

SUBJECT:	Flytipping and Enforcement Update
REPORT OF:	Portfolio Holder for the Environment Cllr Luisa Sullivan
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Chris Marchant, Head of Environment
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WARD/S AFFECTED	No specific wards affected

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Members on the 2015/16 flytipping enforcement programme.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are asked to note the content of this report.

2. Executive Summary

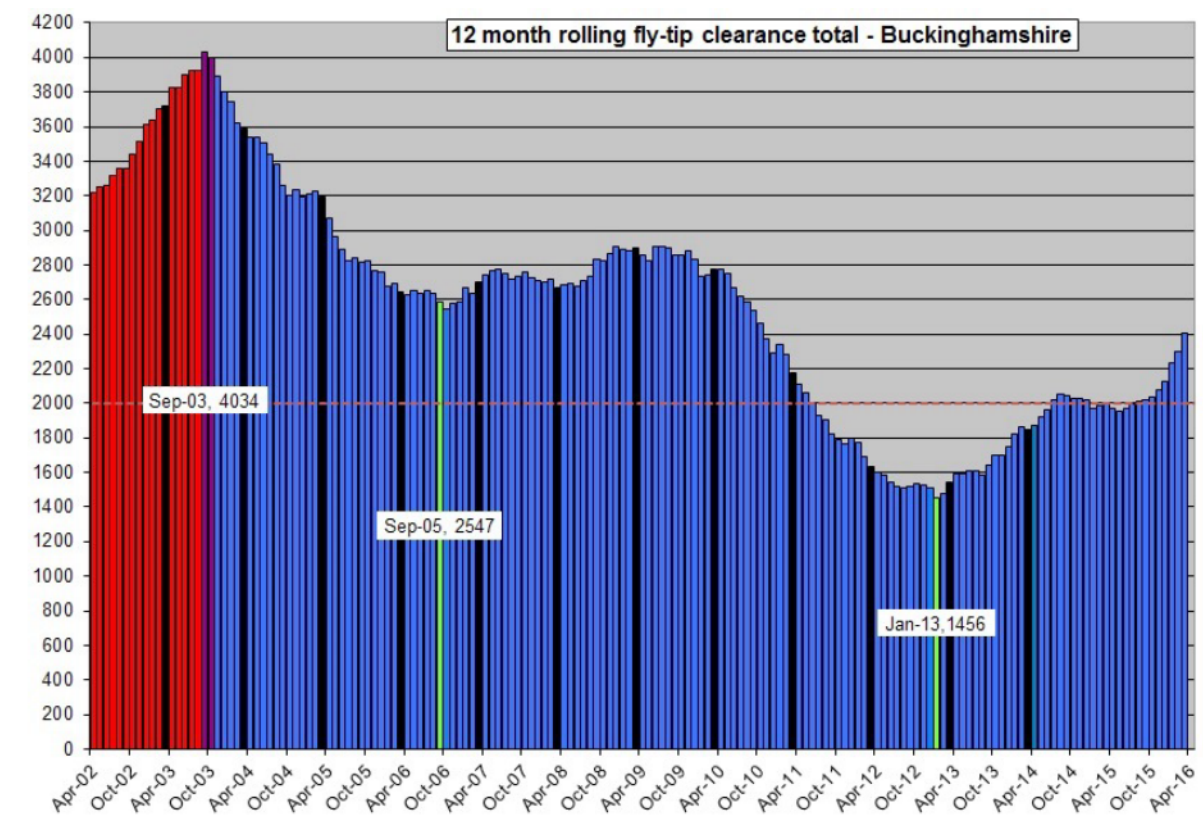
- 2.1 South Bucks Flytipping has historically been a bigger problem in the South Bucks District in comparison to other areas in Bucks due to our proximity and abundance of quiet rural areas that attract flytippers.
- 2.2 A County-wide anti-flytipping campaign called Illegal Dumping Costs was launched in November 2003. Authorities in Bucks had recorded an annual increase of 10% in flytipping over the 3-5 years prior to the campaign launch.
- 2.3 This is a campaign run in a partnership between all five authorities and coordinated by Officers funded by the Joint Waste Committee and based at County Hall. Direct enforcement within the campaign has been a notable example of successful partnership working within two-tier local government.
- 2.4 The campaign has run for well over 10 years now and was re-launched in 2009 with new publicity and roadshows, including on our refuse vehicles.
- 2.5 This report covers the flytipping and enforcement highlights of the financial year 2015 - 2016.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 No recommendations arise from this report.

4. Content of Report

- 4.1 In 2015-16 we saw a rise in fly-tipping clearances in Buckinghamshire as a whole and in our district as illustrated in the graph below:



4.2 The numbers were still at lower levels than we have seen in previous years, but there has clearly been an increase which we have sought to target with enforcement work in partnership with colleagues in the Bucks CC Enforcement Team.

