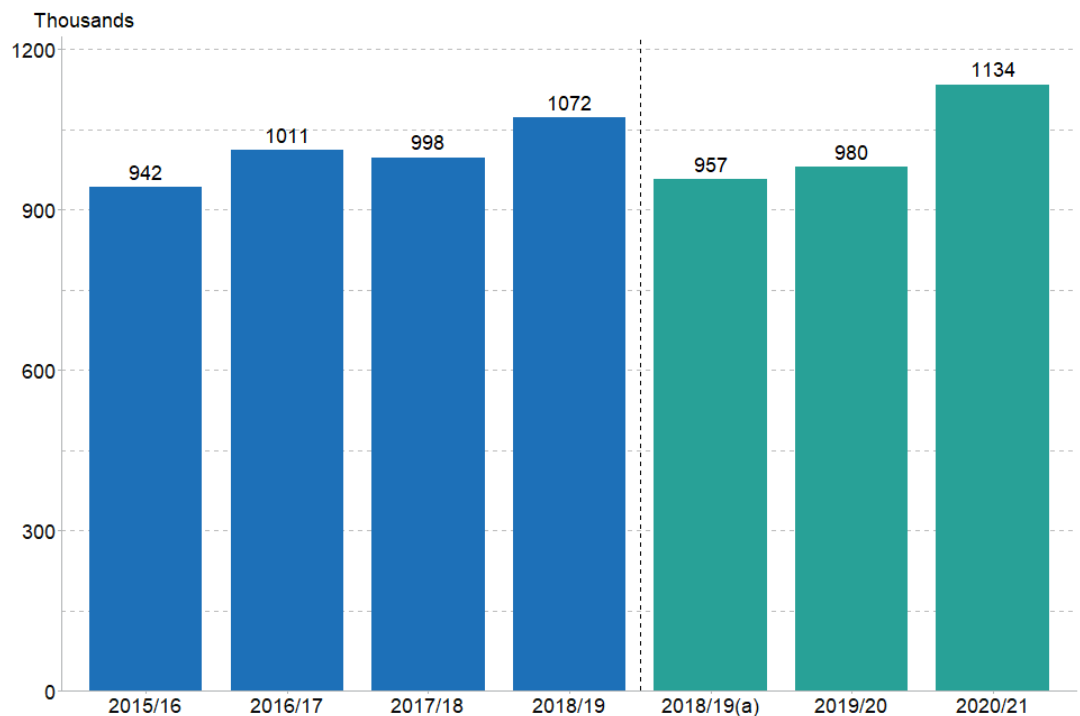
The 2020/21 reporting period covers the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The first national lockdown introduced in March 2020 led to some local authorities being unable to maintain collections of dry recyclates, with some suspending garden and bulky waste collections. There was also a widespread closure of household waste recycling centres (HWRCs). HWRCs were later re-opened following Government guidance on managing HWRCs in England during the COVID-19 pandemic but with some restrictions in place (e.g. booking system). These factors and other factors

such as changes in household consumption, travel and leisure patterns may have contributed to the increases seen in the number of fly-tipping incidents reported for 2020/21.

Staff shortages, staff being furloughed, and staff being redeployed may also have impacted on the number of enforcement actions which were carried out during 2020/21. Courts were also closed at certain points of the reporting period which several local authorities reported impacted on the number of prosecution actions undertaken.

3. Total number of fly-tipping incidents in England

Figure 1: Total number of fly-tipping incidents in England, 2014/15 to 2020/21



Equivalent figures for 2007/08 to 2014/15 can be seen in the accompanying [dataset](#).

(a) Due to methodological changes, data for 2019/20 onwards is not comparable to earlier years. These methodological changes have been

applied to 2018/19. For detailed information on these changes please see the [reporting basis](#) section.

[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

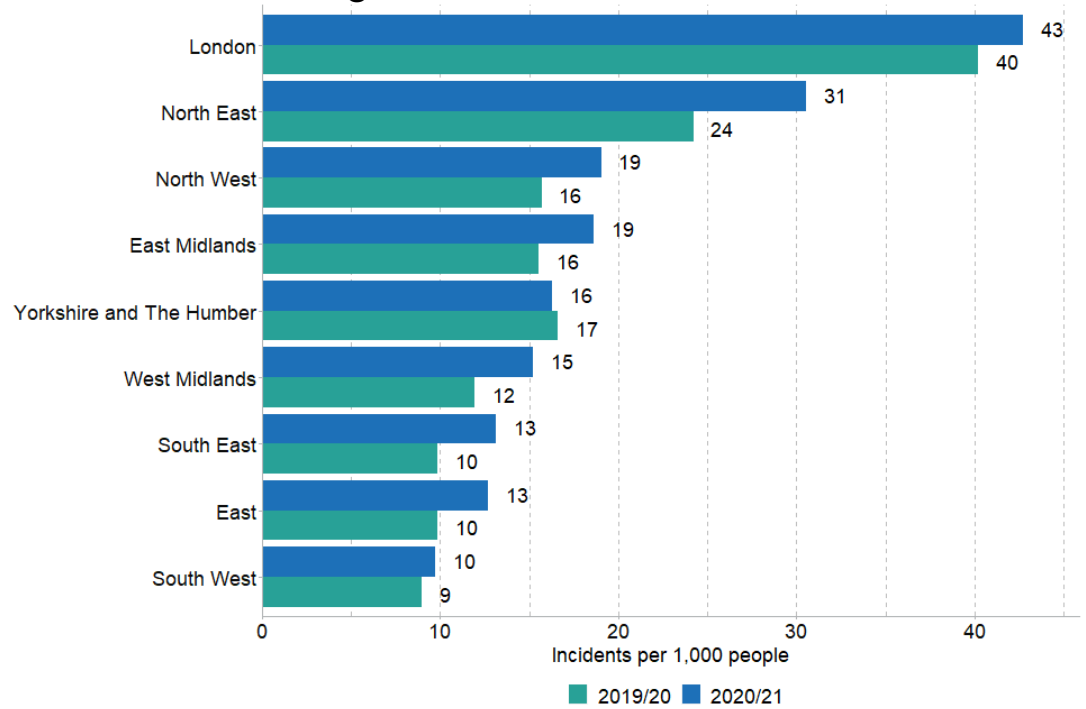
Please note that from 2019/20, the national totals for fly-tipping incidents are not comparable to previously published data, due to methodological changes. These methodological changes have been applied to the 2018/19 data to enable comparisons to be made.

In 2020/21 there were 1.13 million fly-tipping incidents reported, an increase of 16% from 980,000 in 2019/20.

Many local authorities have changed the way they capture and report fly-tips over the past few years, so the changes over time should be interpreted with some care. Defra is also aware that the definitions used to describe fly-tips in the guidance are interpreted broadly by local authorities.

Incidents involving the Environment Agency or cleared by private landowners are not included in this Notice. Details of the 151 incidents of large-scale, illegal dumping dealt with by the Environment Agency in 2020/21 are published separately. Please see the [dataset](#) published by the Environment Agency.

