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ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY SELECT COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 30 November 2026
Time: 6.00pm,
Location: Council Chamber
Contact: committees@stevenage.gov.uk

Members: Councillors: Leanne Brady (Chair), Peter Wilkins (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Jim Brown, Claire Parris, Jade Woods, Doug Bainbridge CC, Jan Bainbridge CC, John Blackwood, Jaysica Marvell, Graham Spencer and Nigel Williams

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AGENDA

PART 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. UPDATE ON THE FLY-TIPPING REVIEW
To consider the updated mapping document for the review which will update Members on specific issues previously identified in the review and their relevant related actions and updated data documents from officers including:

- How Fly-tipping is reported across Hertfordshire
- A summary of Fly-tipping Fortnight 12-25 October communications activity
- A record of fly-tip clearances recorded monthly for Defra
- 2025-26 fly-tipping data for Hertfordshire local authorities

3 - 32

3. EMERGING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FLY-TIPPING REVIEW
The Committee are asked to consider the emerging recommendations for the review into fly-tipping.
33 - 34

4. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS
To consider any Part 1 business accepted by the Chair as urgent.

5. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS
To consider the following motions –

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs1 – 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

2. That Members consider the reasons for the following reports being in Part II and determine whether or not maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information

contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

6. URGENT PART II BUSINESS

To consider any Part II business accepted by the Chair as urgent.

Agenda Published 20/11/26

Mapping exercise for Environment & Economy Select Committee – Fly-tipping Scrutiny Review

Issue	Who's effected? (where relevant)	Who identified to address this/provide data and interview? (whether they are internal SBC or external partner)	What evidence/data can they provide?	Meeting interview/ evidence received date: Link to Committee meeting where evidence/interview was undertaken:	Meeting scheduled for date: If complete sign off in table:	Action & date required
Interview the Cabinet Portfolio's for Environment, Transport and Planning and for Stronger Communities regarding their policy position for fly-tipping and any future developments to tackle fly-tipping.		Cabinet Portfolio's for Environment, Transport and Planning, Cllr Rob Broom and for Stronger Communities and Equalities, Cllr Nazmin Chowdhury	Attend a Select Committee meeting to be interviewed and answer Member's questions		14/09/26 ✓	Scrutiny Officer has invited the two Cabinet Portfolio Holders in August 2026.

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Update actions from the 14 July 2026 meeting 6.1 Officers agreed to review the reasons for the previous withdrawal of electrical recycling facilities and skips supplied to various neighbourhoods.		Kris White, Head of Service, Environmental Operations, Environment & Leisure	Kris White has provided the following information: "There were two locations that previously had WEEE drop off points. These were The Oval and Oaks Cross. When installed they were free of charge. However, the company that supplied them proposed to introduce a charge that would have cost SBC £7,200 a year. It was therefore decided, due to limited use, to remove these from the two locations. There is potential we could instal our own facility at one location as a trial. Officers to explore this option."	14/09/26	✓	N/A

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Update actions from the 14 July 2026 meeting **2.** Officers to consider using good news stories focusing on the successful interventions of fly-tipping. – Long term response for this from both teams		Kerry Clifford, Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods & Kris White, Head of Environmental Services.	Summary report provided to E&E on community activity, communications activity and enforcement activity during fly-tipping fortnight (12-26th October 2026). (published separately in 30 November 2026 agenda)	30/11/26	✓ for fly-tipping fortnight On-going comms and activity schedule to be implemented.	To be agreed – ongoing.
Update actions from the 14 July 2026 meeting **3.** Officers advised that		Kerry Clifford, Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods	Enforcement data across Hertfordshire 2024-25 Data for 2024-25 across Hertfordshire (see PDF document)	14/09/26 Comment from Claire Nicholls	✓ for 2024-25 data	Director of H&N to chase up HCC for 2025-26 data – **November 2026 Update** –*The*

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enforcement data across Hertfordshire would be shared with Members.			Officers have asked Hertfordshire County Council, if the data for 2025/26 is complete, for them to share the data (published separately in 30 November 2026 agenda)			*Director of H&N, Kerry Clifford has asked for an update from Environmental officers re the difference between Defra Herts wide data and from Hertfordshire data for 2025-26.*
Update actions from the 14 July 2026 meeting **4.** Members requested further information regarding repeat offenders, which officers agreed to		Kerry Clifford, Director of Housing & Neighbourhoods Amanda Rogers, Resident Services Manager & Jess Warren, Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer				**November 2026 Update** - *The Director for Housing & Neighbourhoods, Kerry Clifford, has confirmed that the Council don't hold any data on repeat offenders*

