

# **A Review of The Management of Fly Tipping within Carmarthenshire**



**A report from the Task and Finish Group –  
Place, Sustainable and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee**

## CONTENTS

	Page
<b>Chair's Foreword</b>	3
<b>Members of the Task and Finish Group</b>	4
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	5
<b>1.0 CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1 Purpose	6
1.2 Scope	6
<b>2.0 METHODOLOGY AND PROCESS</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1 Methodology	7
2.2 Process	8
<b>3.0 LEGISLATION AND POLICIES</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4.0 KEY FINDINGS</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1 Strategic Approach	10
4.2 Data Systems and Recording	12
4.3 Education, Prevention and Communication	13
4.4 Management Arrangements	14
4.5 Enforcement Approach	15
4.6 Key Stakeholders, Expert Advisers and Witnesses	18
<b>5.0 CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7.0 APPENDICES</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>8.0 GLOSSARY</b>	<b>22</b>

## CHAIR'S FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure in presenting the final report of the Task and Finish Group which was identified initially by the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee and following a deferment and the general election the newly named Place, Sustainability and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee commissioned a review into the Management of Fly-tipping in Carmarthenshire considering the negative impact it has on our communities and our environment.



The waste dumped by fly-tippers is unsightly and dangerous and attracts flies and vermin, creating the potential of spreading disease. The negative impact on our environment, wildlife, biodiversity, and people is vast, as a lot of waste materials are hazardous and not biodegradable. Also, fly-tipping undermines legitimate waste businesses where illegal operators undercut those in Carmarthenshire who operate within the law.

This review has provided this Task & Finish Group with the opportunity to consider issues and evidence in more detail through engaging with significant stakeholders. Of particular importance it has given the Group the chance to learn more about the legislation and policies that impact on the council such as safety, the environment, contractors, landowner's responsibilities, and financial implications.

Fly-tipping is a needless blight on our environment and on our communities. There are simple, safe, and compliant ways to manage domestic and trade waste. By engaging a recognised waste management company residents can be assured their waste will be handled responsibly. This is one of the key messages this report wants to put over to the residents of Carmarthenshire.

I would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who engaged with the group. Their time and commitment provided us with an invaluable insight into local issues regarding fly-tipping and what is currently being done and to what potentially can be done. I would also like to thank Cabinet Member, Cllr. Aled Vaughan-Owen, all the Council Officers and the Councillors who participated in this Task & Finish Group

**Councillor John James**  
**Chair of the Task and Finish Group and**  
**Chair of the Environmental and Public Protection and Scrutiny Committee**

## Members of the Task and Finish Group

Following a deferment of the review, the Place, Sustainability Committee, at its meeting on November 2022 considered a revised Planning and Scoping document on a Task and Finish Group's review of the Management of Fly-tipping within Carmarthenshire. The Committee unanimously accepted the document and officially commissioned a task and finish group to undertake a focussed review which commenced in December 2022 which comprised of the following cross-party membership:-

		
<p><b>Cllr. Sue Allen</b> Whitland Independent</p>	<p><b>Cllr. Arwel Davies</b> Cilycwm Plaid Cymru</p>	<p><b>Cllr. Shelly Godfrey-Coles</b> Burry Port Welsh Labour</p>
		
<p><b>Cllr. John James (Chair)</b> Burry Port Welsh Labour</p>	<p><b>Cllr. Neil Lewis</b> Abergwili Plaid Cymru</p>	<p><b>Cllr. Dorian Phillips</b> Llanboidy Plaid Cymru</p>

## **Acknowledgements:**

Members of the Task and Finish Group would like to extend their sincere thanks to all those who took part in the Review:

### **Internal expert advisors from the Public Protection and Environment Departments, Carmarthenshire County Council:**

- Jonathan Morgan (Head of Housing)
- Daniel John (Interim Head of Waste and Environmental Services)
- Sue Watts (Environmental Protection Manager)
- Robert Williams (Public health Lead)
- Steven Raymond (Environmental Enforcement Officer)
- Michael Roberts (Local Environment Quality Policy Officer)
- Jonathan Willis (Environmental Projects Manager)

Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Decarbonisation and Sustainability – Councillor Aled Vaughan-Owen

### **Partners:**

National Resources Wales (NRW)  
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service  
Dyfed-Powys Police  
Farmers Union Wales

### **Scrutiny Review Support:**

Janine Owen – Democratic Services Officer

## 1.0 CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

The Environment and Public Protection Committee, at its informal Forward Work Programme Development Session held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021, considered a topic suggestion from a Community Council who submitted that the Committee consider the issues in relation to fly-tipping in Carmarthenshire.

Committee Members recognised that fly-tipping was an increasing problem throughout Carmarthenshire and that the consequence had a detrimental effect on the environment and communities.

Following an informal agreement, the Committee, at its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 considered a Planning and Scoping document on a Task and Finish Group's review of the Management of Fly-tipping within Carmarthenshire. The Committee unanimously accepted the document and officially commissioned a task and finish group to undertake a focussed review which commenced in September 2021. However, following an update from the Director of Environment at the first meeting, the Group unanimously agreed to defer the review on fly-tipping to 2022, following the Election process. Subsequently, the Committee, at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 received and noted a report from the Task and Finish Group which outlined the reasons for the deferral.

A revised Planning and Scoping Document was endorsed on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and a politically balanced group of 6 members was formulated.

The Group, in accordance with the scoping and planning document carried out a focussed review by exploring the relevant policies, the current management process and considered how to improve upon them in order to help to reduce fly-tipping whilst using resources effectively.

### 1.1 PURPOSE

A Task and Finish Group review group was commissioned by Members of the Place, Sustainability and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee to review the management of fly-tipping within Carmarthenshire. Through research and information gathering, the group was tasked to explore the potential areas for improvement and identify recommendations for the Cabinet to consider.

### 1.2 SCOPE

The scope and aims of the review were formulated to consider and evaluate the current internal processes, operational issues and partnership arrangements of fly tipping on public and private land and explore improvements to help to reduce Fly Tipping, making sure we maximise the effectiveness of the resources available.