Figure 2: Fly-tipping incidents per 1,000 people in England by region, 2020/21



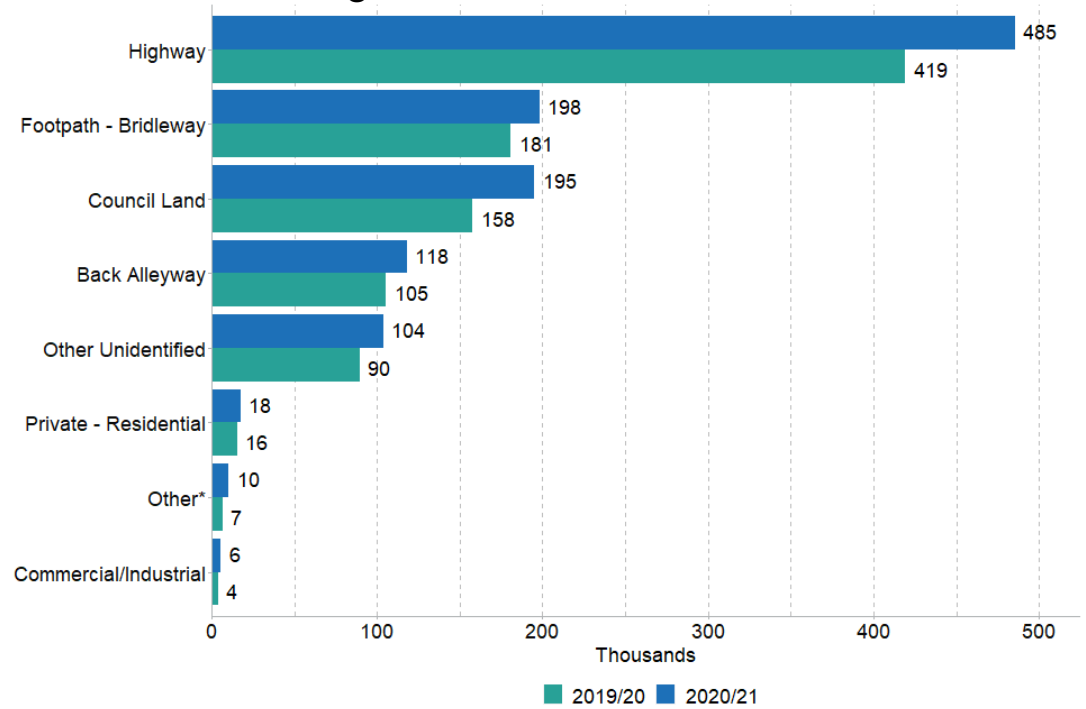
[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

In 2020/21 there were on average 20 fly-tipping incidents per 1,000 people in England. London had the highest average number of incidents per 1,000 people at 43, while the South West had the lowest at 10 incidents per 1,000 people.

4. Fly-tipping incidents in England by land type

Figure 3: Fly-tipping incidents by land type in England, 2020/21, compared to 2019/20



* **Other** includes agricultural, watercourse and railway.

[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

Highways (pavements and roads) have consistently been the most common land type for fly-tipping incidents over time, accounting for over two fifths (43%) of all incidents in 2020/21. In 2020/21 there were 485,000 incidents, an increase of 16% from 2019/20 (419,000 incidents).

Fly-tipping on council land, and 'footpaths and bridleways', each made up around 17% of all incidents in 2020/21. Incidents on council land such as housing estates, car parks, parks and offices increased by 24% to 195,000 incidents from 158,000. Footpath and bridleway' incidents increased by 10% to 198,000 from 181,000 incidents.

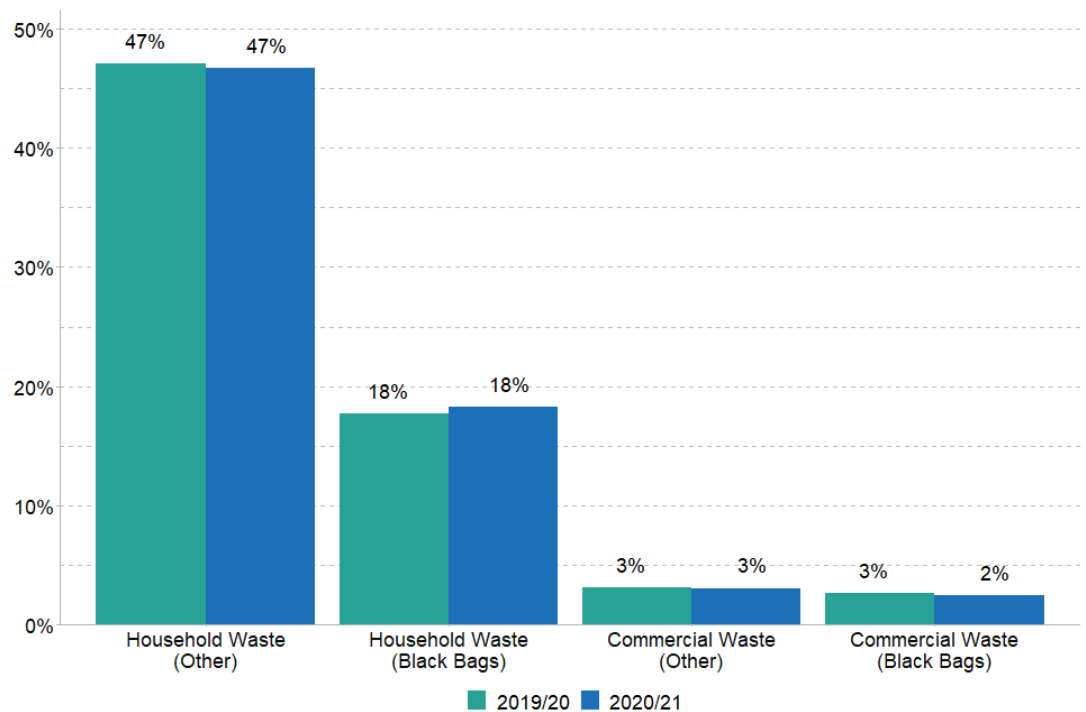
Fly-tipping incidents in back alleyways amounted to a further 10% of all incidents (118,000 incidents) in 2020/21, an increase of 12% from 105,000 in the previous year.

5. Fly-tipping incidents in England by waste type

Please note that due to high numbers of incidents being reported as 'other unidentified' for waste type in 2020/21, some caution is needed in the interpretation of year-on-year changes. In 2020/21, 127,000 incidents were reported as 'other unidentified'; this type of waste accounted for 11% of total incidents, similar to the 12% of incidents in 2019/20.

Most fly-tipping incidents are household waste (the sum of 'black bags' and 'other'), which in 2020/21 accounted for nearly two-thirds (65%) of all incidents. The majority of this was 'household waste (other)'.

Figure 4: Household and commercial waste in England, 2019/20 and 2020/21 (% of total incidents)



Household waste (other) could include material from house or shed clearances, old furniture, carpets and the waste from small scale DIY works.

Commercial waste (other) could include pallets, cardboard boxes, plastics, foam and any other waste not contained in bags or containers and not due to be collected.

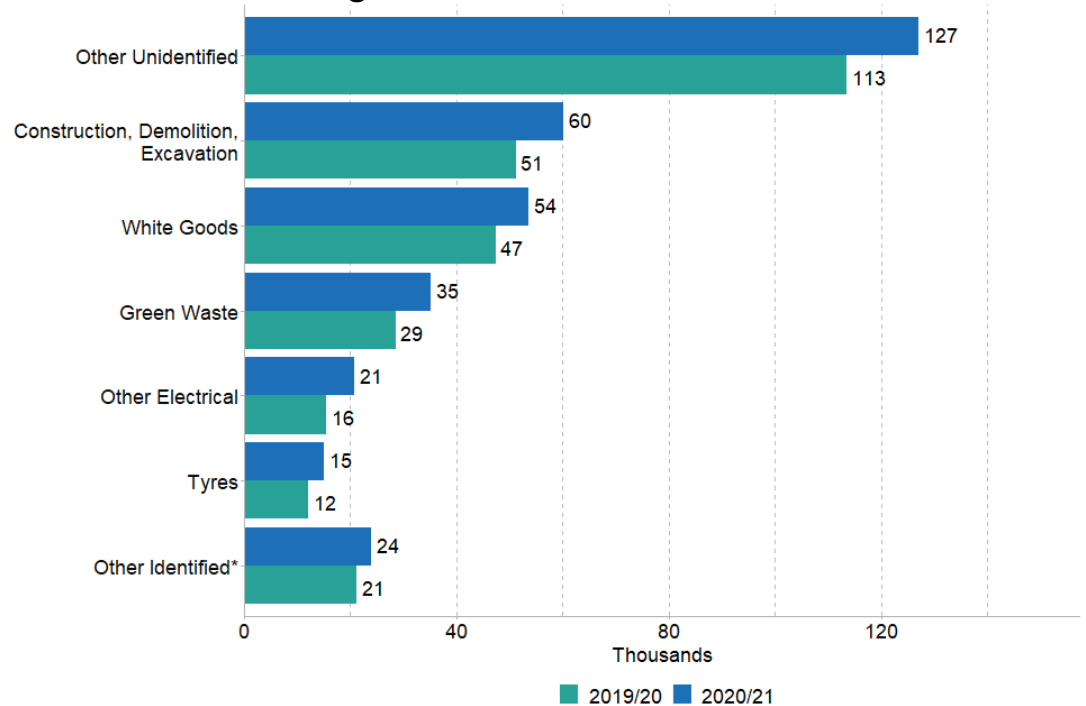
[Download the data for this chart](#)

Total household waste increased by 16% from 635,000 incidents in 2019/20 to 737,000 incidents in 2020/21. The household waste sub-categories, 'black bags' and 'other' increased by 34,000 incidents (19%) and 68,000 incidents (15%), respectively.