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provide following the meeting.						
Update actions from the 14 July 2026 meeting **5.** Officers would share information on the 'Report It' system to members as the way to report fly-tipping. – Kris White has provided this		Kris White, Head of Service, Environmental Operations, Environment & Leisure	A briefing note has been prepared by Environment & Leisure Officers and is attached to the agenda papers for the 14 09 26 meeting.		✓	N/A – this item is completed.
Update actions from the 14 July 2026 meeting **6.** Officers to monitor and increase fly-		Kerry Clifford, Director Housing & Neighbourhoods	This is one of the key objectives of the review that the Chair has identified and will be looking to monitor in the months/year ahead.			Ongoing – Members to monitor progress when the review is brought back for future monitoring.

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tipping enforcement and reduce the disparity between reported incidents and enforcement action.						
Site visit to fly-tipping hot spots and bring bank sites.	All E&E Members invited.	Kris White, Head of Service, Environmental Operations & Kerry Clifford, Director Housing & Neighbourhoods	Arrange a site visit in the early evening for E&E Select Committee Members who can attend **Update** - Following 14 Sep meeting - now agreed that Officers will keep a photo log of sites to show Members over a period of a few		~~Possible dates – Monday 21 or Monday 28 September 2026~~	~~Scrutiny Officer to advise E&E Members of the detail for the site visit.~~ **November 2026 Update** – *The Scrutiny Officer has received an update from the Head of Service for Environmental*

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			weeks/couple of months to see scale of fly-tipping			*Operations, Kris White – due to significant changes in the way the Environmental Teams are configured this action has not been possible – Kris has reported that they are hopeful to carry this out in the new year when the new ways of working have bedded in.*
Engage with a 'Critical Friend' from a		Dacorum have been suggested as a possible best practise	Desk top response or attendance at a meeting or Teams link if possible.		Possibly December meeting.	Scrutiny Officer supported by Director of H&N make approach to Dacorum

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neighbouring authority		neighbouring authority to approach			Still to be agreed.	**November 2026 Update** – *The Scrutiny Officer has asked Kerry Clifford for an update re critical friend/peer sharing.*
Fly-tipping action plan		Kerry Clifford, Director Housing & Neighbourhoods & officers supporting the fly-tipping task force.	The draft Fly-tipping Action Plan has been prepared by officers from the fly-tipping task force and is attached to the agenda papers for the 14 09 26 meeting.	14/09/26	✓	The fly-tipping task force will be setting key milestones and identifying action point leads in the coming months. **November 2026 Update -** Fly-Tipping Action Plan has been signed off by the SoSafe Partnership

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						alongside Terms of Reference for the Taskforce Group. Police and Fire Service will be attending with SBC officers.

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November Update note from Claire Nicholls re differences in how fly tipping is reported across councils in Hertfordshire.

Each district or borough are responsible for reporting the number of fly tipping incidents to DEFRA, including the overall number, classification and land type the fly tip occurred on. Each authority uploads their numbers to DEFRA on a monthly basis. I know concerns were raised at a recent Herts Fly Tipping Group meeting that not all authorities across Herts report in the same way. For example, Stevenage report fly tips that the caretaking team find at flat blocks, whereas some authorities do not. Therefore, it can appear that our fly tipping numbers look disproportionate compared to some other authorities. However, we believe we are reporting fly tipping in the most accurate way, reflecting everything we are clearing. Unfortunately, we have no control over how other authorities collect and report their figures.

I understand there was also a request to clarify the classifications of fly tipping incidents, with particular emphasis on footpath and highways data. We receive information from HCC on a monthly basis regarding fly tips they clear from highways and this is the data we report. This is provided to all Herts councils. These incidents generally include where a fly tip is blocking a highway or is on a major A road. Given Stevenage Council is a geographically small borough in comparison to neighbouring authorities, with few major roads running through it, we have always received a low number of highways incident reports.

