

CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND THE ENVIRONMENT – COUNCILLOR CROSS

Cleansing, Bins and Litter Management

Street cleansing services has introduced frequency cleaning to residential areas, which offers a cleaning cycle to those streets which fall below minimum standards, this will improve the cleanliness across the borough as a whole.

Blackpool Council is prosecuting a prolific Fly-Tipper with the first court hearing on the 10 December 2014 resulting in two offenders being given bail until the 22 December 2014 following representation of 19 known offences. The bail conditions will not permit either offender to be in a vehicle as a driver or passenger carrying household and general waste. The court was shown CCTV video footage of an act of blatant fly tipping from the rear of a moving vehicle. Statements and evidence collated by the Council's Local Environmental Action Force over the past few months will hopefully result in a successful prosecution and substantial sentence.

In the first six months of last year we had 2,585 incidents reported and collected 384 tonnes. We recorded a similar number of incidents in the same period this year, but there was a reduction in the tonnage collected.

Domestic Waste (including refuse collection and recycling)

Each year Keep Britain Tidy holds an award ceremony to celebrate the success of projects that aim to improve the environment in which we all live. This year Rover has been selected as a shortlisted finalist at the Diamond Jubilee Awards. The winner will be announced in February at the Annual Conference in Liverpool.

The Rover service continues to perform well collecting over 72 tonnes of waste to date. In its first year, it collected 117 tonnes of waste from 6,500 visits. The ReNew workshop has prepared 2,610 items (50 tonnes) for reuse and sold these to the local community at much reduced cost or used them for the social fund.

Waste collected at the kerbside has amounted to 27,431 tonnes in the first six months of 2014, 37.9% of which was glass, plastic and tins, paper and cardboard and garden waste all of which was recycled. This is a slight increase on the same time last year.

Overall waste has increased by 2.3% with a recycling rate at provisionally 43% (year to date), Blackpool's highest ever recycling rate. We have seen an increase in recycling both at the kerbside and the Household Waste Recycling Centre.

Commercial Waste Services

The service market share is currently 52.8% with tonnage collected for the period April – September 2014 was 3,257, up by 4.8% on the same period last year with 54% being diverted away from landfill.

Commercial glass collected from the hospitality sector was 143 tonnes, down on the same period last year with 100% of material collected recycled.

A large local service user has expressed an interest in utilising Blackpool Councils confidential waste service on their sites in Wyre and Fylde.

Household Waste Recycling Centre

Business and Service Plan initiatives successfully introduced at the HWRC during 2013/ 2014 were:

- Continuation of the rubble/ hard-core permit scheme has resulted in a further annual saving of £10,400 on the previous costs of disposing and transporting this non-household waste.
- The Reuse Shop, which opened in March 2013, is a huge success realising £61,000 income from sales of 40 tonnes of materials brought to site and from the Rover and ReNew services much of which would have previously gone to landfill.
- In relation to the HWRC the rate of recycling is still high at 70%.

Lancashire Waste PFI

The waste treatment plants are currently diverting 54% of all waste that enters the plant away from landfill. This is being sent to off takers as low-grade plastics for recycling or other material that can be used for Refuse Derived Fuel, which is a fuel, used to power cement kilns. The huge task of assimilating the waste company into an arms-length company is well underway with the establishment of the Board of Directors with Councillor Jackson representing the Blackpool's interests on the Board. Both waste plants are currently working on developing and implementing individual work programmes that will result in improved productivity and greater efficiency in diverting waste from landfill. The improved change processes will be rolled out over the next 12 months in order of priority with green waste processing being assigned the primary function to be addressed to be operational for the spring of 2015.