There were 61,000 incidents involving commercial waste in 2020/21, accounting for 5% of total incidents. This was an increase of 11% from the 56,000 incidents reported in 2019/20. There were 27,000 incidents of commercial waste in black bags and 34,000 incidents of other commercial waste in 2020/21.

Types of fly-tipping, other than household and commercial waste – which are construction, demolition and excavation; other unidentified; white goods; green waste; other electrical; tyres; vehicles parts; animal carcasses; chemical drums, oil and fuel; clinical; and asbestos – amount to 30% of all fly-tipping incidents. Within this, vehicle parts, animal carcasses, clinical waste, asbestos, and 'chemical drums, oil and fuel' incidents each account for less than 1% of total incidents.

Figure 5: Types of other fly-tipping in England, 2020/21, compared to 2019/20



* **Other Identified** includes vehicle parts, animal carcasses, clinical waste, asbestos, and 'chemical drums, oil and fuel'.

[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

For some waste types, such as green waste or electrical goods, it is not always possible to tell whether they originated from households or businesses.

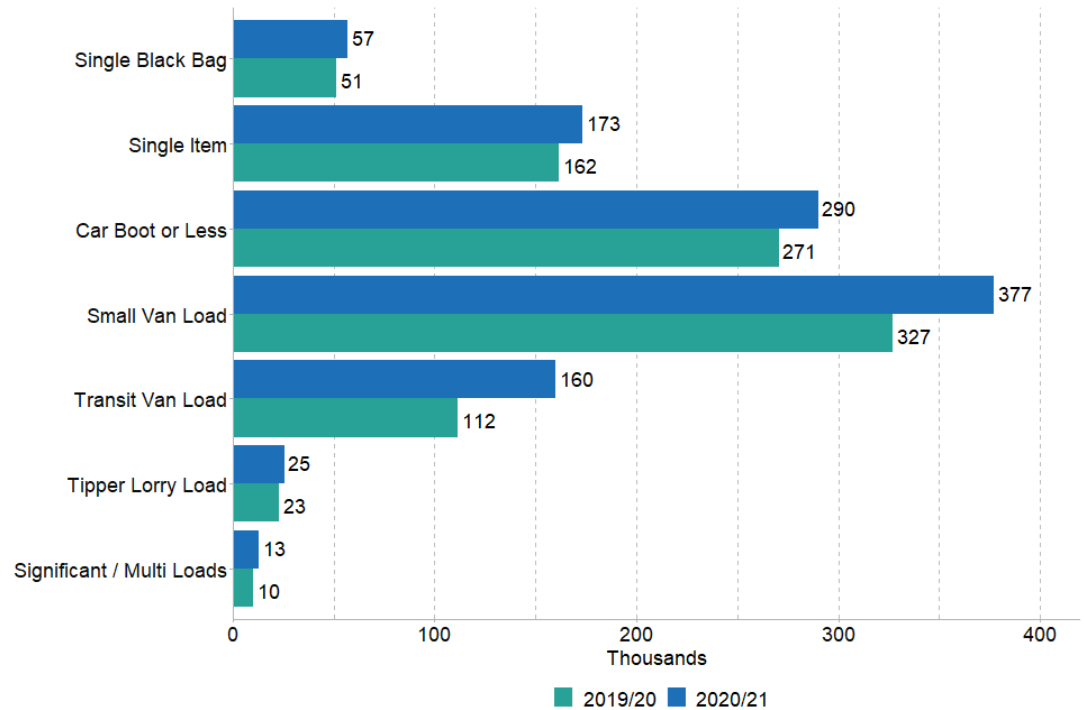
The number of white goods incidents in 2020/21 was 54,000, an increase of 13% from 2019/20 (47,000 incidents). White good incidents accounted for 5% of total incidents in 2020/21. Green waste accounted for 3% of total incidents in 2020/21. Tyre incidents accounted for around 1% of total incidents in 2020/21.

Incidents with construction/demolition/excavation material increased by 18%.

6. Fly-tipping incidents in England by size

Incidents recorded by size category relate to those investigated and cleared by the local authority. For a number of reasons, but primarily due to incidents on private land, which an authority may not clear, total incidents by size category may not match total incidents recorded by land type or waste type.

Figure 6: Fly-tipping incidents by size in England 2020/21, compared to 2019/20



[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

As in 2019/20, 'small van load' was the largest size category in 2020/21, with around a third of incidents (34% or 377,000 incidents) reported being this size, this is a 15% increase on 327,000 incidents in 2019/20.

The second-largest size category is equivalent to a 'car boot or less'. Fly-tipping incidents of this size increased by 7% from 271,000 incidents in 2019/20 to 290,000 incidents in 2020/21 and made up 26% of all incidents.

'Single items', such as furniture, mattresses etc. accounted for 16% of total incidents and have increased by 7%, from 162,000 incidents in 2019/20 to 173,000 in 2020/21.

In 2020/21 'Single black bag' size incidents accounted for 5% of total incidents and have increased by 11%, from 51,000 incidents in 2019/20 to 57,000 incidents in 2020/21.

In 2020/21 'Transit van Load' incidents accounted for 14% of total incidents and have increased by 43%, from 112,000 incidents in 2019/20 to 160,000 incidents in 2020/21.

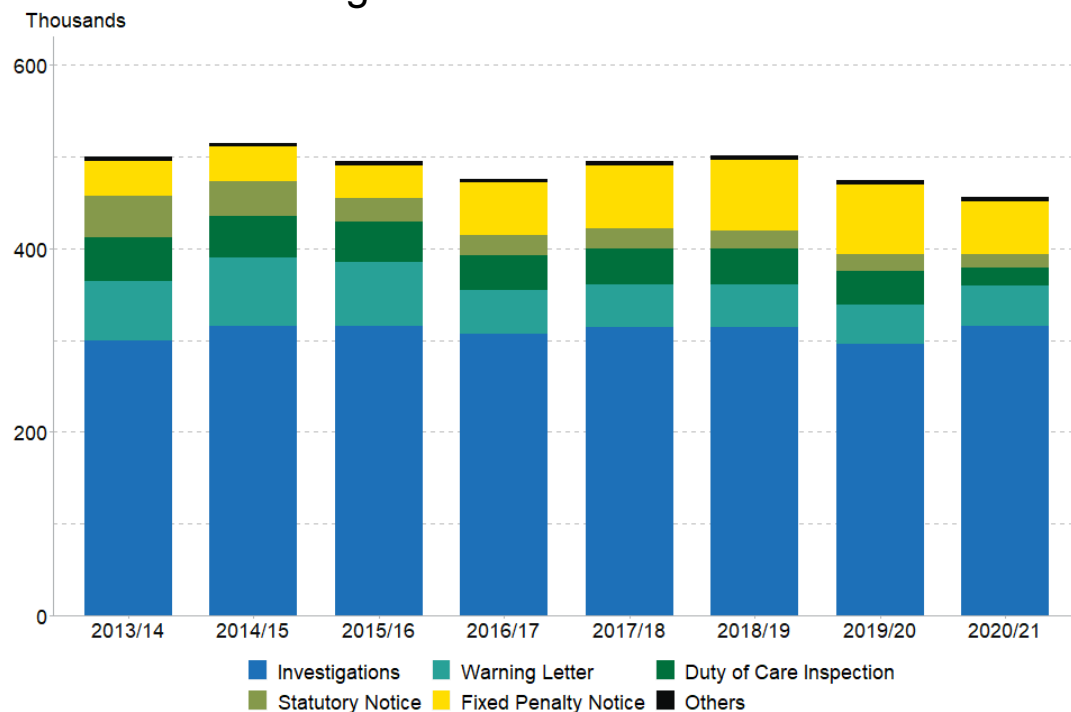
In 2020/21, 39,000 or 4% of total incidents were of 'tipper lorry load' size or larger, which is an increase of 16% from 33,000 in 2019/20. For these large fly-tipping incidents, the cost of clearance to local authorities in England in 2020/21 was £11.6 million, compared with £10.9 million in 2019/20.