In South Bucks, the number of flytips has followed the general County-wide pattern:

Year	No of tips
2009-10	842
2010-11	511
2011-12	341
2012-13	363
2013-14	359
2014-15	484
2015-16	549

4.3 In terms of enforcement response, 23 cases were submitted for offences relating to flytips in South Bucks in 2015-16 to BCC Legal Services. This compares with 17 in 2014-15 (a rise of around a third). If we exclude waste carrier cases it was 19 cases 2015-16 compared with 15 in 2014-15. More than one flytipper has been prosecuted per week by The Waste Partnership in the last 5 years.

- 4.4 Notwithstanding that the number of prosecutions relating to incidents occurring in our district are proportionately higher than elsewhere in relation to population size, the Enforcement team at Bucks CC have been carrying out significantly increased surveillance work against fly-tipping in recent months which has brought considerable success in SBDC. Indeed in the first 2 months of 2016/17 alone 9 cases have been submitted and this trend is predicted to continue. Every case is publicised and it is hoped that during the 2016/17 financial year the benefit of this will be apparent with a reduction in flytips.
- 4.5 At the time this report was submitted last year, a prolific tyre flytipper had been caught only a few weeks previously. In 2014-15 from Autumn to Spring between 30 and 50 dumping incidents involving the dumping of waste tyres were experienced especially in South Bucks. The collection and disposal of the waste tyres involved considerable technical difficulty and expense. A co-ordinated enforcement response including significant input from Thames Valley Police resulted in the arrest of a suspect in May 2015. That case is ongoing with a man and a woman facing charges relating to the tyre dumping.
- 4.5 However we have had some notable convictions and case submissions (which are still going through the legal process) in the past year
- A Slough man was imprisoned for persistent waste dumping following a joint investigation and prosecution with Slough Borough Council
<http://www.sloughexpress.co.uk/News/All-Areas/Slough/Slough-man-jailed-for-multiple-fly-tipping-offences-14072015.htm>
 - A man was ordered to pay around £5,000 over a duty of care failure in Littleworth Common which led to dumping on Hedgerley Lane
http://m.bucksfreepress.co.uk/news/14382100.Named_and_shamed_Man_fined_more_than_5_000_after_rubbish_found_dumped_in_lane
 - A man was ordered to pay nearly £2,500 for dumping waste which comprised around the contents of a single bin bag on Andrew Hill Lane
http://www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/beaconsfield/14404816.PICTURES_Flytipper_fined_2_500_for_leaving_one_bag_of_rubbish_at_roadside
 - A man and a company from London have been ordered to pay over £7,500 regarding the dumping of six commercial freezers on the approach to Burnham Beeches in August 2015. (Court order given on 18/05/16 and PR being prepared)
- 4.6 In response to the drastic reduction in flytips a few years ago, the decision was made in 2011 to reduce contract costs by operating our grab vehicle part-time. The average time taken to remove flytips in recent years is as follows:

Average time taken to remove fly tips					
13/14 Target	2	14/15 Target	2	15/16 Target	2
13/14 Result	2.25	14/15 Result	3.07	15/16 Result	2.2

This has been partly due to the increase in difficult to remove flytips but also attributable to the fact that we have been counting weekends within the number of days needed to remove flytips whereas this is not standard practice elsewhere. This is likely to be a historical decision because many years ago flytips were removed by contractors at the weekend on occasion, but going forward the Portfolio Holder has agreed that we will count working days only

from this financial year. This is combination with the reinstatement of proactive flytipping removal is likely to see us meet our target this year.

- 4.7 Members are asked to note that the dissolution of the Joint Waste Committee discussed elsewhere on this agenda is highly unlikely to have an impact on the consistently excellent service we receive from our colleagues in the Flytipping Enforcement Team at Bucks CC or the way we work in partnership with them on a daily basis.

Financially there are sufficient monies accrued in the JWC budget to fund the campaign for the coming 2 years (including the recruitment of an apprentice), which means we will not be required to contribute for the near future. Contributions once this money runs out are still to be formally agreed but are anticipated to be well within the annual amount we have contributed to the JWC to date and represent good value for money.

5. Consultation

Not Applicable

6. Options

No options are recommended in this report.

7. Corporate Implications

7.1 There are no financial issues identified at this time

7.2 There are no legal issues identified at this time

8. Links to Council Policy Objectives

This matter is related to the following local and national policy objectives:

- South Bucks Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Plan Key Theme - Sustainable Environment - protecting our heritage, protecting our future.
- Council priority to continue to improve the street scene and cleanliness of the district as a key public services coordinator
- The current Joint Waste Management Strategy for Bucks policies, including “securing a long-term strategy for the management of wastes for which the member authorities are collectively responsible”.
- The Council’s recycling/composting target of 60% by 2025 as part of the Joint Waste Management Strategy for Bucks. The national target of 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020. There are no longer District specific targets.

9. Next Step

The service will continue to be monitored.

Background	None
Papers:	