The subject for review aligns with the Council's Vision; 'Life is for living, let's start, live and age well in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment' contributing to the objectives connecting to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015.

The Group undertook a review to:

- Review the drivers of Fly-tipping in Carmarthenshire;
- Identify and review other areas of the UK where there have been successful changes to policies and procedures that will then have a positive impact on Fly Tipping;
- Investigate best practice from other local authorities across the country in relation to Fly Tipping collection and handling;
- Investigate best practice from other local authorities regarding Fly Tipping Education, Information Gathering, Surveillance, Enforcement and Prosecution techniques;
- Explore how the sharing of information between sections and other agencies is currently undertaken; and
- Review the current internal processes and operational management issues of fly tipping on public and private land in Carmarthenshire.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY AND PROCESS

### 2.1 METHODOLOGY

Through a series of meetings, Task and Finish Group members gathered information on the issues in relation to Fly-tipping on both private and public land. As part of the process and to make sure there were clear findings and recommendations the following areas were identified as areas of focus:

- The strategic approach;
- Current approach to data systems and recording;
- Approach to education and prevention;
- Management arrangements and joint working;
- Enforcement approach; and
- Communication and publicity.

The above discussions were supported by involvement of partner agencies and an assessment of the impact on the environment, landowners and communities.

The methodology applied incorporated various techniques which included a mixture of qualitative and quantitative methods, drawing upon data received from the Council's Environment and Communities departments and face to face discussions with key stakeholders.

The review was completed in six meetings between December 2022 and April 2023.

The research included:

- Desktop exercises – presentations by key officers
- Interviewing key stakeholders – Enforcement and Witnesses;
- Local knowledge / information obtained by the Task and Finish Group members;
- Data and evidence provided by Officers from the Environmental and Communities departments;
- Evidence provided by a presentation from the ‘Keep Britain Tidy’ campaign; and
- Financial information associated with the cost of dealing with fly tipping;

## 2.2 PROCESS

The Place, Sustainability and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022, formally received and endorsed the aims within the scoping and planning document for the review. A cross party Task and Finish group membership was commissioned to commence in December 2022 with a view undertake a focussed review due to be completed in 22/23 municipal year.

The timetable of the events leading to the production of this report are set out below:

Meeting Date		Plan
1	<b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Desktop Research - key officers presentation</li> <li>➤ Considering the above information, the group</li> </ul> <p>Reviewed and agreed the aims, project plan and overall approach</p>
2	<b>Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the current process of the management of fly-tipping, identify policy change/ in house improvements</li> <li>• Education, prevention and intervention strategies (promotion of behavioural change and positive reinforcement)</li> </ul>
3	<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	Question and answer session with key stakeholders
4	<b>Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed the information received from witnesses (7/2)</li> <li>• Reviewed the current Memorandum of Understanding between the Local Authority and partner Agencies</li> </ul>



Meeting Date		Plan
5	<b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b>	Discussion with the Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Decarbonisation and Sustainability  Group discussion on conclusions and possible recommendations
6	<b>Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023</b>	Agreed to defer the presentation of the report to 30 <sup>th</sup> June Place, Sustainability and Climate Change meeting to allow more time to finalise report.
7	<b>Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023</b>	Review the recommendations of the report.
8	<b>Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>	Discussed the contents of the Task and Finish Group report.
9	<b>Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b>	The Group costed the recommendations and finalised the report.
	<b>Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023</b>	Presentation of final report by the Task and Finish Group to the Place, Sustainability and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

### 3.0 LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

- Environmental Protection Act 1990;
- Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015;
- Fly tipping Protocol (Wales);
- Welsh Government Litter and Fly Tipping Plan;
- Corporate Strategy 2021-2023 (incorporating Well Being Objectives specifically for Carmarthenshire);
- Public Services Board Wellbeing Plan 2016-2021 (currently under review); and
- Code of Practice Litter and Refuse.
- General Enforcement Policy

#### **Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 and Carmarthenshire County Council Corporate Wellbeing Objectives**

The Task and Finish Group agreed that the issues and consequences of fly-tipping also aligns with the following specific well-being objectives.

- **Live Well**
  - **Wellbeing Objective 8**  
Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour & obesity)
  - **Wellbeing Objective 9**  
Supporting good connections with friends, family and safer communities
- **Healthy, Safe and Prosperous Environment**
  - **Wellbeing Objective 12**  
Looking after the environment now and for the future
  - **Wellbeing Objective 15**  
Building a Better Council and Making Better Use of Resources

## 4.0 KEY FINDINGS

The group considered information which has been summarised below in line with the key areas of focus that were identified during the review process.

Fly-tipping is the common term used to describe waste illegally deposited on land. The offence of fly-tipping and the additional offences of knowingly causing or knowingly permitting fly-tipping are set out in Section 33 (1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The waste can be solid or liquid and can vary on scale from the size of a bin bag of rubbish to large scale dumping of construction.

There is also an associated offence relating to the unlawful deposit of waste from a motor vehicle, whereby the person who controls or is in a position to control the vehicle shall be treated as knowingly causing the waste to be deposited.

Fly-tipping is a national issue, driven by a number of different influencing factors.

- Seasonally fly-tips will fluctuate in number and type, for example, the number of fly-tipping incidents containing garden waste increases during the summer.
- There is a direct correlation between the number of fly-tips and the state of the economy.
- Other influencing factors include differing socio-economic groups, transient populations and absent landlords.

### 4.1 Strategic Approach

#### 4.1.1 Current situation

A high volume of fly tipped waste incidents is blighting communities within Carmarthenshire. The waste poses a threat to the environment which spoils the enjoyment of towns and villages. It is one of the most common forms of anti-social behaviour, constituting a criminal offence.

Fly-tipping can be defined as:

- Black bags (bags of rubbish) – fly-tipped by residents & linked to presentation of waste:
- Commercial Waste fly-tipping:
- Fly-tipping by transient populations:
- General fly-tipping by residents (bulky waste); and
- Recycling bring sites and litter bin abuse.

As part of the corporate well-being objectives one focus was enabling communities and environment to be healthy, safe and prosperous (Prosperous Communities).