As noted above, we no longer produce estimates of clearance costs for other size categories.

7. Fly-tipping enforcement and prosecution

As previously mentioned, from 2019/20 national totals for fly-tipping incidents are not comparable to earlier years due to methodological changes. However, data on enforcement and prosecutions actions are not affected so the full time series is presented in this section.

Figure 7: Fly-tipping enforcement actions in England, 2012/13 to 2020/21



‘Other’ is the sum of stop and search, vehicles seized, formal caution, prosecution and injunction

Equivalent figures for 2007/08 to 2012/13 can be seen in the accompanying [dataset](#).

[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

There were 456,000 enforcement actions carried out in England in 2020/21, a 4% decrease (of 18,000 actions) from 474,000 enforcement actions since 2019/20. It should be noted that multiple actions can sometimes be carried-out on one particular incident.

Total enforcement costs have not been estimated for 2020/21 as accurate costs are not available for the majority of enforcement categories.

Investigations have consistently been the most common action taken against fly-tipping incidents over time, accounting for 69% of all actions in 2020/21, with 316,000 investigations in total. This is an increase of 7% from 2019/20, where 296,000 investigations were carried out.

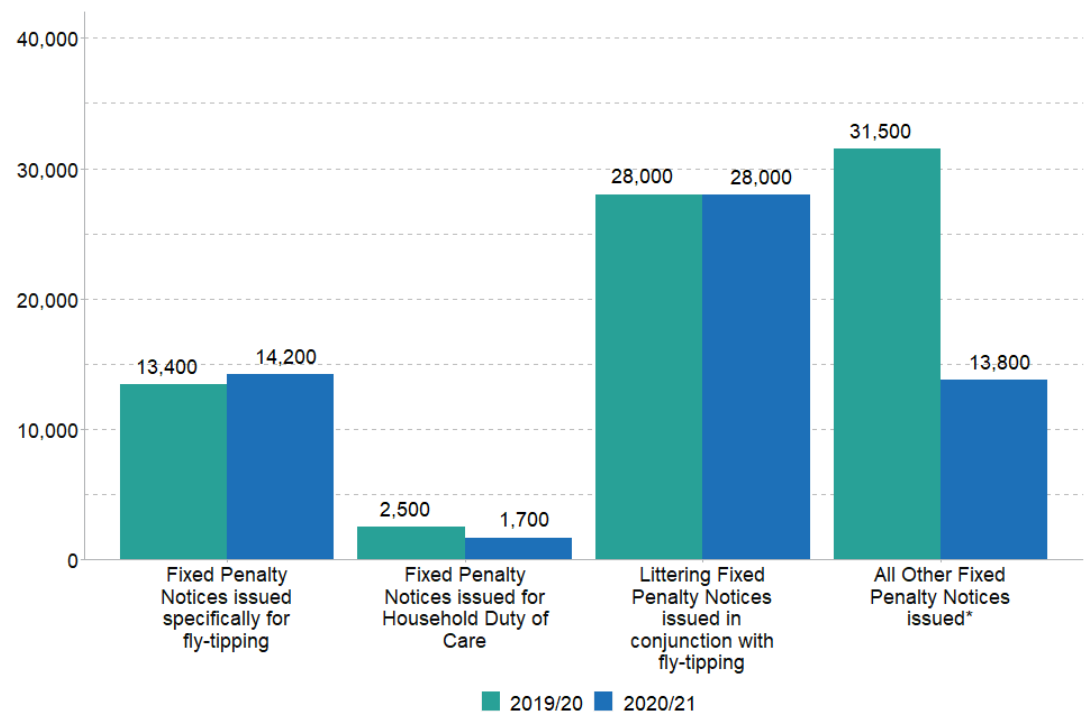
In May 2016 local authorities in England were given the power to issue fixed penalty notices for small scale fly-tipping. Prior to this date, local authorities

issued fly-tippers with fixed penalty notices in relation to littering, duty of care or anti-social behaviour. This fixed penalty notice gave local authorities a more specific fixed penalty notice type, an alternative to prosecutions and a more efficient and proportionate response to small scale fly-tipping. Local authorities are still using the previous fixed penalty notices as well as the new ones in appropriate circumstances.

Further enforcement powers were given to local authorities and the Environment Agency in January 2019, who can now issue fixed penalty notices for breaches of householder duty of care, where householders pass their waste to an unlicensed waste carrier.

Local authorities issued 57,600 fixed penalty notices in total during 2020/21 and these were the second most common enforcement action, accounting for 13% of total actions. The total number of fixed penalty notices has decreased by 24% from 75,400 in 2019/20.

Figure 8: Number of Fixed Penalty Notices by type in England, 2020/21, compared to 2019/20



* These are FPNs which have been served in relation to fly tipping and other waste offences that are not captured by the other three categories.

[View the data for this chart](#)

[Download the data for this chart](#)

For 2020/21, 14,200 (25%) of fixed penalty notices were issued specifically for small scale fly-tipping, 28,000 (49%) in relation to littering, 1,700 (3%) in relation to household duty of care and 13,800 (24%) in relation to other waste offences.

The number of prosecution actions has decreased by 52%, from 2,900 in 2019/20 to 1,400 in 2020/21. Costs of prosecution actions decreased, by 58% from £1,172,000 in 2019/20 to £489,000 in 2020/21.

There were 43,000 warning letters issued in 2020/21, similar to 2019/20. Warning letters accounted for 9% of total enforcement actions in 2020/21.

The number of duty of care inspections fell by 45% in 2020/21, from 36,000 inspections to 20,000 inspections. This accounted for 4% of total enforcement actions in 2020/21.

A total of 15,000 statutory notices were issued in 2020/21, accounting for 3% of total enforcement actions. This was a decrease of 20% from the 19,000 statutory notices issued in 2019/20.

Table 1: Fly-tipping prosecution outcomes in England, 2012/13 to 2020/21

Year	Fines Issued	Absolute or Conditional Discharge	Other (successful outcomes)	Community Service	Custodial Sentences
2012/13	1,839	165	106	16	1
2013/14	1,685	183	56	19	1
2014/15	1,492	128	95	35	2
2015/16	1,838	136	67	32	1
2016/17	1,318	93	81	26	2

2017/18	1,938	66	112	45	2
2018/19	2,056	80	108	40	2
2019/20	2,672	58	95	44	4
2020/21	1,313	33	36	15	.

Other successful: Any other positive results awarded by the court this period.

Successful prosecutions: Presented as a percentage of total prosecutions.

Equivalent figures for 2007/08 to 2011/12 can be seen in the accompanying [dataset](#).

[View the data for this table](#)

[Download the data for this table](#)

The success rates for prosecution actions against fly-tipping are consistently very high over time. Over 99% of prosecutions resulted in conviction in 2020/21.

