

COMMITTEE TITLE: Clean & Green Committee

DATE: 11 December 2023

REPORT TITLE:	Fly Tipping
REPORT OF:	Marcus Hotten, Director of Environment

REPORT SUMMARY

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to recommend to the Finance, Assets, Investment and Recovery Committee:

- R1. To allocate an additional £70,000 annual revenue budget to recruit two members of staff for a dedicated fly-tip clearance team.**

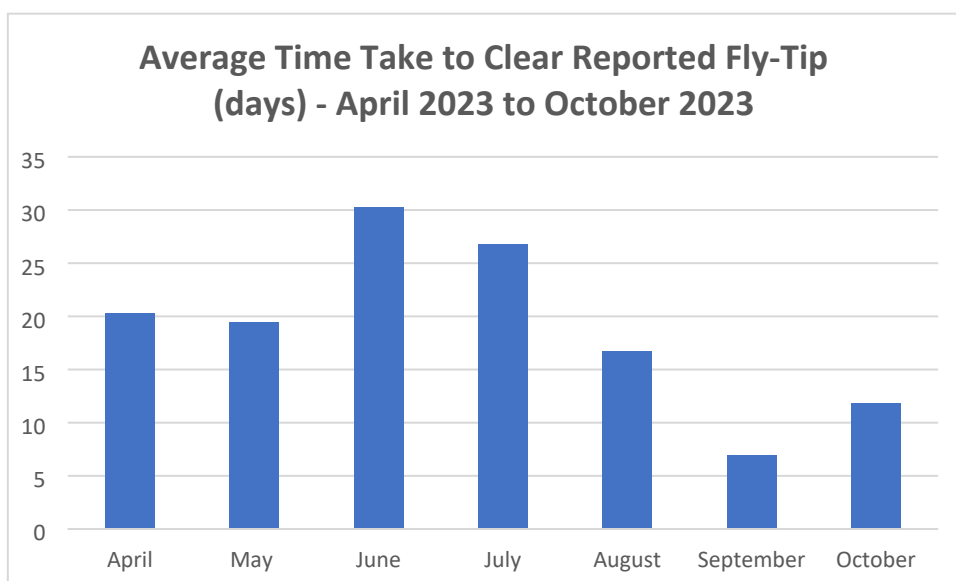
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To ensure that adequate resource are provided to ensure that the Council can respond to clearing fly-tips in a prompt and timely manner.

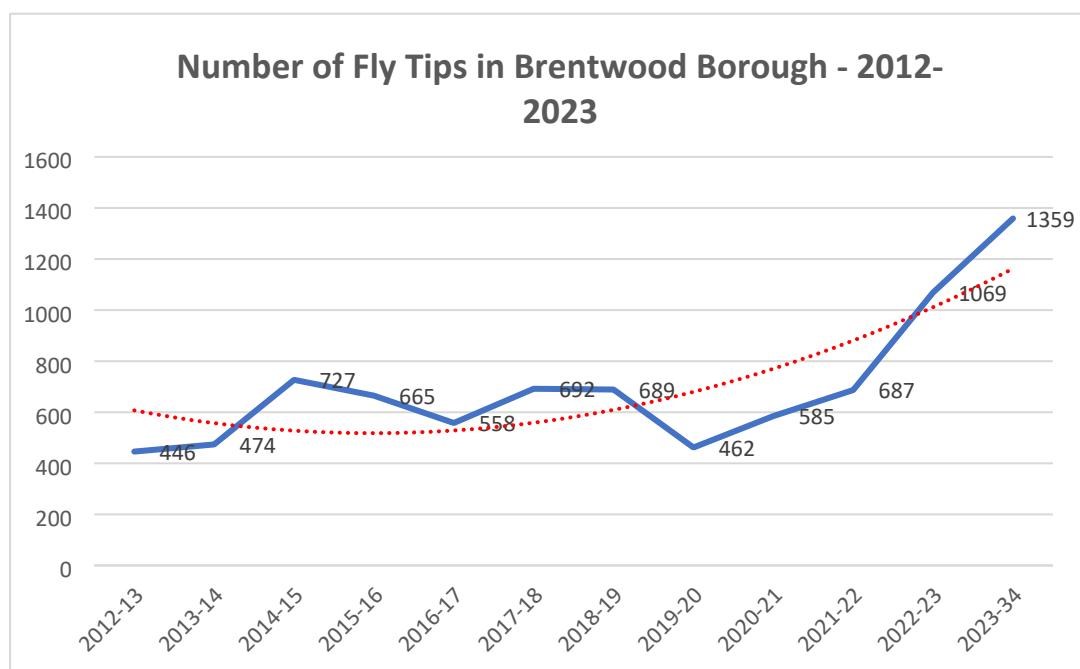
2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Currently the Council operational services does not allocate a specific resource to the clearing of fly-tips reported across the Borough. At present it relies upon resource made available through the allocation of 'spare' refuse truck drivers. This only occurs when the refuse truck collection rounds are fully staffed, and the additional drivers are not required to provide cover for annual leave, training or sickness. Therefore, the clearance of fly-tips at present, is undertaken on a sporadic basis governed by the dependency of the availability of staffing resource within the refuse collection service.
- 2.2 A lack of dedicated staffing resource that undertake fly-tip collection as a priority results in delayed response time in the clearance of fly-tips. The typical response time can be seen in the graph below.



