

NOTE FOR: Effectiveness of the Council's Enforcement Activity Working Group

DATE: 28 January 2021

NOTE BY: Paul Fraser, Senior Democratic Services Officer

SUBJECT: Update on Actions Requested at the Previous Meeting

1. Introduction

1.1 This note updates on actions requested at the previous meeting of the Working Group held on 4 September 2019.

2. Recommendations

That the briefing note be noted.

3. Background

3.1 At its meeting held on 4 September 2019 the Working Group agreed various actions and the information set out below details progress made against each of those actions.

4. Fixed Penalty Notices for Littering

The Head of Highways and Public Protection was requested to provide information on the localities where the 1900 fixed penalty notices for littering were issued. A copy of this information is attached.

5. Promotional Leaflets Regarding Littering and Fly-Tipping

The Head of Communities was requested to liaise with the Head of Locality Services on the production of promotional leaflets for distribution by residents' groups to combat the problems of littering and fly-tipping.

An example of a leaflet in respect of Clemmey Drive and a Cleansing warning letter are attached.

6. Increase in the Level of Fines for Fly-Tipping Offences

The Head of Locality Services was requested to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to seek an increase in the level of fines for fly-tipping offences.

The existing penalties for fly-tipping are:

- a fine up to £50,000 and a prison sentence of 12 months if convicted in a Magistrates Court; and
- Unlimited fines and a prison sentence of up to five years if convicted in a Crown Court (more serious/extensive fly-tipping).

As can be seen, there are already substantial deterrents/penalties. The issue however is proving who fly-tipped and whether Courts would impose the maximum penalties.

7. Builders' Waste and £10.00 Charge for Bulky Item Collections

The Head of Locality Services was requested to undertake an exercise to assess and weigh the costs of allowing the free disposal of commercial builders' waste at recycling centres and the removal of the £10.00 charge for bulky item collections against the costs of the collection of fly-tipped waste.

The Head of Locality Services undertook consultation with Merseyside Waste & Recycling Authority (MRWA) and a document detailing the outcome of the consultation is attached.