The majority of prosecution outcomes are fines, which were issued for 92% of the prosecutions taken against fly-tipping incidents in 2020/21. The number of fines issued decreased by 51%, from 2,672 in 2019/20 to 1,313 in 2020/21, with the value of total fines decreasing to £440,000 (a decrease of 62% on the £1,170,000 total value of fines in 2019/20).

The number of community service outcomes decreased 66% from 44 in 2019/20 to 15 in 2020/21.

8. What you need to know about this release

8.1 Contact details

Responsible statisticians: Katherine Merrett and Adele Storr

Email: WasteStatistics@Defra.gov.uk

Media enquiries: 0330 041 6560 (Defra Press Office)

8.2 Official Statistics

This is an Official Statistics publication. These statistics have been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, which sets out eight principles including meeting user needs, impartiality and objectivity, integrity, sound methods and assured quality, frankness and accessibility. For more information, please see the [Official Statistics Code of Practice](#).

9. About these statistics

Fly-tipping is the illegal deposit of waste on land, contrary to Section 33(1) (a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Local authorities and the Environment Agency both have a responsibility in respect of illegally deposited waste. This includes local authorities and the Environment Agency collecting and reporting data on fly-tipping in their area. This statistical notice covers data reported by local authorities in England.

9.1 User Statement

Data on fly-tipping is collected to inform policy making and to provide local authorities with a management tool that enables a problem solving approach to be taken. It records the number of fly-tipping incidents, the type

of material tipped, location and size, together with enforcement action taken. The data are used by local and central government, researchers and the public.

9.2 Context

Fly-tipping is a crime, a significant blight on local environments; a source of pollution; a potential danger to public health; a hazard to wildlife, and a nuisance. It also undermines legitimate waste businesses where unscrupulous operators undercut those operating within the law.

Local authorities and the Environment Agency both have a responsibility in respect of illegally deposited waste with certain obligations set out in the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Local authorities have a duty to clear fly-tipped material from relevant land in their areas and consequently they deal with the vast majority of fly-tipping on public land, investigating these and carrying out a range of enforcement actions. The Environment Agency is responsible for dealing with large-scale, serious and organised illegal dumping incidents which pose an immediate threat to human health or the environment. Responsibility for dealing with fly-tipping on private land rests with private landowners and is not subject to mandatory data reporting.

Incidents involving the Environment Agency or cleared by private landowners are not included in this notice. Details of the 151 incidents of large-scale, illegal dumping dealt with by the Environment Agency in 2020/21 are published separately. Please see the [dataset](#) published by the Environment Agency.

9.3 Methodology

These statistics are based on the returns made to the Fly-tipping Module in the [WasteDataFlow](#) database by local authorities in England from April 2019 to March 2020. The Fly-tipping Module is the national system used since 2015 to record the incidents and cost of clearing and enforcing against illegally deposited waste by local authorities and the Environment

Agency. [Detailed guidance](#) is available on the use of WasteDataFlow. Private landowners are not required to report fly-tips on their land, although some choose to do so voluntarily.

It should be noted that the private land data included in this notice do not reflect the full scale of fly-tipping on private land, as most cases go unreported.

The reporting system has been modified to allow more detailed information capture on the individual types of fixed penalty notices issued by local authorities. This has included fixed penalty notices specifically for small scale fly-tipping which were introduced in May 2016 and more recently fixed penalty notices for breaches of householder duty of care which came into force in January 2019.

Local authorities gather their data from a number of sources and departments. Incidents are reported by the public through call centres or online, operatives on the ground collecting and recording, Enforcement Officers, contractors and management companies. Many authorities await verification from investigations before recording public reports as fly-tips.

Data are requested in respect of incidents cleared or investigated by local authorities and, separately, the enforcement actions taken against fly-tippers. These can often be collected and reported by separate teams. Therefore, data can be entered onto the system by one or more persons within an authority. This may lead to some discrepancies and a level of uncertainty. Data verification and quality assurance is carried out by WasteDataFlow personnel and Defra. This is done by a quarterly check of specific aspects of the data to identify significant anomalies which would be queried with authorities.

Until 2017/18, estimate costs for the majority of clearance and enforcement categories were calculated based on typical unit costs for dealing with the different types of incidents/actions. Costs were provided by a small selection of local authorities between 2003 and 2006 when the Flycapture database was being set up. These were used to generate standard unit costs for the clearance and enforcement categories, which were then multiplied up by the numbers of incidents and enforcement actions respectively, in order to generate total cost estimates. The standard unit costs used are detailed in the accompanying notes to the published

datasets.

In August 2015 Defra undertook an exercise to update the cost basis by surveying 100 local authorities that had previously indicated a willingness to participate. Unfortunately, both the quantity and quality of response data was insufficient to provide robust factors as replacements. During 2017, Defra carried out some preliminary investigations to source updated costs, but concluded that more targeted and detailed work is required to properly understand the complexities surrounding costs to local authorities. As the standard unit costs are now more than 10 years out of date, the decision has been taken to cease using these from the 2017/18 publication onwards. For the time being only costs for clearance categories 'tipper lorry load' and 'significant/multi loads', and enforcement categories 'prosecutions' and 'injunctions' (which are reported directly by local authorities) will continue to be published. Defra is currently considering the feasibility of updating the standard unit costs via research or alternative methodology, subject to resource and other priorities.

9.4 Detailed breakdowns

A breakdown of data for each local authority is available on the [Defra website](#). In assessing the figures local authorities should not be ranked or classified as 'good' or 'poor' performers based purely on numbers of fly-tips. Direct comparison between local authorities is not appropriate, as there can be some differences in approach where there is a level of discretion in using the guidance on reporting. The situation is complex and can be influenced by population density, housing stock, demographics, commuter routes, the rigour with which local authorities identify incidents or encourage the public to report incidents, training of street crews, and increased use of more sophisticated methods for capturing and reporting incidents. Those reporting higher incident numbers are often those being more pro-active and rigorous in identifying incidents. Large authorities may have large enforcement teams using modern, sophisticated methods (e.g. covert surveillance, SmartWater etc.) to catch professional fly-tippers. Trends over time for a particular local authority may be a fairer comparison and a time series of total incidents for each local authority is available for download. There can be relatively high variation between years and between local

authorities.

As part of enquiries made during the quality assurance process, several authorities reported that the increase in the number of incidents reported compared to previous years was a result of the introduction of new technologies; such as on-line reporting and electronic applications, as well as increased training for staff and a more pro-active approach to removing fly-tipping. These authorities have explained this as a factor in the increase in the number of incidents reported.

From 2019/20, incidents per 1,000 people for each local authority have been included in the published [dataset](#).

9.5 Reporting basis

Under Section 71(4) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 local authorities are required to report information on fly-tipping incidents and actions taken through WasteDataFlow. Details of all fly-tipping incidents, reports, and actions should be reported via WasteDataFlow, including customer reported and those reported by, and pro-actively cleared by staff and contractors.

We had been aware of a few local authorities who were not reporting all incidents or who had changed their basis of reporting.

For the 2019/20 reporting year, Defra undertook a check with all local authorities around the basis of reporting in order to improve transparency in the reported data. An additional question was added to WasteDataFlow to capture the reporting basis for each local authority. The question included was as follows:

The data entries in the Fly-tipping module is a record of fly-tipping offences under s33 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. We want you to record information for all relevant incidents and actions covering both public reported and those pro-actively cleared by your own and contractors crews. Please select the description that best describes the coverage of your reporting of Fly-tipping incidents and actions:

1. All incidents i.e. customer/public reported and those reported by, and pro-actively cleared by, your own and contractor crews.
2. Customer/public reported only.
3. Staff/contractor and pro-actively cleared only.

This confirmed that the majority (286; 90%) of all local authorities, in 2019/20, were reporting all incidents; 29 (9%) were providing figures based on customer reported fly-tips only, 1 was providing figures based just on those incidents reported by staff and 1 local authority had changed their basis of reporting during 2019/20.

