

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Flytipping Report

1. Introduction:

- 1.1 Over the last 6 months, West Swindon Parish has seen a steady rise in frequent flytipping across the parish. Usual hot spots are communal garage areas, behind garden fences, existing bins and verges. Cllr Swinyard has requested that a campaign to discourage flytipping should be considered by the Parish Council.
- 1.2 There are generally two types of flytipping
- householder unwanted waste/furniture/green waste
 - builder, handyman, contractor related waste dumping
- 1.3 Site visits often suggest that the waste is generated very locally e.g. old fencing panels adjacent to a newly installed fence, paving materials a short distance from a newly paved drive. It is also increasingly common to see builder material bags filled with unwanted waste left on the roadside.
- 1.4 Swindon Borough Council offers a bulky waste collection at a cost of £30.10 per collection. There is a reduction for those in receipt of Council Tax Support. The collection either of the following:
- One fridge
 - One freezer
 - One fridge/freezer
 - Up to any three qualifying items
- The qualifying items list includes household bulky items such as furniture, mattresses, bikes, white goods etc. but does not include the general types of materials that are often dumped such as DIY waste, tyres, rubble, and garden waste.
- 1.5 For green waste, there is often an assumption that dumping it on public open space is ok as it eventually rots down. Unfortunately any type of green waste dumping is still illegal flytipping and can have a significant impact on the local environment, wildlife and biodiversity.
- 1.6 Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 householders have a duty of care to ensure that their waste is only transferred to an authorised person. In many cases residents take advantage of cheap removal through cold callers, facebook or other informal contacts. It is likely that householders are not aware that they have a duty to ensure that their waste was only transferred to an authorised person and should make checks to ensure this.
- 1.7 A number of Parish and District Councils have launched campaigns to raise awareness about householder obligations regarding removal of waste. It is hoped

that by reminding residents of their legal responsibilities, they will conduct the relevant checks and therefore prevent or reduce the number of incidents of fly tipping within our District.

YOUR DUTY OF CARE

Suspect **ALL** waste carriers

Check with the **Environment Agency** on **03708 506 506** that the provider taking your waste away is registered

Refuse unexpected offers to have waste taken away

Ask what will happen to your waste

Paperwork should be obtained – get a full receipt

Let's **S.C.R.A.P.** fly-tipping
www.recap.co.uk/fly-tipping

RECAP

Environment Agency

2. Options:

2.1 The Parish Council could undertake a number of actions to discourage flytipping. These could include

- promotion of the SCRAP campaign to raise householder awareness of obligations to use registered waste carriers for the removal of household waste.
- promotion of reporting of flytipping where it is witnessed by residents
- promotion of SBC bulky waste collection service
- using the next LINK magazine to do a big feature on the cost and negative impact of flytipping in West Swindon
- promoting better behavior through messages on Facebook/Twitter/Website
- working with other partners such as Swindon Borough Council housing to improve support for householder waste removal across vulnerable tenants
- seeking more action from Swindon Borough Council in relation to environmental crime and tackling the Parish hot spots including streets/neighbourhoods where dumping takes place on a regular basis.

3. Recommendations

3.1. That the Committee considers the report and identifies key actions to progress.

Paula Harrison
Parish Manager