Carmarthenshire Council currently manage incidents of fly-tipping by way of the following streams of approach:-

- **Public Land**  
**Waste and Environmental Services**, Environment Department
- **Private Land**  
**Environmental Protection Section**, Communities Department
- **Illegal Waste Sites**  
**Minerals and Waste Planning Section**, Place and Infrastructure Department (construction and demolition waste)

#### 4.1.2 Findings

It was found that the Council's Cleansing Service was clearing reported fly-tipping within the target of four days on nearly all occasions; the problem was that incidents were happening again just as fast as they were being cleared. This evidenced a need to develop a strategic approach, which focused on preventing and reducing the volume of fly-tipping.

The drivers for fly-tipping incidents were identified as follows:-

- Criminal Element/financial benefit
- Lack of information/educating owners, occupiers, landlords etc
- Social Economic/areas of deprivation
- Local Authority Policies on disposal of waste following Welsh Government Policies and Targets
- COVID and access to services
- Access to services/infrastructure – Household Waste Recycling Centres / Bulky Waste Service
- Convenience

#### 4.1.3 Observations

At present there is no clear strategic approach to fly-tipping with the services being reactionary in their approach to clearance, enforcement and prevention.

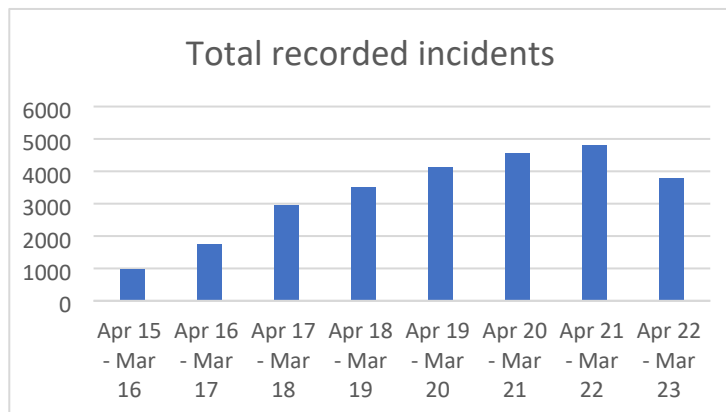
#### **Develop a clear strategy to inform our future thinking around fly tipping.**

A strategy would need to develop a vision and associated actions around several key themes: education; awareness raising; partnership working; and enforcement. Working collectively with residents, businesses, housing associations, landlords and our partners. With data underpinning our focus on hotspots and ensuring we educate as well as enforce.

## 4.2 Data Systems and Recording

### 4.2.1 Current situation

Fly-tipping incidents



The information below, highlights the Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) and court proceedings for the period 01/04/2021 to 31/03/22 and 01/04/2022 to 01/12/2022. Litter FPN's are issued for small scale illegal deposits of waste eg: cardboard box, black bag.

	Period 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022*	Period 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 20 <sup>th</sup> of March 2023
Litter	62	114
Fly Tipping	11	33

\*Period 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2022 coincides with lockdown restrictions easing.

#### Court proceedings 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to current date.

	Prosecuted	Pending Prosecutions
Litter	2	1
Fly tipping	12	5

At present the Council has multiple means of collating and recording fly-tipping data with the following systems being used (see section 7.0 for the details of each system):

- Flymapper
- TASK system
- APP system
- Firmstep
- Fix my street
- Internal reporting through Member enquiry process.

At present there is no consolidation/assessment of the data recorded across these multiple reporting/recording systems at local and national level. This leads to an inconsistent method of recording and results in a duplication of incidents being recorded in the nationally reported figures. However, the exact duplication figure is difficult to quantify.

#### 4.2.2 Findings

The current approved Welsh Government reporting system is Fly-mapper, however, this system does not have a function to act as a work management tool. The APP system logs service complaints of fly-tipping sending information to the relevant team thereby giving more accurate data. However, this system does not have the ability to track and identify trends or hot-spot locations. TASK is also used to record public and member requests through the Democratic Services reporting and website systems. With the multiple reporting and recording methods in use, it was found that a single fly-tipping event was being recorded and reported several times.

In addition, there was currently a lack of clarity of what constitutes 'fly tipping', with complaints of littering, missed refuse collections, accumulation of waste in gardens and bags (stickered) that had been out for collection over days. These were a sample of complaints logged as 'fly tipping' causing an over inflation of the recorded fly-tipping figures.

#### 4.2.3 Observations

A clear definition of Fly-tipping is required to provide clarity of reporting and recording supported by a single recording system to avoid duplication and erroneous records. This would enable the Council to accurately report the levels of fly-tipping and develop a targeted strategic approach.

### 4.3 Education, Prevention and Communication

#### 4.3.1 Current situation

Council members endorsed a Local Environment Quality (LEQ) Management plan 2022-2026 which detailed aspects of education and prevention in relation to fly-tipping.

Carmarthenshire County Council is also heavily involved in Caru Cymru which is a collaboration project between 24 partners that aims to tackle Local Environmental Quality (LEQ) issues across Wales. This project engages people and communities in developing solutions to improve the environment for people and wildlife alike, bringing together LEQ expertise, undertaking research, targeted behaviour changes campaigns, and aiming to prevent litter at source and support community clean ups.

#### 4.3.2 Findings

Although work had been delivered on Local Environmental Quality which encompassed in-part Fly-tipping, given the scale of the issue within Carmarthenshire, a greater emphasis on fly-tipping was needed with the development of a stand-alone education and prevention approach aligning with the objectives of reduction and prevention.

Research revealed that neighbouring authorities had used the 'Nudge Theory' which had proved successful by effectively reminding people that they could be being watched and that fly tipping is a crime.

At present, there is not a stand-alone approach for fly-tipping for Communication, Publicity and Engagement as this is undertaken in through the LEQ channels.



