

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Streetscene Scrutiny Panel

Date: 30 January 2020

Report of: Head of Streetscene

Subject: CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

SUMMARY

The members of the panel are invited to scrutinise the performance and key activities, as included in the report, that are undertaken by the Public Spaces Operations Team with the purpose of delivering the corporate objective of providing a Clean and Tidy Borough.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Panel scrutinises the information as set out in this report

INTRODUCTION

1. Local authorities have a statutory duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) for keeping land which is under their control, and to which the public has access, clear of litter and refuse and their highways must be kept clean, as far as is practicable.
2. To comply with the legislation the Council provide a service that is responsible for the following operations:
 - Mechanical sweeping of streets and large pedestrian areas.
 - Litter and dog waste bin provision and servicing.
 - Removal of litter, fly-tipping, graffiti and fly-posting from public land.
 - Removal of dead animals (domestic and wild) from public land.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

3. The Street Cleansing service is operated with an annual budget of just over 1 million pounds (£1,031,400).

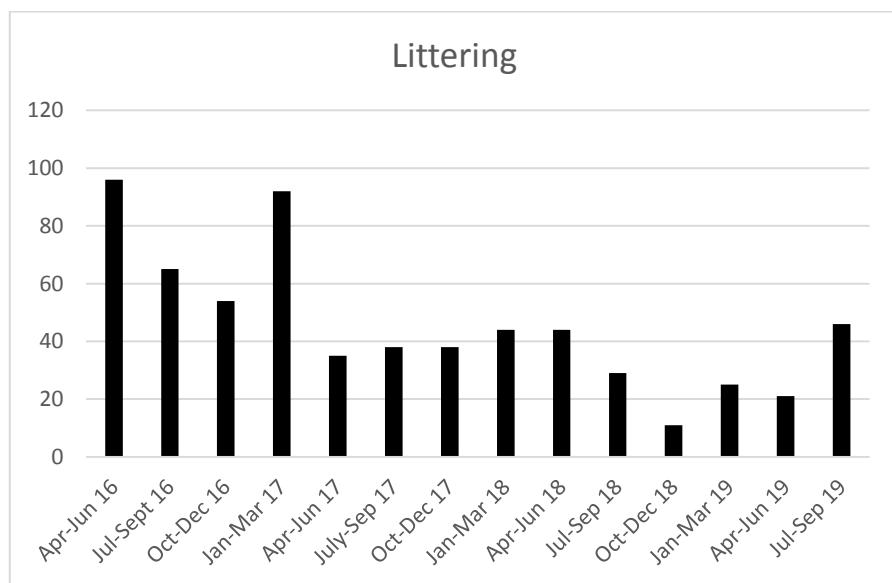
LITTER

4. It is estimated by Keep Britain Tidy group that more than two million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK every day.
5. Between April 2016 and September 2019, residents have reported a total of 638 litter related issues in the Borough. This is broken down by quarter in the below table.

Period	Figures
April- June 2016	96
July – September 2016	65
October – December 2016	54
January- March 2017	92
April- June 2017	35
July – September 2017	38
October – December 2017	38
January- March 2018	44
April- June 2018	44
July – September 2018	29
October – December 2018	11
January- March 2019	25

April- June 2019	21
July – September 2019	46
Total	638

- 6. The above figures show a peak of 307 reports in 2016/17 and a low of 109 in 2018/19. The average annual total is 182 reports and the average quarterly figure is 46 reports.
- 7. Some areas are difficult to manage to a constant high standard such as the Motorway Junctions and other fast roads in the Borough that require lane closures and traffic management to ensure the safety of the workforce. Permission is also required from the Highway Authority in advance, to enable the lane closures to be approved. This not only increases the cost of the operation but also the time to undertake the works. The estimated cost to litter pick each motorway junction approach is approximately £1,605.26 per occasion.
- 8. Fareham East has the highest reporting of litter issues with an average of around one or two reports a month whereas Fareham West has the least with a report received from this ward that averages around once every seven months.
- 9. Figures based on the average data show the service receives less than 4 reports of litter related problems per week. The below chart shows the quarterly trend through this period indicating a slight downward trend from the high of 2016/2017.