In relation to footpaths, borough council's clear fly tips off highway footpaths because statutory street cleansing duties in England rest with the district and borough council, even when the county council owns or maintains the highway. HCC are responsible for structural maintenance and urgent road hazards. Therefore, SBC clears routine fly tips from pavements and footpaths, whilst Hertfordshire Highways step in primarily when dumped waste blocks a live carriageway or poses an immediate traffic danger.

Claire Nicholls

Project Manager - Waste

Environment & Leisure

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Summary of Activity - Fly-Tipping Fortnight | 12th to 25th October 2026

Internal:

The work started with this article for the Intranet:

This is Fly Tipping Fortnight

Today, 12 October is the start of Keep Britain Tidy's Fly Tipping Fortnight and we're using this as a great opportunity to help tackle the problem in Stevenage.

Fly tipping takes a variety of forms which may surprise you. Residents are not always aware that behaviours such as leaving household waste beside a public bin, outside a charity shop or next to a recycling bank are all forms of fly tipping and could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £5,000. These perceived low-level behaviours degrade the appearance of our streets and public spaces, encourage copy-cat tipping, and represent hefty clean-up costs for our council.

But there are other forms, especially if you fail to check if someone you get with a van to take away your waste has a licence. Failing to check where waste ends up can lead to it being fly tipped, and you could face enforcement action if you have not taken reasonable steps to ensure their waste was handled legally.

This week and next, our officers will be delivering leaflets and calling at homes across Stevenage to help better detect and prevent the problem here. The campaign will work on this timetable:

Date	Ward AM leaflet drop	Ward PM - Door knocking
Wednesday 14 October	Almond Hill	Roebuck
Thursday 15 October	Symonds Green	Bandley Hill and Poplars
Wednesday 21 October	Chells	Bedwell
Thursday 22 October	Longmeadow	St Nicholas

There were over 15,000 reported incidents of fly tipping in Hertfordshire between April 2024 and March 2025. Fly tipping in an environmental and antisocial crime with real consequences – blighting communities, spoiling green spaces and public areas, and is a threat to both wildlife and public health, with the taxpayer bearing the cost of removal and clean up.

Find out more about **Fly Tipping(link is external)** and how to report it.

External:

Our social media campaign used the assets and messaging of Hertfordshire Waste Aware. Some of these posts were case studies of prosecutions across Hertfordshire towns. Some of these related specifically to Stevenage.

This was the opening post on 12 October:



Stevenage Borough Council
Published by Hootsuite · 12 October ·

Today, 12 October is the start of Keep Britain Tidy's Fly Tipping Fortnight and this week, our officers will be engaging with the community face to face on Wednesday at Roebuck and in Bandley Hill and Poplars on Thursday.