In previous years, estimates were made for 'all incidents' for a small number of local authorities where it was known that the local authorities reported figures were not based on 'all incidents'. These estimated figures were included in the national incident totals but not in the local authority level dataset.

For 2019/20 onwards, for those local authorities that are not reporting 'all incidents', no estimates have been made for 'all incidents'. This was due to the number of local authorities concerned and lack of data to make reliable estimates for 'all incidents'. This means that the national totals for 2019/20 onwards are not comparable to national totals from earlier years. In order to have comparable data for 2019/20 and 2018/19 we have removed the previous adjustments made to the 2018/19 national figures. These adjustments were made to those few local authorities that were known not to be reporting all incidents, but where the data was available to make the adjustments.

For the revised 2018/19 and the 2019/20 national totals onwards, these only include estimates for non-response and missing data.

The questions on reporting basis have been retained in WasteDataFlow to enable Defra to continue to monitor the basis of reporting. In 2020/21, 279 (89%) of local authorities were reporting all incidents; 30 (10%) were providing figures based on customer reported fly-tips only, 3 were providing figures based just on those incidents reported by staff and 2 local authority had changed their basis of reporting during 2020/21.

We will continue to encourage local authorities to make all reasonable

efforts to report all incidents in future years.

Data on enforcement and prosecution actions is not affected by the methodological change and the time series is presented in this notice.

9.6 Non-response and estimation

In 2020/21, all 314 local authorities provided data on fly-tipping incidents and actions. In some earlier years this was not the case and estimates were made for missing returns.

For 2020/21, three of the 314 local authorities did not submit data on clearance costs for 'tipper lorry load' and/or 'significant/multi load' incidents for some or all quarters. These were estimated by Defra based on previous quarters' data where the figures were consistent or using average 2020/21 unit costs from the known returns or otherwise using an average of previous years' data for these LAs. These three local authorities were Bristol, Folkestone and Hythe and Isle of Wight.

Estimates for clearance, enforcement costs and non-response are included in the national totals but are not shown in the local-authority dataset.

Due to higher levels of estimation made from the 2015/16 data, some caution is needed in the interpretation of year-on-year changes.

9.7 Feedback

We welcome feedback on the data from all users including how and why the data is used. This helps us to understand the value of the statistics to external users. Please see our contact details section of this notice.

9.8 Revisions Policy

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Defra will provide information about any revisions made to published information in this statistics release and the associated datasets. Revisions could occur for various reasons, including when data from third parties is unavailable or revised data has been input to the Fly-tipping Module of WasteDataFlow.

Prior to the release of this publication, during quality assurance of the 2020/21 data a number of data errors were found in the 2019/20 data. Revisions have been made to 2019/20 incidents data for Redcar and Cleveland and actions data for Hounslow and Swale. The 2019/20 reporting basis has also been updated to 'all incidents' for the following local authorities: Basingstoke and Deane, Cannock Chase, Canterbury, Cotswold, Hastings, Mole Valley, Tamworth, Thanet and West Oxfordshire.

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PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Fly-tipping in Rotherham - Update	
Directorate: Regeneration and Environment	Service area: Regulation and Enforcement
Lead person: Richard Bramall	Contact number: 01709 823118
Is this a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? <i>(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)</i>		X
Could the proposal affect service users? <i>(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)</i>		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? <i>(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)</i>		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? <i>(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)</i>		X
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? <i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)</i>		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? <i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)</i>		X

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

The paper is an IPSC update paper on current work

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6**.

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4**.

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made.

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

(think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)

- **Key findings**

(think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)

- **Actions**

(think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/reduce negative impact)

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:

Date to complete your Equality Analysis:

Lead person for your Equality Analysis
(Include name and job title):

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	23/01/23
Report title and date	Fly-tipping in Rotherham - Update
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	No
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	23/01/23

User guidance:

- The first section of this form guides users through considering major areas where emissions are likely to occur. If emissions are impacted in a way not covered by these categories, please identify this at the bottom of the section
- The first section should be filled as such:
 - **Impact.** identify, in relation to each area, whether the decision of the proposal does the following: *reduces emissions, increases emissions, or has no impact on emissions*. If it is uncertain this section can be labelled *impact unknown*
 - If **no impact on emissions** is identified: no further detail is needed for this area, but can be added if relevant (e.g. if efforts have been made to mitigate emissions in this area.)
 - **Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions:** two sections deal respectively with emissions from the Council (including those of contractors), and emissions across Rotherham as a whole. In both sections please explain any factors that are likely to reduce or increase emissions. If **impact unknown** has been selected, then identify the area of uncertainty and outline known variables that may affect impacts.
 - In most cases there is no need to quantify the emission impact of an area after outlining the factors that may reduce or increase emissions. In some cases, however, this may be desirable if factors can be reduced to a small number of known variables (e.g. if an emission impact is attached to a known or estimated quantity of fuel consumed).
 - **Describe any measures to mitigate emission impact:** regardless of the emission impact, in many cases steps should be taken in order to reduce mitigate all emissions associated with each area as far as possible; these steps can be outlined here (For example: if a proposal is likely to increase emissions but practices or materials have been adopted in order to reduce this overall impact, this would be described here).
 - **Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out:** in this section outline any steps taken to monitor emission levels, or steps taken to monitor the factors that are expected to increase or reduce emission levels (for example, if waste or transport levels are being monitored this would be described here)
- A **summary paragraph** outlining the likely overall impacts of the proposal/decision on emissions should then be completed - this is not required if the proposal/decision has no impact across all areas.
- The supporting information section should be filled as followed:
 - Author/completing officer
 - **Research, data, or information** may refer to datasets, background documents, literature, consultations, or other data-gathering exercise. These should also be added to the **supporting documents** section of the cabinet report

-
- Carbon Impact Assessments are to be appended to the associated cabinet reports
 - Prior to publishing reports, Carbon Impact Assessments should be sent to climate@rotherham.gov.uk for feedback
 - Report authors may also use the above email address to direct any further queries or to access further support regarding completing the assessment

Will the decision/proposal impact...	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across Rotherham as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from transport?	None				
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None				
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None				
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None				

Identify any emission impacts associated with this decision that have not been covered by the above fields:

None

Please provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

The paper is an update on ongoing fly-tipping work to IPSC and consequently no carbon impact is anticipated

Supporting information:	
Completed by: (Name, title, and service area/directorate).	Lewis Coates, Service Manager Regulation and Enforcement, Regeneration and Environment Richard Bramall, Community Protection and Environmental Health Manager, Regulation and Enforcement, Regeneration and Environment
Please outline any research, data, or information used to complete this [form].	None
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	Not applicable
Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]	

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Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Places Select Commission – 07 February 2023

Report Title

Work Programme

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)Katherine Harclerode, Governance Advisor
01709 254532 or katherine.harclerode@rotherham.gov.uk**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

To provide an update on the Work Programme of the Improving Places Select Commission.