2.3 Local Authority best practice would suggest that a typical fly-tip should be cleared within 2-working days. The average time taken to clear fly tips from April 2023 to October 2023 is circa 20 days.

2.4 Monitoring of the time taken to clear fly-tips, was introduced since the start of the 2023/34 municipal year, therefore the Council does not have comparable data to hand from previous years. However, it would be unsurprising if response times have increased in recent years. The reasoning for this statement is set out in the below graphs.



*(2023-24 – Estimate based on 7months fly-tip data extrapolated for 12 months period)

- 2.5 From 2012 to 2021 the number of fly-tips that the Borough experienced had remained fairly constant, with approximately 600 fly-tips per year. In the last two-years, the Borough has experienced a two-fold increase in the number of fly-tips. The resource allocated to fly tip clearance has remained the same through that period of time.
- 2.6 It is proposed that additional resource is allocated specifically to establish a fly-tip response team. It should be noted, that the majority of the proposed resource would in all probability be focused within the Wards of Warley, and Brizes & Doddinghurst, with these two ward representing 45% of recorded fly-tips between April and October this year (Appendix A).

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Name & Title: Tim Willis, Director – Resources & Section 151 Officer
Tel & Email: 01277 312500 / tim.willis@brentwood.rochford.gov.uk

- 3.1 An additional annual £70,000 revenue budget will be required to fund the recruitment of the two staff. This budgetary pressure cannot be accommodated in the existing budget allocation, and consideration will be required within budget setting cycle of the medium term strategy against other competing financial priorities.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Name & Title: Claire Mayhew, Joint Acting Up Director People & Governance & Monitoring Officer
Tel & Email 01277 312500 / claire.mayhew@brentwood.rochford.gov.uk

- 4.1 None identified.

5.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 5.1 Two additional staff members will be required as a dedicated resource to undertake fly-tipping clearance.

6.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 6.1 That additional resource is not utilised for the intended purpose. It is proposed that the response time for clearance for fly-tips is set to 2 working days, with reporting and monitoring against this target established as part of the suite performance indicators presented to Audit & Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis.
- 6.2 Further a report is presented back to the Clean and Green Committee in approximately a year's time reporting on the progress made.

7.0 EQUALITY & HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Name & Title: Kim Anderson, Corporate Manager - Communities, Leisure and Health
Tel & Email 01277 312500 kim.anderson@brentwood.gov.uk

The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it make decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:

- a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act make discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
- b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and 'civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).

The proposals in this report will not have a disproportionate adverse impact on anybody with a protected characteristic.

8.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

Name & Title: Henry Muss, Sustainability Manager
Email henry.muss@brentwood.rochford.gov.uk

All specified within the report.

REPORT AUTHOR: **Name: Marcus Hotten**
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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Fly Tips by Ward

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

None