

Report to Communities, Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of Meeting	28 th September 2021
Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Environment and Facilities
Report Author	Jo Oliver
Public/Private Document	Public

Proposed Fly Tipping Strategy and Action plan

Executive Summary

1. Fly tipping nationally and locally is a significant problem and a draft strategy has been prepared to tackle fly tipping in Rochdale along with an action plan. A number of initiatives are proposed and members' views are sought on both the strategy and action plan prior to it being submitted to cabinet for adoption.

Recommendation

2. That the recommended strategy and action plan is considered and the Committee forms a view on its content for submission to cabinet.

Reason for Recommendation

3. This committee has asked for a report on fly tipping to be presented to it for consideration and what actions can be taken by the council to reduce the incidents of fly tipping and where possible undertake suitable enforcement action against the perpetrators.

Key Points for Consideration

4. Within Rochdale council's area there were 5,342 incidents of fly tipping in 2020/21. This was decrease compared to the previous year but it is recognised that fly tipping blights our landscape and the local environment for residents and is a source of frustration for residents, officers and members alike. Clearing fly tipping takes up a significant amount of resources and disposal costs alone are circa £167,000 a year.

The purpose of the strategy is to outline some key actions the council can take to tackle fly tipping. Actions centre on prevention, communication, enforcement, responding to and recording incidents and working with stakeholders and partners. Unfortunately there is no simple solution to fly tipping and it will take a concerted effort and resources to reduce the issue.

The action plan would be expected to take place over 18 months following approval. A cross party members' working group is proposed to explore and trial new methods of working and evaluate their impact. Community skips are currently being trialled in two wards in the Borough and a new approach for tackling fly tipping in privately owned alleyways is being developed and will be trialled.

Two temporary six month enforcement roles are being created to engage with residents in fly tipping hotspot areas about the correct way to manage their waste. An Invest to Save bid will be submitted to fund an officer post to check on compliance with business waste regulations.

Members have said they wish to provide free bulky waste collections for residents from April 2022 and this proposal will be developed and brought to Cabinet for approval.

Alternatives Considered

The council could choose not to adopt the strategy and action plan and continue to remove fly tipping as it does currently. It is unlikely this will result in any significant improvement in levels of fly tipping.

<h3>Costs and Budget Summary</h3>

5. The majority of actions will be carried out using existing budget provision. Townships will be approached for funding for items such as CCTV cameras. If the community skip scheme is successful a bid for funding will be submitted.

<h3>Risk and Policy Implications</h3>

6. The council as a landowner has a duty to investigate fly tipping on its land and take action against private landowners where appropriate if they do not clear fly tipping on their land. It is important we continue to encourage households to minimise the amount of waste they produce and recycle items where appropriate.

Consultation

7. Operational staff who work on clearing fly tipping and the enforcement team were asked for ideas on how to tackle fly tipping and some of these have been included in the action plan.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
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| 8. Here you should detail any background papers – | and the place of inspection (N1Riverside or elsewhere) – Note: will insert guidance on what is a background paper |
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For Further Information Contact:	Jo Oliver, 01706 922097, jo.oliver@rochdale.gov.uk
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