

Fly-tipping and Bulky Waste Collections - Redditch

Redditch Borough Council Overview and
Scrutiny Committee 2nd February 2023

Legal Responsibilities

The Council has a legal duty to manage fly-tipping under Section 33 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The Council also has a duty to provide a Bulky Waste collection service under Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act.

That in turn is supported by the Controlled Waste Regulations 1992 which gives us the ability to charge for that service. However, charges must be “reasonable”.

Fly-tipping

- Fly-tipping describes the dumping of waste in the wrong place, and can be anything from a bin bag of household waste to large quantities of domestic, commercial or construction waste.
- Local Authorities and the Environment Agency are responsible for investigating and clearing up the smaller scale fly-tipping on public land.
- On private land the responsibility for clearance of fly-tipped waste rests with the landowner.
- Local Authorities may investigate incidents on private land and can serve notice requiring occupiers or landowners to remove fly-tipped waste but we have no obligation to remove it.
- Fly-tipping is a crime, which carries serious penalties. The legislation creating the offence is section 33 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- Both Local Authorities and the Environment Agency have powers to tackle fly-tipping.
- In the magistrates' court, persons convicted of fly-tipping can be fined an unlimited amount, jailed for 12 months, or sent to The Crown Court for more severe penalties.

Bulky Waste

- A bulky waste collection service is currently provided for all residents at a reasonable cost that is set annually as part of the Fees and Charges.
- This is currently provided operationally by the three Place Teams who generally use one vehicle and two operatives per team.
- The Environmental Services Business Support Team has responsibility for managing the bookings.
- There is an alternative free waste disposal option available which all residents can utilise at the County Council Household Waste disposal site at Park Farm.

Total fly-tips and bulky collections 2020- 2022

	Fly-tips	Bulky collections	Fly-tips	Bulky collections	Fly-tips	Bulky collections
	2020	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022
Totals	1109	2684	1342	2092	1405	2198

Over this three year period the number of bulky collections is almost twice the number of fly-tips

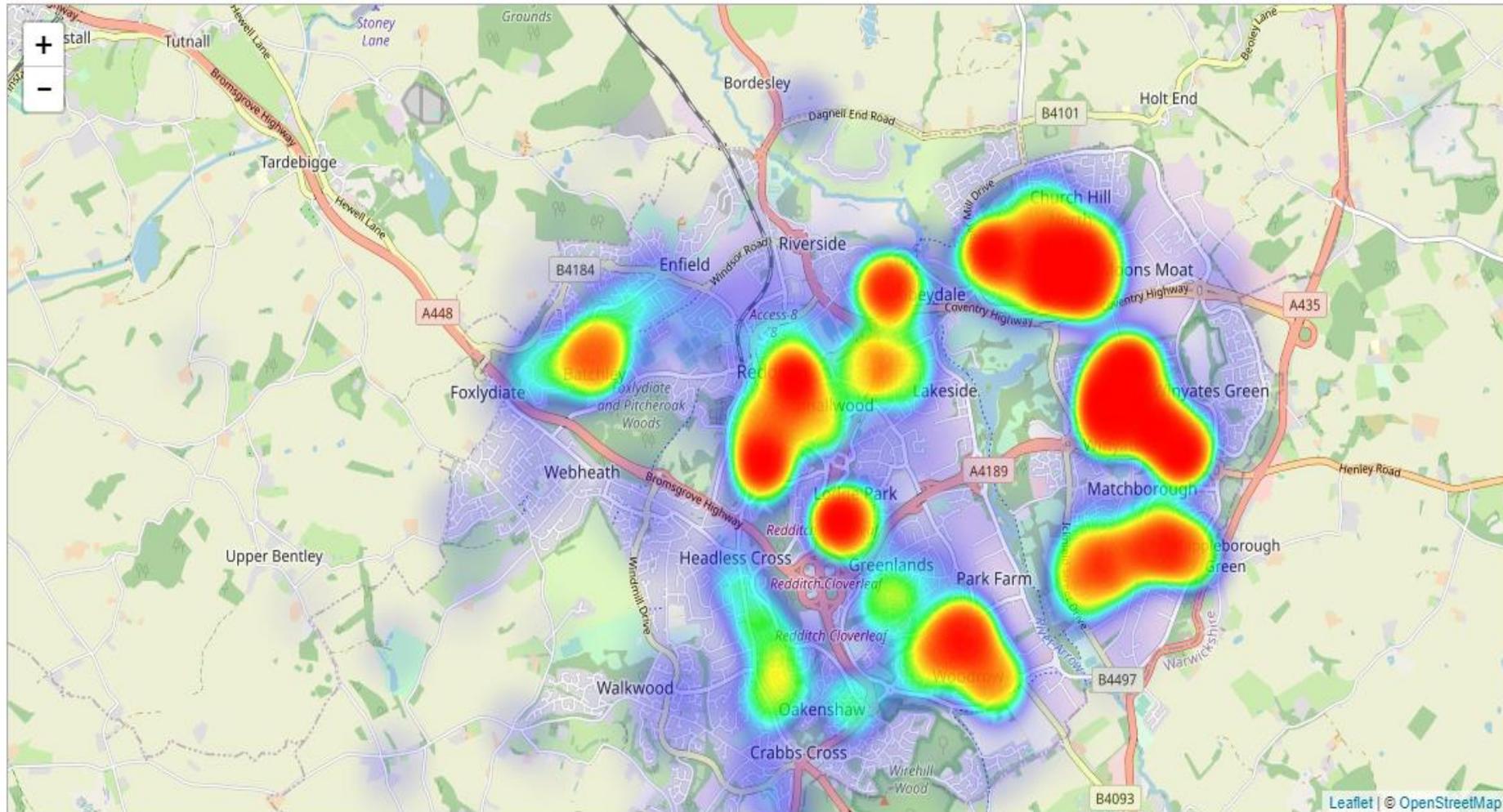
Total fly-tips 2020 – 2022 – Top 15 areas

The majority consist of household waste items that range in size from a single black bag to a van/tipped load

Area	Fly tips Jan 20 – Dec 2022
Church Hill South	627
Winyates East	430
Winyates West	402
Batchley	322
Southcrest	210
Matchborough East	206
Matchborough West	200
Lodge Park	171
Woodrow South	165
Greenlands	132
Abbeydale	128
Smallwood	124
Woodrow North	124
Lakeside	122
Redditch Town Centre	105

Fly-tips 2020 – 2022 heat map

Map



Reporting of Fly-Tipping

The Council has to report fly-tipping indicators to Government via the fly capture website on a monthly basis.