### 4.3.3 Observations

Group Members were keen to ensure that opportunities were being missed in educating the public about harm and damage that fly-tipping does to the environment, whilst at the same time provide guidance and supportive information to victims of fly-tipping. Members were keen for the Council to enhance the following areas:

- Improved attendance at local shows
- Requests for attendance
- School education program
- Communication of enforcement activity and perpetrators

## 4.4 Management arrangements

### 4.4.1 Current situation

The Environmental Enforcement Team are responsible for Investigating Environmental crimes committed on “Public Land”. The team of officers have been afforded legislative powers to respond to such incidents as Fly Tipping. The team has no responsibility to clear and remove fly-tipping from public land and this duty is undertaken by the cleansing service. The Enforcement Team when at full strength, consists of one line manager and eight Environmental Enforcement Officers. The County is divided into four areas, with two Officers operating within each area.

The Public Health Team in the Environmental Protection Section are responsible for investigating and enforcing fly tipping on private land. Fly-tipping is a non-statutory waste (where it is not a public health issue). The Team is made up of four officers, each with their own area.

The two teams engage with each other on issues and involve both other internal and external stakeholders and have strong relationships with key partners.

#### 4.4.2 Findings

At present, the two-team internal approach often leads to a duplication of efforts and also misunderstandings in terms of the scope and responsibility of each team. The public and Members desire a speedy resolution to fly-tipping and a separated approach could impact on the timeliness of in terms of managing fly-tipping incidents.

Although there are good working relationships with partner organisations this is often done on a reactionary basis and a result of an incident. A formalised strategic multi-agency group could enhance working arrangements and develop a greater understanding of fly-tipping causation, hot spots and perpetrators.

The work of the two departments raised concern in regard to the lack of knowledge of the work each department was undertaking. Whilst the approach to dealing with each reported incident was being managed, the level of duplication that was and could potentially occur was of concern. It was felt that the link between the departments could be better streamlined and strengthened by way of a one team approach. The current process to deal with incidents of fly-tipping on private land is located at Appendix A and public land at Appendix B.

#### 4.4.3 Observations

Members of the task and finish group whilst considering the management arrangements felt that there may be benefit in exploring the following to avoid Duplication of efforts and improve efficiency:

**One Team Approach:** A Single team responsible for public and private land fly-tipping.

**Timely clearance:** Enforcement officers require adequate resources/equipment to clear fly-tipping at the investigation stage.

### 4.5 Enforcement Approach

#### 4.5.1 Current situation

Currently, in Carmarthenshire, fly-tipping is being investigated where evidence is available, this includes evidence from local residents who may have witnessed the incident. The Council's Enforcement Team of 8 officers has a multi-faceted purpose including tackling environmental issues, including dog fouling, litter, abandoned vehicles, commercial waste management and prosecutions for fly-tipping cases where evidence is found. All Enforcement Officers obtain the skills, training and knowledge required to effectively tackle fly-tipping. Carmarthenshire Council actively encourages stakeholders to report fly-tipping incidents on the public highway and other council owned land online or telephone.

The team effectively deals with environmental crime, which they have been afforded a range of legislative powers enabling them to catch and deter those who illegally deposit waste. The principal piece of legislation widely used by the team is, "The Environmental Protection Act 1990". Sections contained within the Act allows the enforcement team to combat and target such instances as:

Description of Offence	Max FPN Amount	Max Penalty Upon Conviction
Persons who Illegally Deposit Waste (Fly Tipping)	£400	Unlimited Fine/Imprisonment
Persons Who Transport Waste and Fail To Produce Waste Documents	£300	Unlimited Fine
Householders Who Fail To Comply With Duty of Care Regs	£300	On Summary Conviction Unlimited Fine
Persons Who Deposit Litter	£125	£2500
Persons Who Fail To Comply With a Waste Receptacle Notice	£100	£1000

Additional powers are contained in The Control of Pollution (Amendment) Act 1989.

Description of Offence	Max FPN Amount	Max Penalty Upon Conviction
Persons Who Fail To Produce Authority To Transport Waste	£300	£5000

Contained within the Legislation, the enforcement team can issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) as a way for an offender to discharge any liability to conviction for the offence. As a guide to how officers determine the category and consequence for the offender, consideration is given to the following.

- Up to the size of one black bag – Litter FPN = £125
- Between one black bag and eight bags – Fly Tipping FPN = £400
- Over eight black bags = Prosecution

Any mitigating circumstances could require a different approach eg: The waste was classified to be hazardous waste.

In the event of a business being caught fly tipping, there is no provision to issue a fixed penalty notice, and the matter would be subjected to court proceedings.

Carmarthenshire County Council's Environmental Enforcement Team have a range of CCTV systems which are deployed to deter and catch those who illegally deposit waste or fly tip at locations commonly known as 'hot spots'. Hot spots can be classed as areas known to be subjected to high levels of fly tipping incidents.

The Enforcement Team regularly receive requests to deploy CCTV. Any CCTV deployment is not regarded as a panacea to a problem but is regarded as a 'useful tool' in reducing fly tipping incidents.



#### 4.5.2 Findings

The recycling facility at Carway Football Club was identified as a fly-tipping hotspot with regular incidents occurring. Carmarthenshire County Council in partnership with Carway Football Club deployed a CCTV system in order to capture the perpetrators in the act providing suitable evidence towards a potential prosecution.



CCTV was deployed at this location on Two separate Occasions – 15th March 2022 – 27th June 2022 and 4th July 2022 – 27th October 2022. The success of the CCTV is shown in the statistics:-

**Total FPN's Issued = 36.**

Paid = 29.

Straight Prosecution = 1

**Prosecutions.**

Court Hearings = 3 All Guilty.

Files submitted to Legal Awaiting Trial = 2

**Other result**

Formal Caution = 1

Failure to Prosecute = 1 (Outside Statute of Limitations).

**4.5.3 Observations**

The current approach to enforcement is either a verbal warning, a Fixed Penalty Notice or a court summons. Group Members are keen to develop an approach where a corrective action for first time offenders could be implemented.

It was clear that the use of CCTV at Carway evidenced the benefits of such an approach the it was acknowledged that an increased CCTV activity in a coordinated way could be of benefit in reducing further fly-tipping in known areas.

