

Scrutiny Board :	Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board
Report Title	Street Cleanliness and Fly Tipping
Date of Meeting	26 February 2026
Report Author	Ben Percival Service Director – Environment and Public Protection
Lead Officer	Jennie Webb Strategy and Development Manager Nigel Harris Waste Contract and Operations Manager
Wards Affected	All
Identify exempt information and exemption category	<i>3 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and includes contemplated, as well as past or current activities.</i> Only Appendix 1
Appendices (if any)	1. Proposed Interventions – including cost

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines the additional measures proposed to further address fly-tipping and cleanliness in the borough

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Board considers and comments upon the information presented and determines whether it wishes to make any recommendations to the Executive.

3. Background and Context

- 3.1 Fly-tipping is a significant issue in Sandwell. Each year between 8,000 and 10,000 fly tip instances are reported. Whilst the cleansing of fly-tips is an area of very high performance – in the first 3 quarters of 2025/26 more than 97% of reported fly-tips on public land were cleared within 24 hours.
- 3.2 Fly tip enforcement has however been less successful, with only a small number (fewer than 20) of fixed penalty notices issued each year. There has

however been a greater emphasis on this in recent months; since the end of October 2025, 15 FPNs have been issued. Whilst many have been paid, the remainder have either successfully been prosecuted or are currently with our Legal Services team to process to court for prosecution.

- 3.3 Following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways, the following priorities have been agreed:
- Residents better supported to manage household waste
 - Improved recycling / reduced recycling contamination
 - Reduced fly-tipping / increased fly-tip enforcement
- 3.4 A series of interventions have been designed to address these agreed priorities and improve the waste and cleansing standards in the borough:
- Dedicated Fly tip enforcement teams
 - Additional Recycling support officers
 - Expanded CCTV provision
 - Provision of replacement lighting columns (where required) to accommodate CCTV cameras in existing and emerging hotspot areas
 - Pop-up recycling centres
 - Segregated Street bins
 - On-street bin storage

Further details of these are presented as appendix 1

- 3.5 The outcomes from the interventions will be carefully monitored – there are comprehensive performance management frameworks already in place for both recycling and fly tipping. There is the potential for financial benefits from these interventions both in terms of reduced costs from the collection and disposal of fly tipping and to also secure the improved recycling modelled in the AWC service change. This is essential to deliver the MTFs savings associated with AWC and to also reduce the risk to subsequent years' EPR payments.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 The proposed interventions were developed in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Highways and have been agreed by the council's senior leadership team and Cabinet.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The costs of the interventions are included in appendix 1. To avoid prejudicing any procurement process, appendix 1 should be treated as confidential.
- 5.2 The funding for the interventions has been agreed with Finance colleagues and will be from a combination of the Waste Reserve and the Extended Producer Responsibility grant from DEFRA.

6. Legal and Governance Implications

6.1 None – the proposals expand established working practices.

7. Risks

7.1 No new risks; the interventions build on established working practices.

8. Equality and Diversity Implications (including the public sector equality duty)

8.1 None at this stage. The interventions build on existing practice. The impact of the work will be monitored and any equality and diversity impacts will be considered.

9. Other Relevant Implications

9.1 None.

10. Background Documents

10.1 None

11. How does this deliver the Outcomes in the Council Plan?

11.1 *Living in Sandwell:* Improved recycling and reduced fly tipping will enhance both the appearance of the public realm and reduce carbon emissions associated with waste.