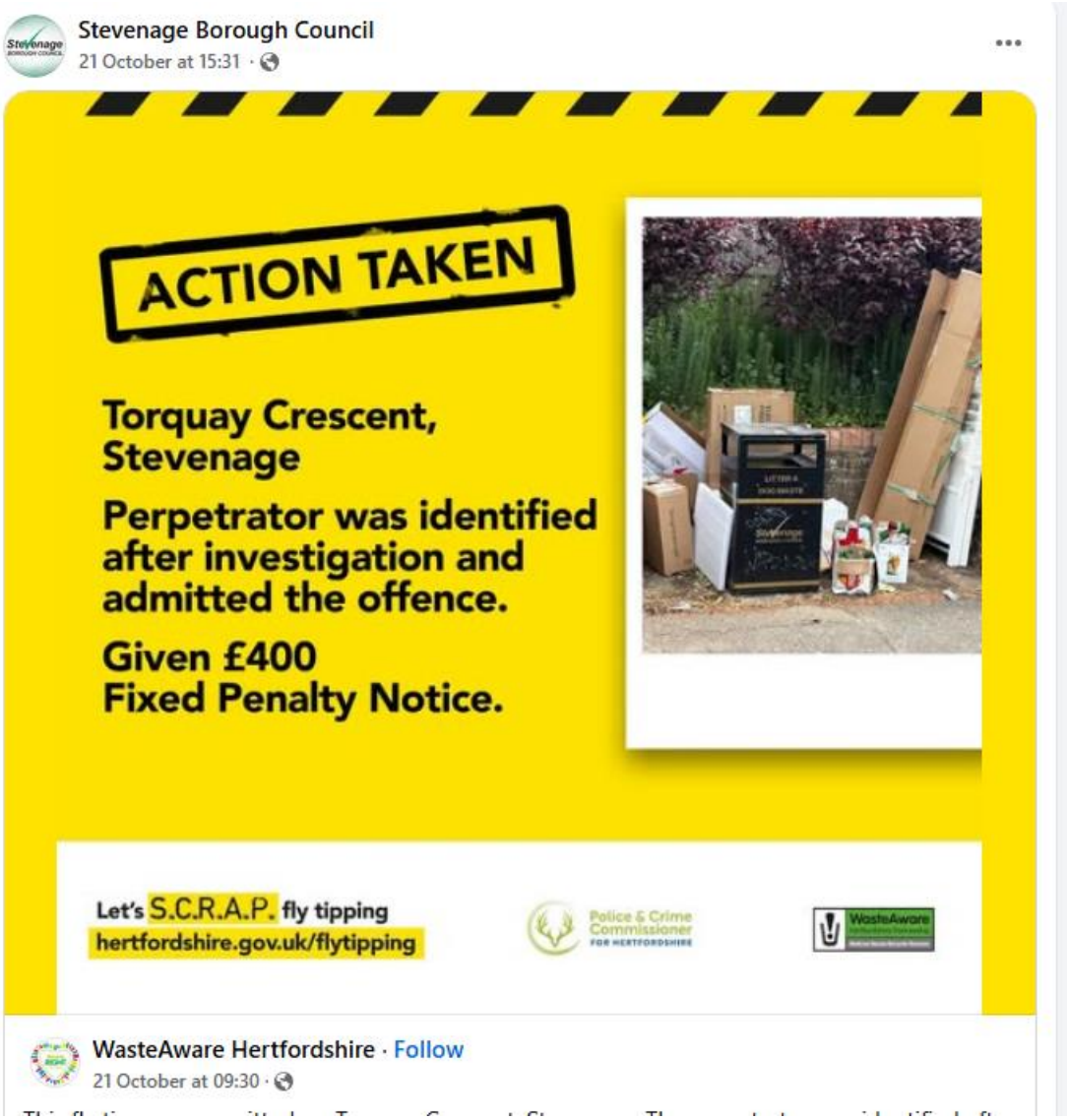
Fly tipping takes a variety of forms which may surprise you. Residents are not always aware that behaviours such as leaving household waste beside a public bin, outside a charity shop or next to a recycling bank are all forms of fly tipping and could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £5,000.

But there are other forms, especially if you fail to check if someone you get with a van to take away your waste has a license. Failing to check where waste ends up can lead to it being fly tipped, and you could face enforcement action if you have not taken reasonable steps to ensure their waste was handled legally. They need an Upper Tier licence to be allowed to legally transport other people's waste.

Check the waste carrier is registered on the Environment Agency register at:
https://environment.data.gov.uk/.../search-waste-carriers...
#Stevenage #FlyTippingFortnight See less



Stevenage specific posts:



WasteAware Hertfordshire · Follow
21 October at 09:30

This fly tip was committed on Torquay Crescent, Stevenage. The perpetrator was identified after investigation and admitted the offence. This resulted in a £400 Fixed Penalty Notice.

Please continue to report fly tipping so they can be investigated by our teams: https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/.../report-littering-or...

Remember: Fly tipping is a crime. Tampering with evidence, or posting to local network groups, could prevent enforcement action or result in perpetrators returning to the scene to remove key identifiable information. Please report the fly tip and leave it as you find it.

Residents can dispose of their waste lawfully using the councils bin collection service, one of the many recycling centres in Hertfordshire or by using a licensed waste carrier to remove waste on their behalf.

#WasteAware #SCRAPFlyTipping #FlyTippingFortnight #FlyTipping #StopFlyTipping Broxbourne Council Dacorum Borough Council East Herts Council Hertsmere North Herts Council St Albans City and District Council Stevenage Borough Council Three Rivers District Council Watford Council Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council See less

And:

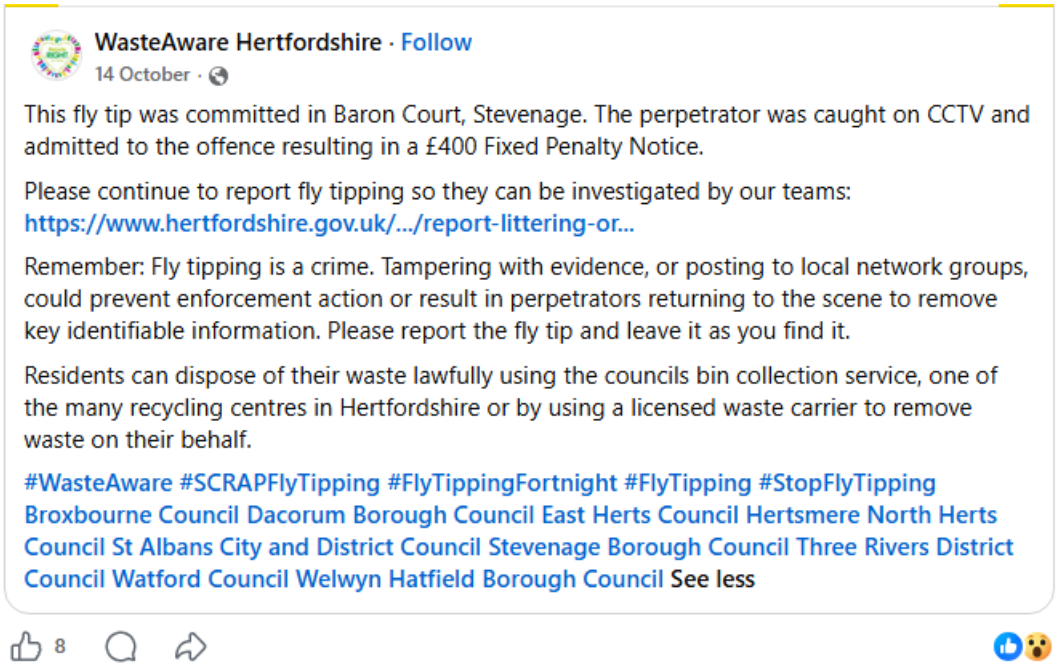
Stevenage Borough Council
14 October ·



WasteAware Hertfordshire · Follow
14 October ·

This fly tip was committed in Baron Court, Stevenage. The perpetrator was caught on CCTV and admitted to the offence resulting in a £400 Fixed Penalty Notice.... See more

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How the posts performed:

We have full data for the first as we made that ourselves from our account. The other posts were shared from Hertfordshire Waste Aware:

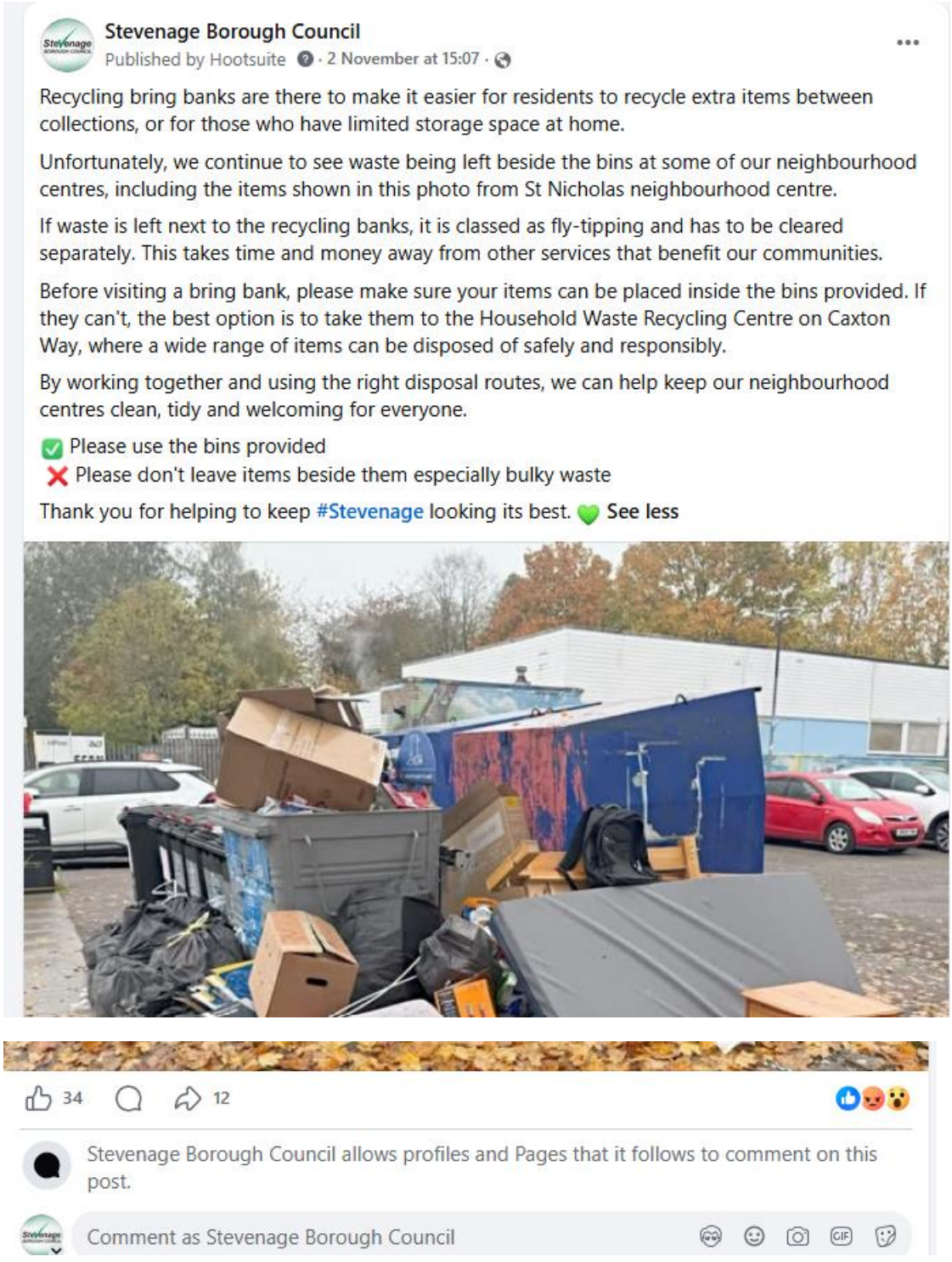
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Date	**Views**	**Viewers**	**Likes**	**Shares**	**Comments**	**Engagement**	**Impressions**
	12th	4816	3180	8	1	4	96	3201
	13th			8		1		
	14th			8				
	15th			2				
	16th			3				
	19th			4				
	20th			3				
	21st			28	2	9		
	22nd			4				
	25th			3		10		

HCC post performance data

Fly Tipping Fortnight		Facebook						Instagram			
		Views	Viewers	Interactions	Likes	Shares	Link clicks	Views	Viewers	Interactions	Likes
12 October 2026	SCRAP Launch	928	607	4	4	1	3	114	n/a	5	4
13 October 2026	James Altham and Oxhey Jets Football	1,935	1,203	5	4	2	1	347	224	8	7
14 October 2026	Baron Court, Stevenage	2,060	1,262	9	7	2	2	37	33	1	1
15 October 2026	Hammondstreet Road, Cheshunt	1,183	681	5	4	1	0	95	70	2	2
16 October 2026	Dagger Lane, Elstree	1,010	651	4	3	1	0	87	53	1	1
17 October 2026	Lilley Bottom, Lilley	148	96	2	2	0	0	56	40	0	0
18 October 2026	Rossgate, Hemel Hempstead	157	115	3	3	0	0	51	35	1	1
19 October 2026	Oxhey Jets Football Club, Carpenders F	1,686	1,051	7	4	3	0	54	31	2	2
20 October 2026	SCRAP Reminder Don't Touch	1,004	650	9	1	2	1	62	42	1	1
21 October 2026	Torquay Crescent, Stevenage	4,912	2,894	8	3	4	3	57	41	3	3
22 October 2026	Watery Lane, Hemel Hempstead	1,178	753	3	2	1	0	53	32	2	2
23 October 2026	Winch Hill Road, Hitchin	105	70	5	5	0	0	60	43	3	3
24 October 2026	Sarratt Road, Croxley Green	80	61	2	2	0	0	93	58	2	2
25 October 2026	SCRAP Conclusion	1,608	1,005	5	4	1	0	55	39	1	0

We've also made a few posts in recent weeks about egregious fly tipping at the bring site in St Nicholas where bulky waste has been left:





There was some fly tipping news we responded to:

Stevenage and North Herts among UK fly-tipping hotspots

9th October Fly-tipping Environment Local government Baldock Hitchin Letchworth Stevenage

https://www.thecomet.net/news/26618922.stevenage-north-herts-among-uk-fly-tipping-hotspots/

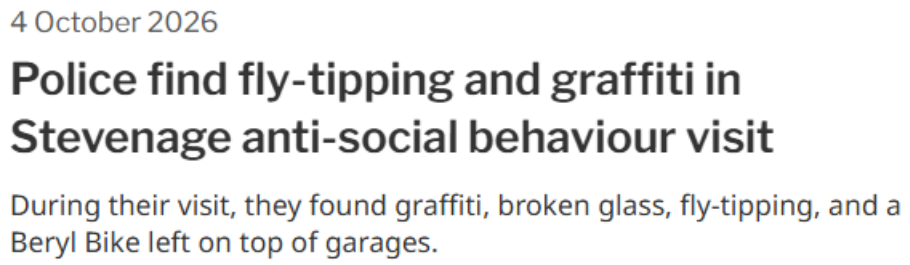
Cllr Nazmin Chowdhury, cabinet member for stronger communities and equalities, said Stevenage Borough Council was "committed to eliminating" fly-tipping.

"We take the issue of fly tipping seriously and we are committed to eliminating this crime," she said.

"So far this year, we have issued five fixed penalty fines to people caught fly tipping in our town.

"We also ask the public to report all instances of fly-tipping to us, providing as much information as possible. Fly-tipping carries a fine of up to £50,000 or five years in prison.

"Residents can report fly-tipping at stevenage-achieveservice.com/service/report-fly-tipping."


4 October 2026

Police find fly-tipping and graffiti in Stevenage anti-social behaviour visit

During their visit, they found graffiti, broken glass, fly-tipping, and a Beryl Bike left on top of garages.

Staff were alerted to the above and we then had the bike removed and the graffiti dealt with.

Community Based Activity

As part of Fly Tipping Fortnight, leaflet drops and resident engagement activities were carried out across Almond Hill, Roebuck, Symonds Green, Bandley Hill and Poplars, Chells, Bedwell, Longmeadow and St Nicholas. This was led by Community Involvement Officers and ASB Officers.

Date	Ward AM leaflet drop	Ward PM - Door knocking
Wednesday 14 October	Almond Hill	Roebuck
Thursday 15 October	Symonds Green	Bandley Hill and Poplars
Wednesday 21 October	Chells	Bedwell
Thursday 22 October	Longmeadow	St Nicholas

The leaflet drops were completed as planned, with door-knocking sessions taking place alongside ASB Officers where available. In Bandley Hill and Poplars, no ASB Officer was available for the afternoon session, so the route was completed with a focus on identifying and reporting fly tipping rather than resident engagement. Some examples are evidenced below.







Across all areas, the majority of fly tipping encountered consisted of waste left beside public litter bins or items placed alongside residential properties and garages. In a number of cases where enquiries were made, residents advised that the items belonged to them and were awaiting collection or disposal.

Door-knocking had limited success due to the time of day, with many residents being out at work. However, where contact was made, conversations were positive and residents were receptive to information regarding fly tipping, reporting methods and responsible waste disposal.

XXXXX from the ASB team provided some really positive feedback on 15 October. He advised it was a really productive afternoon and that he door knocked in Symonds Green area of Stevenage. He also visited the local shopping precinct and gave them leaflets.

An FPN in relation to littering was issued on 14 October, and 2x FPN for Fly tipping on 22 October and 23 October. The Littering FPN and the FPN served on 22 October have both been paid and we are awaiting payment from the FPN on 23 October.

In addition we also advertised that we issued an FPN for a Flytip on Torquay Crescent on Social Media on 21 October.

