

NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT (ENVIRONMENTAL) ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

1. The Council aims to reduce fly-tipping and improve the street scene through prevention measures, communication and enforcement activity, in line with Building a Better Bromley's 'A Quality Environment' & 'Safe Bromley', outcomes, as well as achieving the aims set out within the Environment Portfolio Plan 2018/19 and Public Protection and Enforcement Portfolio Plan.

2. Outcome 4 of the Public Protection and Enforcement Plan is: '**We will protect and improve the environment**' and the supporting aim (with respect to street scene enforcement) is as follows:

- **Aim 4.6: Keep the borough's streets clean and green and reduce litter, dog fouling and fly-tipping through a programme of contracted works, education and enforcement activity.**

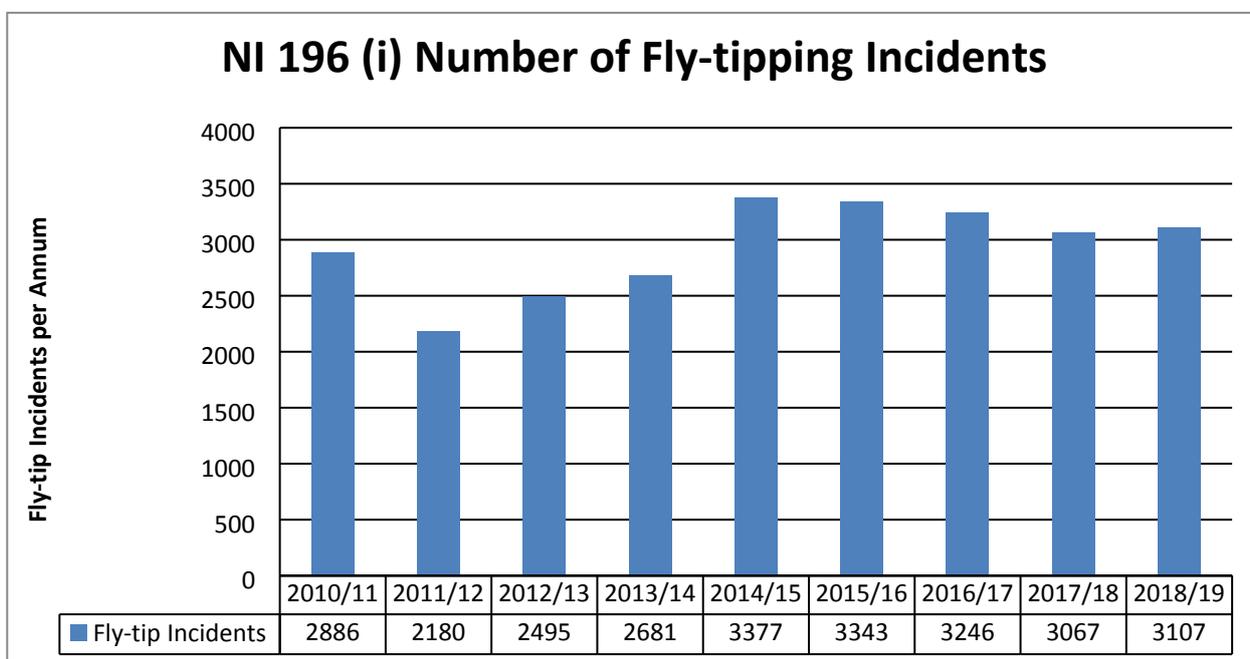
3. Enforcement activities are undertaken jointly by LBB and a security contractor.

The Street Enforcement team are made up of the following posts;
 3 x Street Enforcement officer's posts (One position currently vacant)
 2 x fly tipping Enforcement officer's posts (One position currently vacant)
 1 x Market and Street Trader enforcement officer post.

Fly Tipping

4. Despite action taken by the Council over a period of years to tackle enviro-crime and fly-tipping, it continues to blight the street scene. Fly-tipping has a huge impact on residents, and there are high costs associated with Council clean-up operations, in addition to the associated health, safety and environmental risks.

5. There were 3,107 fly-tipping incidents in 2018/19, an increase of 40 incidents on the previous year (see figure 1 below). Household waste accounted for 63% of fly-tipping incidents in Bromley in 2018/19.



Number of fly-tipping incidents 2018/19

6. The Council's aim is to investigate and take appropriate enforcement action in respect of 10% of fly-tipping incidents. Enforcement action cannot be taken for each incident, due to lack of evidence. There are regular operations with the Metropolitan Police to target vehicles involved in fly-tipping, including seizing vehicles, and the use of enforcement powers and surveillance for evidence gathering as appropriate. Figure 2 below shows the enforcement actions taken in 2018/19 (totalling 270) vs the number of fly-tipping incidents.