**4.6 Key Stakeholders, Expert Advisers and Witnesses**

Whilst managing fly-tipping involves working with a range of external stakeholders the group at its meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 invited the following stakeholders to the meeting in order to gain a better understanding of how fly-tipping is managed outside of the Authority and to gauge the level of integration and effectiveness of the current approach:-

- Chairman, Carway Football Club;
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service;
- Dyfed Powys Police;
- Natural Resource Wales.

A series of questions were asked which provided valuable information to inform this report. The discussions highlighted that stakeholders had a range of approaches to respond to fly-tipping and worked with others in order to prevent and educate about fly-tipping.

Members of the Task and Finish Group would like to thank stakeholders for their assistance and openness during the course of the investigation. Relevant information has helped in the formulation of the recommendations to Cabinet.

#### 4.6.1 Observations

Members recognised the value of working with partners in a co-ordinated approach and felt that it would be beneficial to make robust arrangements to work together in tackling the issue of fly-tipping.

### 5.0 CONCLUSIONS

After all the evidence was collated, the following conclusions were drawn:

Following the analysis of the research undertaken, together with the information gathered, Members of the Task and Finish Group arrived at the following conclusions:-

1. Fly-tipping whether it be on private or public land in Carmarthenshire has a significant impact on residents, the environment and council resources;
2. Based on the overall evidence, Members realised that improvements could be made to strengthen and improve the way the local authority managed fly-tipping in Carmarthenshire;
3. In finding that whilst the current approach to fly-tipping was reactionary and dictated by demand, with enforcement being exercised as necessary, Members strongly believed that investment in advisory/education/prevention would be a sustainable approach rather than continuing to invest in advancing enforcement;
4. Reporting issues were arising in the fact that there was an absence in a clear definition of fly tipping and a strategy;
5. The internal management of fly-tipping on public and private between the two departments managing fly-tipping on public and private land raised concern. It was felt that the link between the departments could be streamlined and strengthened by way of a one team approach;
6. The research in relation to the provision of CCTV at the Carway Football Club provided clear evidence of a marked improvement deterring fly-tipping in the area. It was felt that in identifying hotspots and working in partnership this could be replicated providing a solution for the area;
7. A decision/definition on types of waste to be cleared from private land (with consent of the landowner) including quantity limit (MoU with NRW =<20m3). This is to include aesthetics, cost, implications on consequences (wrong messages to perpetrators that waste can be dumped and will be cleared with little recourse in Carmarthenshire).

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Task and finish group have undertaken extensive research on the current internal management of fly-tipping in regard to both public and private land. In considering the findings of the research and drawing the conclusion propose that the Cabinet approve the following recommendations:

### Recommendation One

To further explore the potential of streamlining the current Council's management of fly-tipping by way of a 'one team' approach in order to strengthen the departmental management of fly-tipping between private and public land sectors.

#### Cost implication

This will be developed as part of the review into the options and considered within the analysis.

#### Implementation Term

Medium Term

### Recommendation Two

To improve on the current reporting and recording of fly-tipping to ensure convenience for residents and provide a robust and accurate collation of data.

#### Cost implication

This will be developed as part of the review into the options.

#### Implementation Term

Short Term

### Recommendation Three

To review and strengthen the current Education, Prevention and Communication Strategy to include:-

- i. the development of a Communications and Engagement Action Plan taking into account different types of fly-tipping across rural and urban settings;
- ii. Utilise social media to reach and engage with the public on a regular 'light touch' basis to ensure messages remain current.
- iii. a more prevalent presence at shows/fetes/Eisteddfod.

#### Associated cost implications

In the development of this strategy, in conjunction with the Marketing and Media Team a costed action plan will be developed which will fit within the current budget allocation for the services.

#### Implementation Term

Short Term

#### Recommendation Four

To develop a co-ordinated approach with partners including robust arrangements to work together in tackling the issue of fly-tipping.

##### Associated cost implications

CCC Staff Resource costs only

##### Implementation Term

Short Term

#### Recommendation Five

To increase the use of overt CCTV in identified hotspot areas.

##### Associated cost implications

Costs associated to the initial set up of CCTV  
Costs of ongoing resources which would be recovered through successful prosecutions.  
The aim is to provide a CCTV approach which is cost neutral.

##### Implementation Term

Medium/Long Term

#### Recommendation Six

To develop a Fly-tipping strategy which clearly sets out the Councils approach to flytipping.

To include:

- i. a criteria of corrective actions for first time fly-tipping offenders – Enforcement officer’s discretion on a case-by-case basis
- ii. the clearance of fly-tipping incidents during the investigation phase

##### Associated cost implications

CCC Staff Resource costs only

##### Implementation Term

Medium Term

#### Recommendation Seven

To introduce a regular joint crime prevention / enforcement forum with Councillors, Officers, partners and neighbouring local authorities (sharing best practice)

##### Associated cost implications

CCC Staff Resource costs only

##### Implementation Term

Medium Term

In order to monitor the progress of the recommendations, an action plan will be devised and managed through the in house developed Performance Information Monitoring System. A progress report will be monitored by the Place, Sustainability and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee.

The outcomes of the recommendations will also be reported to the Cabinet and Council within the Corporate Strategy Performance Monitoring Report.