Fly capture – incident types that are recorded

Where	What
Highway	Animal carcass
Footpath/bridleway	Green
Alleyway	Vehicle parts
Council land	White goods
Agricultural	Electrical
Private/residential	Tyres
Commercial/industrial	Asbestos
Watercourse/banks	Clinical
Other/unidentified	Black bags – commercial
	Black bags – household
	Chemical – oil/fuel
	Other commercial/household

Costs of Fly-tipping

- Collection and disposal costs are automatically calculated by Waste Data Flow based on national averages.
- This is based on the full cost of clearance, collection and disposal which is then apportioned to our data according to the size, type and location of waste

Quarter	Cost for removal
Apr 20 - Jun 20	£36,735
Jul 20 - Sep 20	£35,780
Oct 20 - Dec 20	£27,814
Jan 21 - Mar 21	£21,918
Apr 21 - Jun 21	£41,635
Jul 21 - Sep 21	£20,954
Oct 21 - Dec 21	£15,952

Fly-tip example photos



Fly-tipping enforcement actions taken Jan 20 – Dec 22

Enforcement Policy states that enforcement should be proportionate and follows the following:

Stage 1: Advice given

Stage 2: Verbal caution

Stage 3: Written caution

Stage 4: Fixed Penalty Notice

Stage 5: Court proceedings

Task Type	Total
Community Protection Warning Issued (CPW)	2
Fixed Penalty Notice Issued (FPN)	1
Investigation sticker attached	42
Monitoring	120
Patrolled	3
Sign Put Up	21
Spoke to offender	61
Verbal Caution	1
Warning Letter	23
Written Warning	11

Bulky collection income

2020	£	2021	£	2022	£
Totals	69,431.90	Totals	29,884.10	Totals	81,615.62

- Income total 2020, 2021, 2022 – more detail is provided in the paper sent to Councillors
- Costs of bulky collections for 22/23 are £9.50 per unit and for 23/24 they will increase to £10.45 per unit.

Below are examples of items that we will collect and the cost

£9.50/item	£19/item	£28.50/item	£38/item
Bed Base - Single	Mattress - Double/King	Mattress - Larger than King	Bed Base - Recliner/Medical Bed Base
Table - Coffee	Settee - 2 or 3 seater	Bed Base - Larger than King	Settee - Corner/4 seater
Microwave	Table - Dining	Wardrobe - Triple	Settee Recliner (up to 3 seater)
Small electrical item (ie. toaster)	Cooker - Double	Exercise Equipment (home use)	Freezer - Large chest (1.5m in length)
Stereo System	Fridge Freezer	Cabinet/Cupboard - Double	Trampoline (7 - 10 foot)
TV/Computer Monitor	Garden Heater (excl gas bottle)	Garden Chairs - 6	Wardrobe - Triple
Carpet (1 piece of 6ft x 6ft)	Swing - Double		Fridge Freezer - American Style
Armchair	Wardrobe - Double		
Bookcase - Small	Bookcase - Double		
Tumble Dryer	Washing Machine		

Bulky Collections example photos



Bulky Collection – examples of items we are unable to collect as they are not classed as domestic waste by WCC

Aga/Rayburn/Range Cooker
Kitchen Units/Work tops
Bathroom Suites
Boilers, House Clearances/Radiators/Storage Heaters
Bricks/Rubble/Concrete/Window and Window Glass
Car Parts/Batteries/ Car Tyres
Ceiling/Plasterboard/Skirting/Laminate Flooring
Chemicals/Clinical Waste
Roofing Materials/Tiles/Slabs
Decking/Wood/Timber/Fence Panels/Pallets
Doors internal and external
Patio/French Doors
Guttering/Downpipes/Facias

Full lists of the items that we can and cannot collect are available on the RBC website

Conclusions

- The data that we hold shows that the majority of fly-tips are small, consisting of mainly domestic waste/materials/items.
- The areas where most fly-tips are concentrated do not generally change.
- Enforcement action through the courts is difficult as it is reliant on either finding the evidence to definitively identify who the waste belongs to or, that the fly-tip was witnessed and the witness is willing to become involved in the legal/court proceedings.
- Clear that we do not carry out enough formal enforcement actions.
- There is no distinct evidence to show that the cost of a bulky collection has directly resulted in increased fly-tips.

Conclusions (continued)

- The majority of people, including those who are low paid, elderly, disabled or in receipt of benefits will dispose of waste responsibly.
- There was an increase in bulky collections during the early part of pandemic but as restrictions on travel have now been removed and other service providers within the Borough who are registered waste carriers who will dispose of waste responsibly become available again.
- An article published by the BBC in 2019 determined that the BBC's data analysis found no connection between the areas with the highest charges for waste collection and the highest rates of fly-tipping.
- Analysis by the BBC also stated it may be assumed that the raising of the disposal fees may tempt people to fly-tip but the research shows no clear link between the fee and the amount of waste that actually gets tipped.

Questions?