7. Community Impact Days are held monthly in Bromley. LBB Street Enforcement officers work alongside other agencies such as the Department for Work and Pensions, the Metropolitan Police Service and the DVLA to target areas of the Borough where there are crime hotspots (including fly-tipping). Clean-up events are encouraged which involve volunteers from the local community. This multiagency approach is beneficial in terms of tackling many issues in an effective and resource efficient way. The events are funded by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC).

Fly Tipping Communication

8. Fly-tipping hotspots are monitored by the enforcement team and posters are displayed in those areas. Large billboard sized posters on portable structures are used which are temporary and can be moved around the Borough as needed. A Neighbourhood Officer postcard has also been produced. Neighbourhood Officers distribute postcards to houses undergoing works (e.g. having front-gardens renovated, tree-works etc.) to ensure householders have asked contractors to evidence they have waste carriers licences and appropriate insurance. Postcards are also handed out on stop and search operations and at Community Impact Days. Articles on fly-tipping have appeared in 'Safer Bromley' and the 'Environment Matters' newsletters which are sent to all residents bi-annually.

9. LBB Neighbourhood Officers engage with 'friends groups' within their two allocated wards on the issue of fly-tipping and responds directly to any concerns they may have. Residents groups can be supplied with purple sacks for local clean up events. Sacks are left in the area and a collection requested from the street cleaning teams. The use of the purple sacks makes the waste identifiable to the contractor as being separate from fly-tipped black bags.

Fly Tipping Reporting

10. Fly-tipping is reported to the Council via Fix My Street (FMS) which is used by the public, contractors and LBB officers. Rectification times are recorded on the system and the status of any outstanding incidents monitored by Bromley's Environment and Community Services Technical Support Team. Performance reports are generated three times per week. The FMS initiative has logged more than 100,000 reports since 2007 – more than 22,000 of which were reported in 2017/18.

11. Table 1 below shows the number of reports of fly tipping vs the number of actual fly-tipping incidents (where the same incidents have been reported by multiple residents).

Month	2016/17		2017/18		2018 / 2019	
	Reports	Incidents	Reports	Incidents	Reports	Incidents investigated
April	455	286	479	261	290	15
May	445	258	362	236	308	21
June	510	323	424	240	292	23
July	483	320	487	264	247	22
August	600	344	468	286	274	12
September	530	265	412	251	240	25
October	410	230	412	230	251	29
November	380	183	351	234	277	26
December	390	250	366	240	291	31
January	399	259	494	346	277	20
February	353	214	354	261	197	15
March	407	246	416	218	228	28
Total	5362	3178	5025	3067	3107	270

Fly-tipping incidents by Primary Waste Type

14. LBB enforcement officers note that the most prolific locations for fly-tipping incidents are junctions in country lanes. These are often targeted by fly-tippers so offenders can dump rubbish whilst blocking the road in case anyone may be following them. In future, Bromley aims to develop improved Geographical Information Systems which will generate heat maps of fly-tipping hotspots that will enable a more targeted approach for education and enforcement activities.

Dog Fouling and Littering

The Council's Parks Security contractor (Ward Security) undertake 6 hours of patrols per week to patrol hot Spot littering areas such High Streets , transport hubs or identified problem location.

15. A total of **170** FPNs were issued in 2017/18 for dog fouling and littering.

A total of **88** FPN's were issued in 2018 /19 for Dog Fouling and littering

Abandoned Vehicles

16. The rate of abandoned vehicles within the borough fell in 2018 / 19.

In 2016/17 **243** abandoned vehicles were removed

In 2017/18 **235** abandoned vehicles were removed.

In 2018/19 **161** abandoned vehicles were removed + 38 surrendered by owner to be taken away by the Council..

Every report of an alleged abandoned vehicle has to be site inspected and checked against the DVLA guidelines as to whether it meets the criteria for abandonment.

17. DVLA-approved training has been delivered to enforcement officers on the legislation regarding the removal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles.

The abandoned vehicles contract was tendered and expired in March 2019 to become co-terminus with the Lotting strategy for the Environmental Services Contracts, which will include the contracted elements of abandoned, surrendered and nuisance vehicle removal.

Other Highway Offences

18. The Council also undertakes and spends considerable time investigating complaints re obstructions on the highway such as overhanging vegetation, illegal crossovers, illegal storage of builders material ,illegal skips , scaffolding and hoarding without a licence and illegal building encroachment onto the highway.

The enforcement and removal of illegal caravans and vehicles from Council Parks & Open Spaces / Highway land and Car parks.