Recommendations

1. That the report and proposed schedule of work be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Work Programme – Improving Places Select Commission 2022/23

Background Papers

Minutes of Improving Places Select Commission meetings 2021/22

Minutes of Improving Lives Select Commission meetings 2021/22

Minutes of Overview and Scrutiny Management Board meetings 2021/22

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

None

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

IPSC – Work Programme 2022/23

1. Background

- 1.1 The remit of the Improving Places Select Commission (IPSC) is to undertake scrutiny activity in respect of all matters pertaining to the borough of Rotherham as a place. In broad terms, this remit relates to business and economic development, employment, emergency planning, environment, housing, climate change, leisure, culture and tourism, transport and highways, as well as regulatory services such as trading standards and environmental health. The breadth of functions and services that fall within the Commission's remit is significant.
- 1.2 The way in which the Commission discharges its scrutiny activity is a matter for itself, having regard to the provisions of the Constitution and any direction from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. The IPSC has chosen to scrutinise a range of issues through a combination of pre-decision scrutiny items, policy development, performance monitoring, information updates and follow up to previous scrutiny work.
- 1.3 The IPSC has eight scheduled meetings over the course of 2022/23, representing a maximum of 20 hours of scrutiny per year – assuming 2.5 hours per meeting. Members therefore must be selective in their choice of items for the work programme. The following key principles of effective scrutiny are considered in determining the work programme:
- Selection – There is a need to prioritise so that high priority issues are scrutinised given the limited number of scheduled meetings and time available. Members should consider what can realistically and properly be reviewed at each meeting, taking into account the time needed to scrutinise each item and what the session is intended to achieve.
 - Value-added – Items had to have the potential to 'add value' to the work of the council and its partners.
 - Ambition – the Programme does not shy away from scrutinising issues that are of greatest concern, whether or not they are the primary responsibility of the council. The Local Government Act 2000 gave local authorities the power to do anything to promote economic, social and environmental wellbeing of local communities. Subsequent Acts have conferred specific powers to scrutinise health services, crime and disorder issues and to hold partner organisations to account.
 - Flexibility – The Work Programme maintains a degree of flexibility as required to respond to unforeseen issues/items for consideration during the year and to accommodate any further work that falls within the remit of this Commission.
 - Timing – The Programme has been designed to ensure that the scrutiny activity is timely and that, where appropriate, its findings and recommendations inform wider corporate developments or policy development cycles at a time when they can have most impact. The Work Programme also helps safeguard against duplication of work undertaken elsewhere.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 Members are required to review their work programme at each meeting during the 2022/23 municipal year to give focus and structure to scrutiny activity to ensure that it effectively and efficiently supports and challenges the decision-making processes of the Council, and partner organisations, for the benefit of the people of the borough.
- 2.2 A proposed outline work programme for Improving Places Select Commission is appended to this report.

2.3 Selective Licensing Review

The Review of Selective Licensing concluded its follow-up with the South Yorkshire Police in December. The report of findings and recommendations is being compiled and is on the 21 March 2023 agenda for endorsement. The findings will be subject to current engagement activity with landlords and tenants of selective licensing areas. This activity is being undertaken by the service during February, with outcomes available for consideration by April 2023. It is understood that the results of the engagement work will inform the formal response of Cabinet to the recommendations of the review.

2.4 Nature Crisis Review

Following the agreement of the 25 May 2022 Council motion on Nature Crisis, this review was subsequently added to the IPSC work programme as of September 2022, scheduled for Spring 2023, having been referred by OSMB.

2.5 The aim of the review will be to explore how the Council can support improvements to ensure a more natural environment is enhanced. Angles of interest will be

- preserving and improving biodiversity throughout the Borough including animal, plant, and fungi species;
- assessing how air and water pollution may be affecting the natural environment;
- assessing the implications of climate change on biodiversity in the borough;
- determining steps that can be taken to help preserve and improve wildlife habitat and ecosystems.

2.6 Preliminary scoping for the review includes considerations of which Cabinet portfolio this work intersects. The review touches on aspects of transport and environment as well as social inclusion, jobs and the local economy, and public health. Therefore, consideration will be given to coordinate, and simplify where possible, the approach to information gathering and formulation of recommendations that involve multiple service areas.

2.7 The review will incorporate a strong element of consultation with partner and community organisations, such as the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Nature Recovery Rotherham, Yorkshire Water, etc. Stakeholders will be approached to comment and collaborate on innovative solutions.

2.8 The review builds on conversations around the impact of climate change in the Borough, following on from the Council's declaration of a climate emergency in 2019. Since then, additional scrutiny work by the Rotherham Youth Cabinet and IPSC has supported the Council Plan 2022-25 objectives for a cleaner, greener local environment. The Council Plan also includes a theme that people are safe, healthy and live well. It is acknowledged that access to the natural environment is a key resource for promoting wellbeing.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 Members are recommended to discuss potential areas of scrutiny work to be added to the work programme.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 The work programme is subject to consultation with the Chair and Members of the IPSC. Regular discussions take place with Cabinet Members and officers in respect of the content and timeliness of items set out on the work programme.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 The decision to develop a work programme is a matter reserved to the Commission and will be effective immediately after consideration of this report.

5.2 The Statutory Scrutiny Officer (Head of Democratic Services) is accountable for the implementation of any decision in respect of the Commission's work programme. The Governance Advisor supporting the Commission is responsible on a day-to-day basis for the Commission's work programme. Members are recommended to delegate authority to the Governance Advisor to make amendments to the programme between meetings.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications arising from this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

7.2 The authority of the Select Commission to determine its work programme is detailed within the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules and Responsibility for Functions parts of the Constitution. The proposal to review the work programme is consistent with those provisions.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are no implications for children and young people or vulnerable adults arising from this report.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Whilst there are no specific equalities implications arising from this report, equalities and diversity are key considerations when developing and reviewing scrutiny work programmes. One of the key principles of scrutiny is to provide a voice for communities, and the work programme for this Commission has been prepared following feedback from Members representing those communities.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no implications for CO2 emissions or climate change directly arising from this report. Members will have regard to the Climate Emergency when selecting potential items for scrutiny and in developing recommendations.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 The membership of the Commission includes co-opted members from RotherFed who contribute to the development and review of the work programme. Where other matters are being considered for inclusion on the work programme, relevant partners or external organisations are consulted on the proposed activity and its timeliness.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There are no risks directly arising from this report.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Emma Hill, Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer

*Report Author: Katherine Harclerode, Governance Advisor
01709 254532 or katherine.harclerode@rotherham.gov.uk*

This report is published on the Council's [website](#).

Meeting Date	Items for Scrutiny	Scope	Recommendations
7 June 2022	Draft Enviro-Crime Plan	Members to feed into the three-part early draft plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted and the next update, including information in respect of performance measurement, clean-up and removal cost breakdowns, graffiti removal response times and a summary of work in schools, be submitted 12 months from implementation. 2. That consideration be given to expanding the work with private landlords and provision of support to communities where there may be an eyesore or public health concern on private or common land. 3. That the service avail all appropriate channels to further promote and publicise services and schemes to help residents dispose of waste responsibly and affordably. 4. That the service continue to engage elected members and community groups to maximise the local knowledge available to the service to inform deployment of assets, resources and schemes. 5. That forthcoming work on customer and digital interface include ward- or neighbourhood-level demonstrations where appropriate with a view to broadening access to information and support around responsible waste disposal. 6. That the service clarify the process for addressing contaminated recycling bins, and that any removal of such be coordinated with direct engagement with the resident, with a view to enhancing understanding of processes and resident responsibility.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. That the responsiveness of the graffiti removal teams be noted, and that the service provide Members with information in respect of graffiti removal. 8. That the service explore potential restorative justice approaches to dealing with waste offences.
	Initial Work Programme	Members to feed into the outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23 municipal year.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and initial schedule of work be noted. 2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement.
	Scrutiny Review Recommendations - Markets Engagement and Recovery	To consider and endorse the findings and recommendations from the site visit and review of markets engagement and recovery from the pandemic.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a review of the Council’s Rules and Regulations in respect of Markets be added to the IPSC work programme. 2. That the following recommendations from the review be endorsed for submission to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. That face-to-face consultations and clear communication be prioritised in all interactions with vendors and traders. b. That the service avail case studies and resources available in the libraries of NABMA and NMTF to inform the strategic refresh of Rotherham markets. c. That the service re-evaluate the support offer for new vendors, in consultation with NABMA and NMTF, with a view to encouraging more new vendors to continue trading beyond the six-month introductory period. d. In view of relevant expert advice in respect of sustaining a market during redevelopment works, that retaining traders through the redevelopment phase be considered top priority.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. That any re-design of markets spaces duly consider usability and aesthetics, availing market research to optimise spaces for inclusiveness and accessibility, and to make the offer especially attractive to students and young people. f. That consideration be given to how the redesign and operation of the market may best cater to the needs and interests of younger generations by strengthening links with RNN student populations and extending opportunities to new entrepreneurs through the Young Traders Scheme. g. Recognising that the Town Centre markets complex represents a unique and distinct microeconomy with its own accompanying needs and character, that consideration be given to the ongoing management resource required to sustain the markets economy successfully over the long term. h. That consideration be given to design and development choices that would help the markets to incorporate cashless, up-to-date approaches to commerce that their potential customers expect.
	<p>IPSC Representative to Health, Welfare, and Safety Panel</p>	<p>To receive nominations for a member of IPSC to be representative to the Health, Welfare, and Safety Board.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Cllr McNeely be selected as representative to the Health, Welfare, and Safety Panel
<p>19 July</p>	<p>Tenant Scrutiny Review - Housing Repairs and Maintenance</p>	<p>To receive a report on the most recent tenant scrutiny panel review and the service's plan of action in response.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and action plan be noted. 2. That the outcome of the forthcoming "You Said, We Did" publications be circulated to Members with a view to sharing widely the learning as evidence of the impact of tenant engagement.