ENDS

Record of fly tip clearences recorded monthly for DEFRA

Authority	Clearence of fly tips from council owned flat blocks incld in bin stores	Clearences of fly tips reported by residents on council land	Clearence of fly tips from bring banks (non- recyclable waste)	Clearence of side waste from bring banks that can be recycled	Data provided by HCC Highways	Fly tips reported on private land	Other (please specify)
Broxbourne Borough Council							
Dacorum Borough Council							
East Hertfordshire District Council	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Hertsmere Borough Council	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - as they do not provide it	Yes	No
North Hertfordshire District Council	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No
St Albans City and District Council	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Stevenage Borough Council	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Three Rivers District Council	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Watford Borough Council	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

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Fly Tipping Fortnight

		Facebook						Instagram			
		Views	Viewers	Interactions	Likes	Shares	Link clicks	Views	Viewers	Interactions	Likes
12 October 2026	SCRAP Launch	928	607	4	4	1	3	114	n/a	5	4
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Year	ONS Code	LA Name	Total	Highway	Footpath / Bridleway	Back Alleyway	Railway	Council Land	Agricultural	Private Residential	Commercial / Industrial	Watercourse	Other (unidentified)	Mid population estimates	Incidents per 1,000 people	Reporting basis	Fixed Penalty Notices issued specifically for fly-tipping	Investigative actions
2025-26	E07000095	Broxbourne	1791	1100	34	11	4	218	2	409	3	6	4	101900	14	All incidents	27	1833
2025-26	E07000096	Dacorum	1775	179	7	7	172	1265	0	0	0	138	7	161420	11.8	All incidents	0	19
2025-26	E07000242	East Hertfordshi	998	215	209	10	0	146	7	14	5	15	377	156875	4.9	All incidents	0	0
2025-26	E07000098	Hertsmere	1074	490	72	24	0	354	15	104	7	4	4	110212	9.9	All incidents	24	403
2025-26	E07000099	North Hertfordsl	1725	876	240	33	2	317	132	47	7	15	56	137201	10.1	All incidents	20	1546
2025-26	E07000240	St Albans	920	437	213	11	0	178	12	5	0	1	63	151012	6.1	All incidents	9	134
2025-26	E07000243	Stevenage	2781	6	368	41	0	2319	0	45	0	2	0	91774	33.3	All incidents	0	187
2025-26	E07000102	Three Rivers	473	433	10	3	0	21	4	2	0	0	0	95807	4.7	All incidents	2	473
2025-26	E07000103	Watford	1584	1553	5	5	0	12	0	9	0	0	0	107171	12.6	All incidents	23	54
2025-26	E07000241	Welwyn Hatfield	1370	80	143	50	1	337	75	161	78	6	439	122819	24.7	All incidents	0	0

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E&E Select Committee – Fly-tipping Review

Emerging Review Recommendations

Recommendation 1 – Strengthen proportionate enforcement

Monitor enforcement activity and reduce the gap between reported incidents and cases receiving an effective response. Give residents an opportunity to rectify initial mistakes where appropriate but consider stronger action against repeat offenders. The committee agrees with the Cabinet Portfolio for Environment that it would not be helpful to set numerical FPN targets; rather the authority should assess outcomes through prevention, clearance and behaviour change instead.

Recommendation 2 – Target persistent hotspots

Use improved reporting data to focus education, monitoring and enforcement on recurring problem locations. Consider street-wide letters, leaflets and door-to-door engagement, alongside opportunities for residents to provide information anonymously.

Recommendation 3 – Improve public information

Provide clear, regular, and visual explanations of what constitutes fly-tipping—including leaving waste beside bins or recycling containers. Share guidance with Members on the preferred 'Report It' reporting route.

Consider positive publicity about successful interventions and enforcement outcomes without unnecessarily identifying individuals.

Recommendation 4 - Review CCTV and signage

(i) Review the positioning and use of existing CCTV, including the potential deployment of cameras at hotspots. Consider publicising CCTV coverage as a deterrent, while taking account of permissions, costs and privacy requirements.

(ii) Improve signage and monitoring at bring-bank sites rather than relying solely on increased disposal capacity.

Recommendation 5 - Explore dedicated enforcement capacity

Investigate a dedicated fly-tipping enforcement officer working alongside waste and cleansing teams.

Recommendation 6 - Review waste-disposal access and previous local schemes

Review why neighbourhood electrical recycling facilities and skips were withdrawn and consider whether reinstatement could help reduce fly-tipping. Examine barriers to accessing disposal facilities, including lack of transport and digital exclusion.

Recommendation 7 - Improve evidence and comparative data

Provide Members with further information on repeat offenders and available Hertfordshire enforcement data. Continue work towards consistent reporting across authorities so comparisons are meaningful.

Recommendation 8 - Consider recovering clearance costs

Explore proposals to recover clearance costs from repeat offenders.