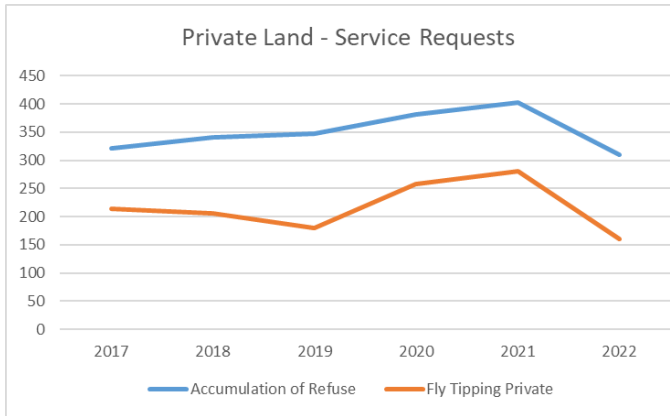
## 7.0 APPENDICES

Appendix A	Data
Appendix B	Process of the management of fly-tipping – Private Land
Appendix C	Process of the management fly-tipping – Public Land
Appendix D	Environment Agency – Flytipping Protocol Flowchart (Wales)

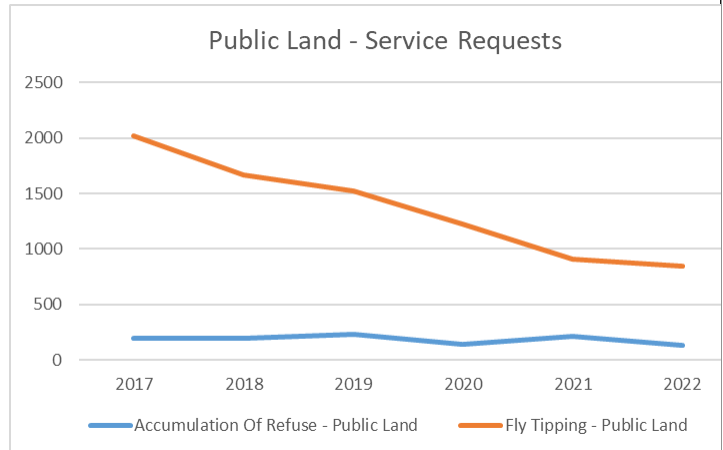
## 8.0 GLOSSARY

- Flymapper:**  
FlyMapper is a web-based tool for the field recording of fly-tipping incidents. FlyMapper has two main components - a mobile application to record the location of incidents along with a photo, and a website where data can be analysed in more detail. FlyMapper has been developed as a practitioners tool for the recording and management of substantiated fly-tipping incidents.
- TASK system:**  
Total repairs is a Job and financial management system which allows us to record and manage all activities within jobs received to include scheduling works/planned works/allocation and spend against each individual or group activity. Data is able to be analysed to provide up to date and historical information, monitor and improve service performance.
- APP system:**  
Civica APP Management system is a software solution which allows regulatory services with Carmarthenshire to deliver responsive services, with case management at its core, all regulatory services tasks is managed by one platform, the system reduces the level of administration, boost productivity and in turn improves service quality, automated process to improve efficiency, manages the enquiries received for regulatory services within Carmarthenshire County Council.
- Firmstep:**  
Firmstep is our CRM system used within the contact centre setting which manages interactions with customers and interfaces with total repairs to reduce administration in providing information in relation to service requests allocated to each department.
- Fix my street:**  
FixMyStreet is a map-based website and app by mySociety that helps people in the United Kingdom inform their local authority of problems needing their attention, such as graffiti, dog fouling, potholes or broken streetlights, etc. Reports submitted to FixMyStreet are also published on the web site.
- CCTV –** Closed Circuit Television
- CRM –** Customer Records Management
- MoU –** Memorandum of Understanding
- NRW –** Natural Resource Wales
- FPN –** Fixed Penalty Notices

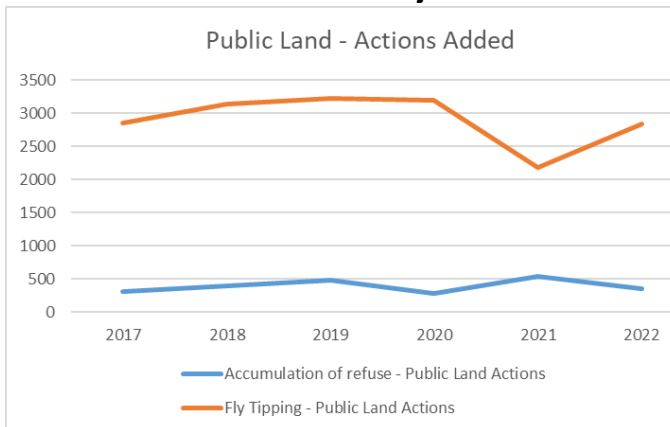
### Reported service requests over last 5 years (PP)



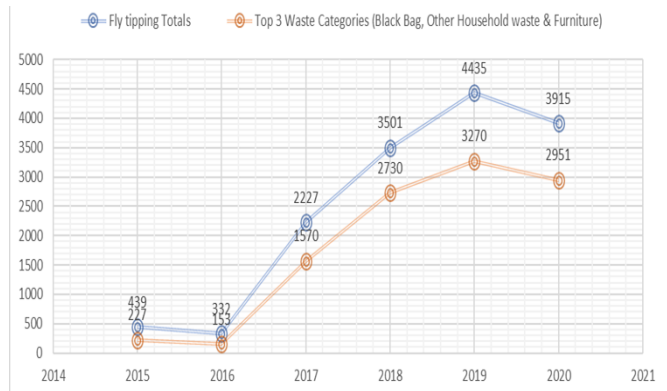
### Reported service requests over last 5 years (PP)



