
Flytipping Update

Culture & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 03/11/2025

Lead director/officer: Sean Atterbury

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Brian Stafford
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- Report version number: 1.0

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides an update on flytipping in Leicester since the last report from January 2025.
- 1.2. Detailed findings and next steps are set out in the appended presentation.

2. Recommendation(s) to scrutiny:

2.1 Culture & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission are invited to:

- Note the contents and findings of the report.
- Comment on the report.

3. Detailed report

3.1 Through the Environment Protection Act 1990, local authorities as a 'duty body' have a statutory duty to keep both specified land clear of litter and refuse, and to keep clean public highways for which they are responsible. The duty is to keep both categories of land as clean, so far as is practicable. Within this framework the City Council has two service areas that ensuring the Council's duty is met, Cleansing Services, and City Wardens, these services having direct responsibility for managing litter and fly-tipping.

3.2 In managing litter and fly-tipping, the City Wardens and Cleansing Services adopt the 'Four Ps':

- Prepare the capability and capacity of Leicester City Council and its partners to deliver a response that is more effective, efficient, economic and equitable
- Protect Leicester City Council and other land from being the destination of litter and fly-tips
- Prevent the occurrence of litter and fly-tipping by encouraging and facilitating the proper use of the street environment
- Pursue perpetrators of littering and fly-tipping to recover costs, impose punitive sanctions and deter them and others from similar behaviour

3.3 Since 2015/16 there has been a reduction of 26% of flytipping across the city – down from 9442 incidents to 6966 for 2024/25. Other than a spike in the Covid-19 pandemic year, fly tips have decreased steadily over the past 10 years.

3.4 Some areas of the city remain high in their flytipping rates – these are in general the dense urban inner-city areas with large populations.

3.5 Comparisons to other local authorities across the country are favourable. Leicester's fly tipping rate is 18.9 incidents per 1000 population, compared to 92.2 reported in Nottingham in 2023/24, 45.3 for Peterborough and 39.3 and 23.4 for Liverpool and Manchester respectively.

- 3.6 Fly tips can be reported via a variety of methods – such as Love Clean Streets, direct reports to services or patrolling teams. Fly tips will be passed over for investigation by the City Wardens service. If no evidence is found, then the fly tip will be removed for safety reasons. Around half of all fly tips cannot be identified due to a lack of evidence. More complex cases will be referred to the Enviro Crime team for investigation.
- 3.7 The Council may take enforcement action where evidence has been collected. Interviews under caution may take place and fines and clean up costs will be charged back to the perpetrator when guilt is admitted. Where required, cases will be taken to the Magistrate court for prosecution.
- 3.8 Education and community awareness are also key tools - events such as school litter picks, education fairs help to promote the message of recycling waste properly. Other initiatives include the Bins on Streets campaigns and area-specific targeted interventions, usually through the development of a Ward Action Plan for an area.
- 3.9 A review of the strategy is planned that will factor in the new waste legislation for 2026. Ward action plans will be developed for those most-affected wards in conjunction with councillors.

4. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

4.1 Financial Implications

As an update report, there are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Stuart McAvoy – Head of Finance

22nd October 2025

4.2 Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from the contents of this report. Local authorities are responsible for investigating, clearing and taking appropriate action in relation to small scale fly tipping on public land. The Environment Agency is responsible for dealing with larger scale fly tipping (more than a lorry load), hazardous waste and fly-tipping by organised gangs. It is the government intention through the Crime and Policing Bill to issue statutory guidance on fly-tipping enforcement to local authorities. If enacted, local authorities will be required to have due regard to the guidance.

Signed: F Hajat

Dated: 21st October 2025

4.3 Equalities Implications

Under the Equality Act 2010, public authorities have a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which means that, in carrying out their activities, they have a statutory duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't, and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't. The PSED is a continuing duty and remains with the authority, it is important to monitor and, where necessary, set expectations to ensure that due regard is paid to the general aims. Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Fly-tipping and littering is

unsightly and can affect the quality of life and sense of safety of residents and communities who see it. It is important to make communications and messages about available services accessible. It is important that equality considerations are taken into account when the strategy is reviewed

Signed: Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148

Dated: 22 October 2025

4.4 Climate Emergency Implications

There are limited climate emergency implications directly associated with this report. More widely, work to ensure waste is disposed of correctly may have a positive impact through increasing rates of recycling within the city, as well as preventing waste from entering natural habitats within the city.

Signed: Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer, Ext 372246

Dated: 22/10/2025

4.5 Other Implications

None

Signed:

Dated:

5. Background information and other papers:

6. Summary of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Fly tipping update presentation