	Aids and Adaptations Update	To receive an update report on the progress of the aids and adaptations service in response to 2021 recommendations.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the progress report be noted. 2. That the forthcoming leaflet be circulated to Members upon completion. 3. That the refreshed Housing Policy be considered for scrutiny in early autumn 2023, or at an appropriate time to allow for the new policy to be embedded. 4. That, pending assurances around prioritisation, the next update on Aids and Adaptations be received in early autumn 2023.
	Revised Work Programme	To consider and endorse a revised outline schedule of scrutiny work for the 2022/23 municipal year	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and revised schedule of work be noted. 2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement.
20 Sept 2022	Neighbourhood Working Annual Report	To consider an annual update on delivery of the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy and neighbourhood working model.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the parish council liaison continue to encourage wider participation in ward meetings from parish councils. 2. That the numbers related to Community Infrastructure Levy money availability be provided to Members. 3. That the monthly newsletters continue to be utilised as an engagement tool. 4. That the service continue to work with SYP to ensure alignment of data to ward boundaries. 5. That the support of Members for the continued devolution of budgets to channel funds based on

			indices of multiple deprivation be noted; and that support for the service to continue looking for ways to address deprivation wherever possible be noted.
	Draft Tenant Engagement Framework	To consider and feed into a draft tenant engagement framework.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the draft framework be noted. 2. That the feedback provided by Members on the draft framework be noted. 3. That an update on the implementation of the framework be received at an appropriate time.
	Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy Update	To consider in retrospect progress made regarding Homelessness prevention and delivery of the Rough Sleeper Strategy, with a view to carrying applicable learning forward in the next iteration of the strategy.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As the next iteration of the strategy is in development, that early intervention activity to prevent homelessness be prioritised to receive feedback from Members, either in a seminar or scrutiny format. 2. That consideration be given to an earlier strategy revision date. 3. That an update be received on the revised strategy at an appropriate time.
	Work Programme	To consider and endorse an outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and proposed schedule of work be noted. 2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement.
25 Oct 2022	Bereavement Services Annual Report	Deferred to 13 December 2022	

	Flood Alleviation Update	To consider an update report on progress in respect of flood defence works ongoing in the Borough.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted and the next update submitted in 12 months' time. 2. That the work in communities to promote flood resilience be endorsed, particularly emphasising the protection of homes and businesses at risk of flooding. 3. That the projects identified be implemented as moneys become available, and that consideration be given to how best to prioritise delivery amid rising costs. 4. That the publication of real-time data around gully clearance be prioritised for delivery.
	Work Programme	To consider and endorse an outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and proposed schedule of work be noted. 2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement. 3. That the Chair of OSMB be consulted regarding the inclusion of rent areas and the use of bailiffs in the upcoming scrutiny review regarding the Cost of Living Crisis.
Autumn 2022 Review	Selective Licensing	With a view to raising living standards within selective licensing areas, to review the Council's use of available powers, which include selective licensing, as well as enforcement activity and impact supported by data evidence and consultation with stakeholders.	

13 Dec 2022	Bereavement Services Annual Report	To consider an annual report in respect of delivery of the Bereavement Services Contract, including a response to recommendations.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That the feedback from Members be noted. 3. That an all-member session be convened to facilitate a further dialogue around improvements to Service delivery in the five-year plan by Dignity. 4. That Bereavement Services and Dignity work together to better demonstrate how equalities duties are adhered to in contract management and operational delivery.
	Town Centre Update	To receive an update report on delivery of regeneration interventions in Rotherham Town Centre	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the update be noted.
	Allotments Update	To receive an update report on the progress of the allotments self-management.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the progress of the transfer be noted. 2. That the comments of Members in respect of arising issues be noted.
	Council-owned Life-Saving Equipment	To receive a presentation regarding the status, location and guardianship plans regarding indoor and outdoor Council-owned defibrillators.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report and schedule be noted. 2. That an update be submitted in 12 months' time. 3. That clarification be provided in the next update in respect of defibrillator governance, including updated guardianship information, usage data, and maintenance procedures for defibrillators in the

			<p>borough, including those that have been in use, or that have been deployed but not used.</p> <p>4. That consideration be given to strategic placement of defibrillators throughout the borough, taking into account the volume of people nearby and the hours of public access to defibrillators that are housed indoors.</p>
	Work Programme	To consider and endorse an outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23.	<p>1. That the report and proposed schedule of work be noted.</p> <p>2. That authority be delegated to the Governance Advisor in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair to make changes to the schedule of work as appropriate between meetings, reporting any changes back to the next meeting for endorsement.</p>
Spring 2023 Review	Nature Emergency	Referred by OSMB, to consider the implications of climate change, pollution, and habitat loss on wildlife and biodiversity in the Borough.	
07 Feb 2023	Fly Tipping Update	To receive an annual update in respect of the Council's efforts against fly tipping and response to recommendations.	
	Work Programme	To consider and endorse an outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23 and discuss preliminary scope for the Nature Crisis Review.	

21 March 2023	Housing Strategy and Development Update	To consider an update in respect of the Housing Strategy and plans to deliver housing developments in the Borough.	
	Tenant Scrutiny Review - Communications	To consider the findings and recommendations of the Tenant Scrutiny Review Panel's examination of tenant communications.	
	Scrutiny Review Recommendations: Impact of Selective Licensing	To consider and endorse the findings and recommendations of Members in the outcome of the scrutiny review of Impact of Selective Licensing	
	Work Programme	To consider and endorse an outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23.	
09 May 2023	Tree Programme Update	To receive a 12-month update in respect of the tree programme and response to recommendations	
	Environment Bill 2021 - Update	To consider an update report on the evolving requirements associated with the Environment Bill 2021.	
	Work Programme	To consider and endorse an outline schedule of scrutiny work for 2022/23 and a provisional schedule of work for summer 2023.	

	Item for Scrutiny	Scope	Status
Forward Plan Items to be scheduled or deferred	Rent Arrears - Spotlight	To consider sensitively whether the current approach is considered best practice for Rotherham.	Picked up as part of OSMB review of Cost of Living Crisis, including a discussion of the use of bailiffs.
	Planning White Paper	To consider the implications of forthcoming legislation on the planning and development activities of the Council.	To be scheduled pending developments at National Government level.
	CCTV - Update	To consider the response to recommendations	Not scheduled.
	Housing Repairs and Maintenance Update	To consider progress made by the Housing Repairs and Maintenance Service in response to recommendations	To be scheduled.
	Active Travel Update	To consider a progress report on the implementation of the strategy and response to recommendations	Not scheduled.
	Antisocial Behaviour – Workshop	Members to feed into enforcement strategies in consultation format	To be scheduled 2023/24
	Markets - Update	Update following Cabinet response	To be scheduled in forward work programme 2023/24 in consultation with RiDo service and Asset Management.
	Update – Improved Road Safety and Cumwell Lane Update	Follow up referral from OSMB	To be scheduled December 2023.