### Number of actions related to waste SR over last 5 years



### Fly mapper recordings

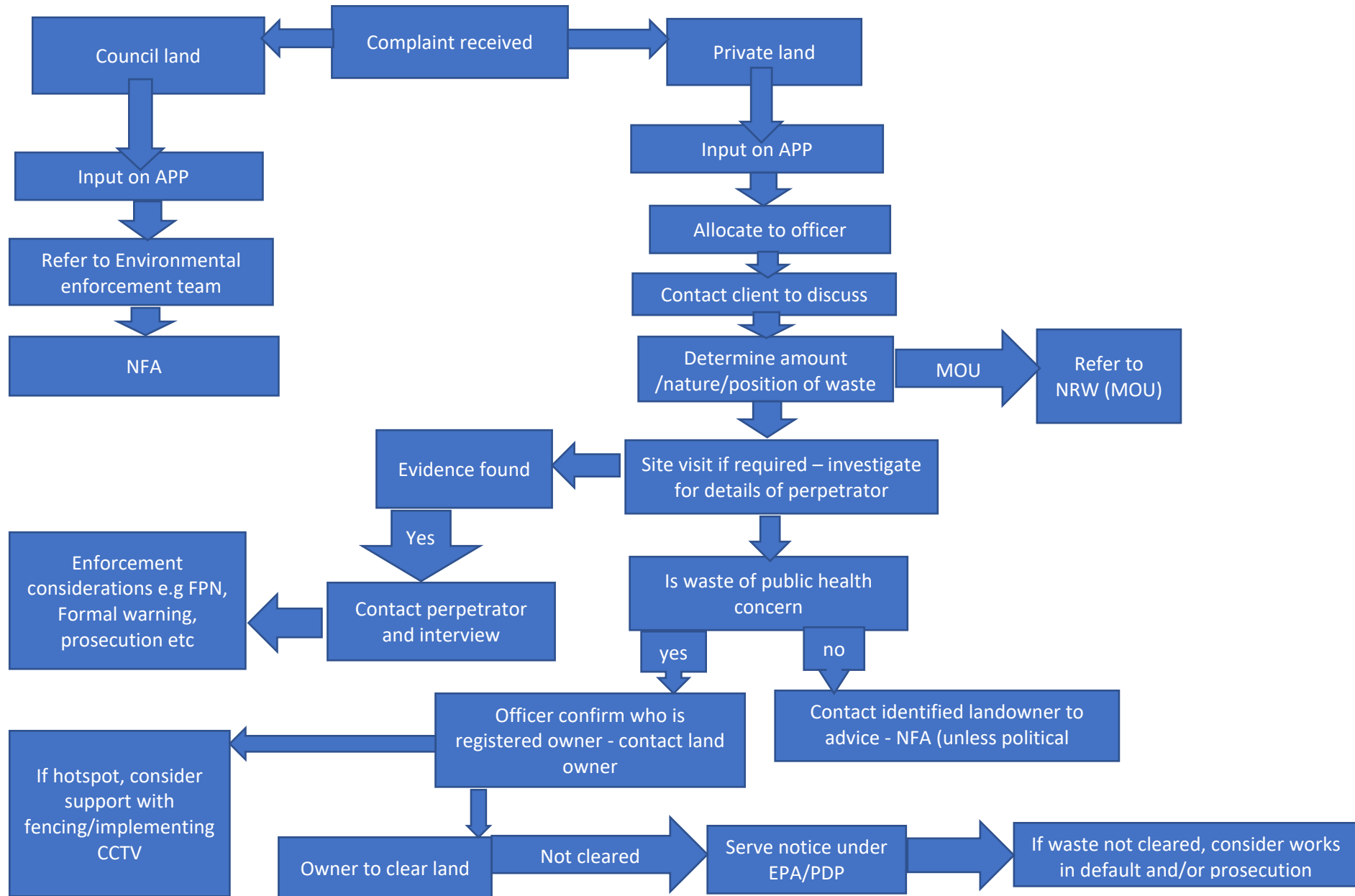


### Number of actions related to waste SR over last 5 years

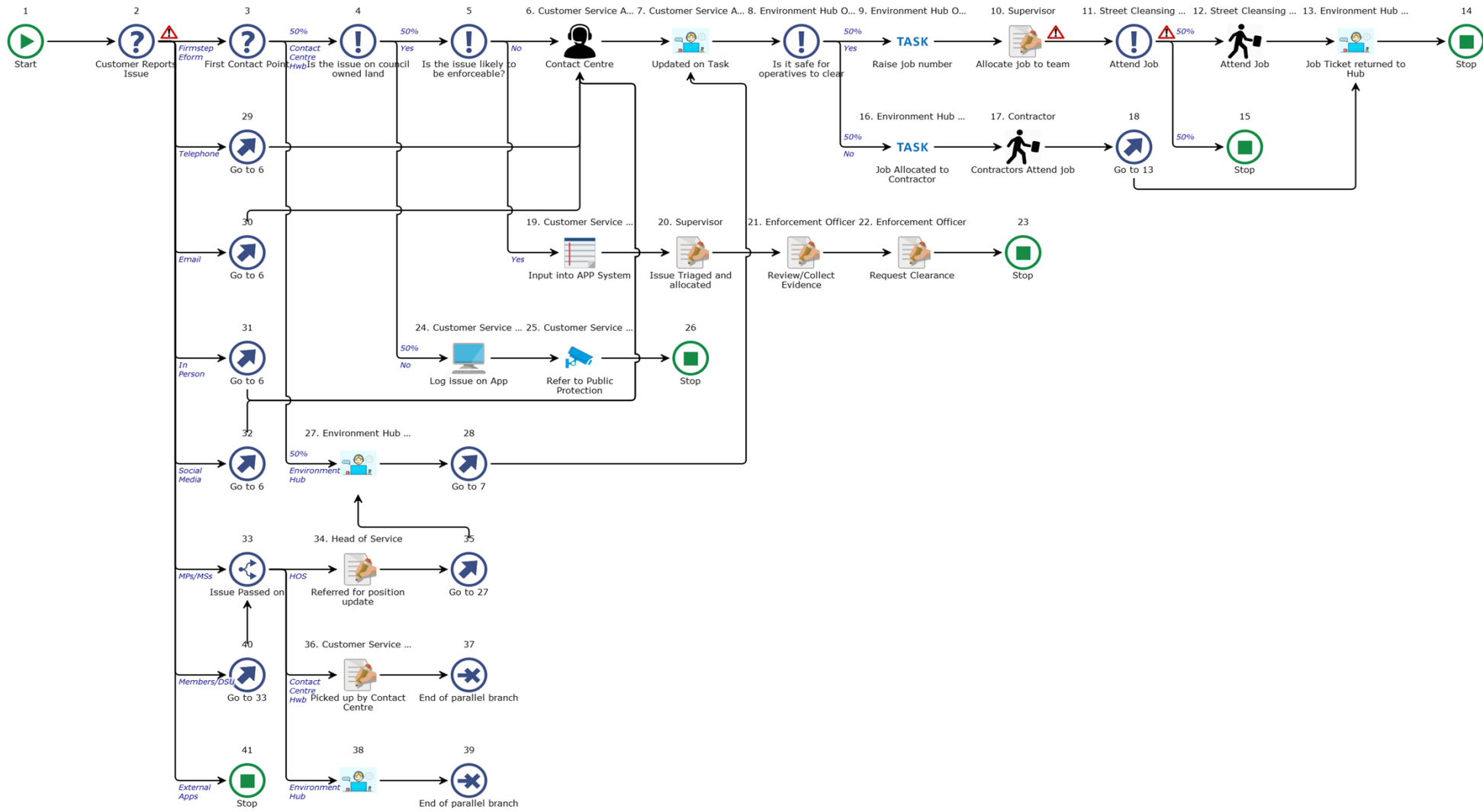
			2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Wales			36259	38614	35434	35076	33542
Wales	North Wales		5730	5975	5764	5622	5035
	North Wales	Isle of Anglesey	1831	2010	1567	1712	1305
Gwynedd		645	624	461	323	633	
Conwy		1078	1351	1540	1734	1162	
Denbighshire		1120	1004	1207	665	700	
Flintshire		898	800	774	1013	1067	
Wrexham		158	186	215	175	168	
Mid and South West Wales			10891	9214	8760	8836	8470
Mid and South West Wales	Powys	Powys	1019	1013	1436	1225	494
		Ceredigion	390	252	240	156	159
		Pembrokeshire	1199	1521	1323	1159	852
		<b>Carmarthenshire</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>2939</b>	<b>3516</b>	<b>4111</b>
		Swansea	6040	3646	1766	1450	1450
		Neath Port Talbot	1271	1050	1056	1330	1404
South East Wales			19638	23425	20910	20618	20037
South East Wales	Bridgend	Bridgend	1086	1283	1604	1937	1788
		Vale of Glamorgan	532	612	324	357	371
		Rhondda Cynon Taff	4023	4252	3349	3247	2946
		Merthyr Tydfil	1682	1970	2273	2909	1850
		Caerphilly	2359	1992	1773	1949	2214
		Blaenau Gwent	723	845	955	1167	1327
		Torfaen	905	794	696	836	866
		Monmouthshire	303	414	420	300	572
		Newport	1811	3270	3588	2697	2725
		Cardiff	6214	7993	5928	5219	5378



Process map - Fly tipping private land



## Process map - Fly tipping public land

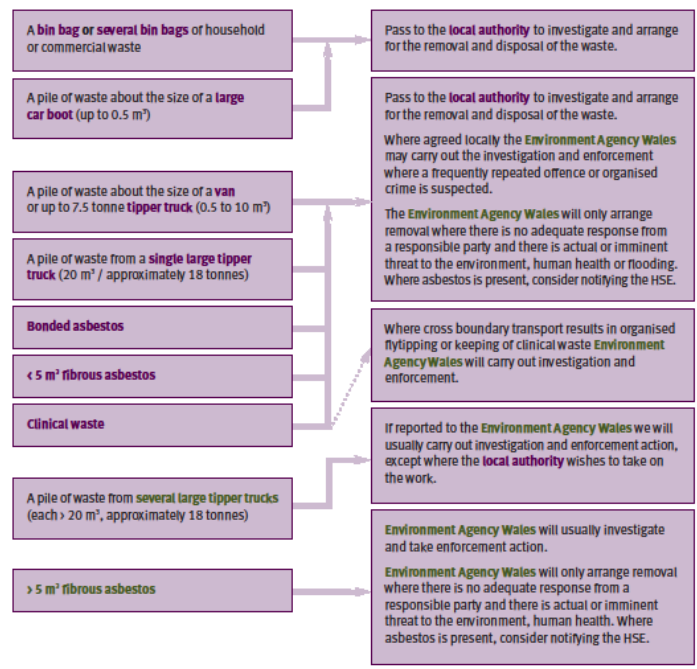




### Flytipping protocol flow chart (Wales)

This document does not replace the flytipping protocol but can be used to determine the appropriate response.

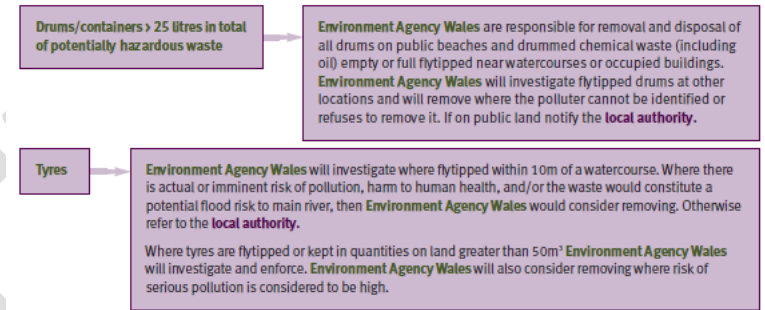
#### Reports of flytipping on public or private land



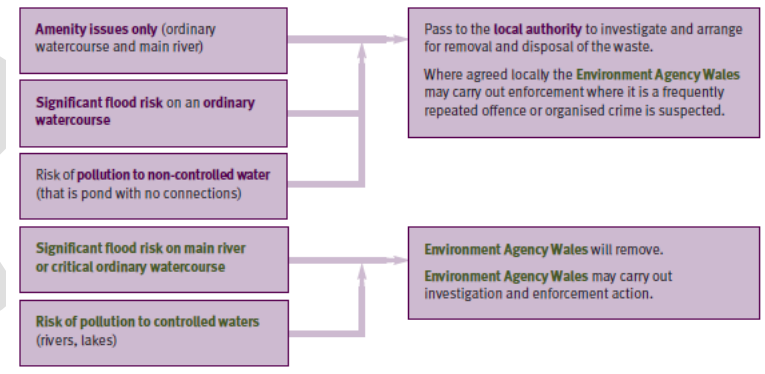
Author: EO Focus Team  
Document owner: Claire Winlow  
Doc no: 536\_06

Issue date: February 2008  
Review by: May 2009  
Version: 2

### Flytipping protocol flow chart (Wales)



#### Reports of flytipping and waste (including animal carcass) dumped in water or into tidal foreshore



#### Reports of illegal waste sites – landfills, transfer stations, treatment sites