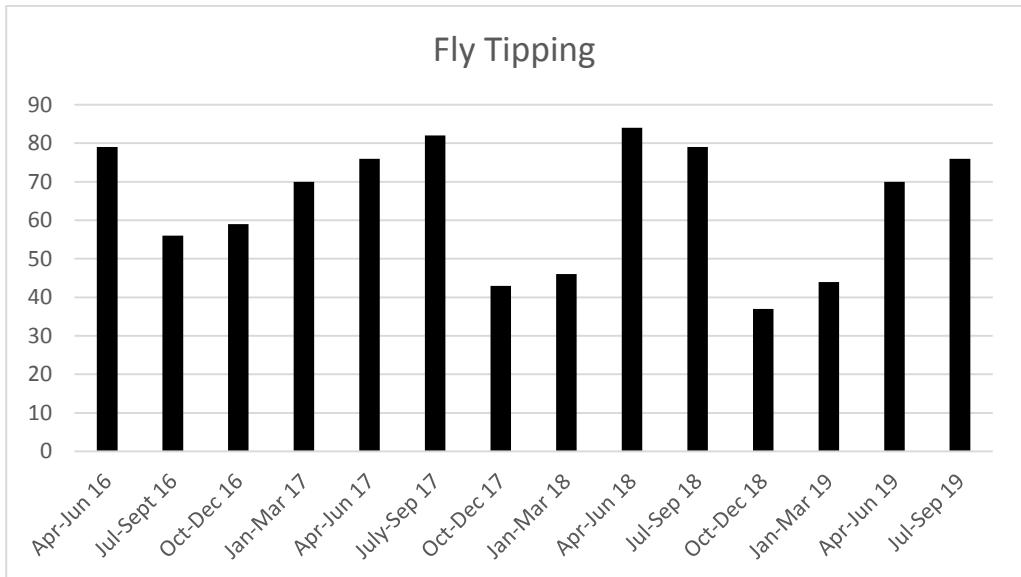
FLY-TIPPING

- 10. For the 2018/19 year, local authorities in England dealt with over 1 million (1,072,000) fly-tipping incidents, an increase of 8% from the 998,000 reported in 2017/18.
- 11. Fareham Borough Council figures have decreased by around 1% over the same year on year period (247 reports 2017/18 – 244 reports 2018/19).
- 12. Consistent with previous years, nationally the most common place for fly-tipping to occur was on highways (pavements and roads), which accounted for almost half (46%) of total incidents in 2018/19. For Fareham the figure is comparable at 45%.

13. As in the last few years, nationally the most common size category for fly-tipping incidents in 2018/19 was equivalent to a ‘small van load’ (33% of total incidents), followed by the equivalent of a ‘car boot or less’ at 30% and single items at 18% and 4.5% for a single black bag (combined 52.5%). In Fareham small van load incidents are again comparable at 39% of the total and a car boot or less combined with single items makes up a further 51% of Fareham’s fly-tipping.
14. The estimated cost to clear and dispose of fly-tipping on public land in Fareham for the last financial year was £9,332.

Period	Figures
April- June 2016	79
July – September 2016	56
October – December 2016	59
January- March 2017	70
April- June 2017	76
July – September 2017	82
October – December 2017	43
January- March 2018	46
April- June 2018	84
July – September 2018	79
October – December 2018	37
January- March 2019	44
April- June 2019	70
July – September 2019	76
Total	901

15. Figures reveal an average of 257 reports of fly-tipping have been received from residents each year. The figures also show that FBC receive less than 5 reports of fly-tipping per week from residents.
16. The ward reporting the most fly-tipping is Fareham East with between four and five calls received by Streetscene a month whilst Locks Heath has the fewest reports averaging just one every three and a half months.
17. The below chart shows that over the past two years, the number of reports falling over the winter period before rising again over the spring and summer periods. There is no obvious reason for this trend but it may in part be due to seasonal work increasing disposal demand.



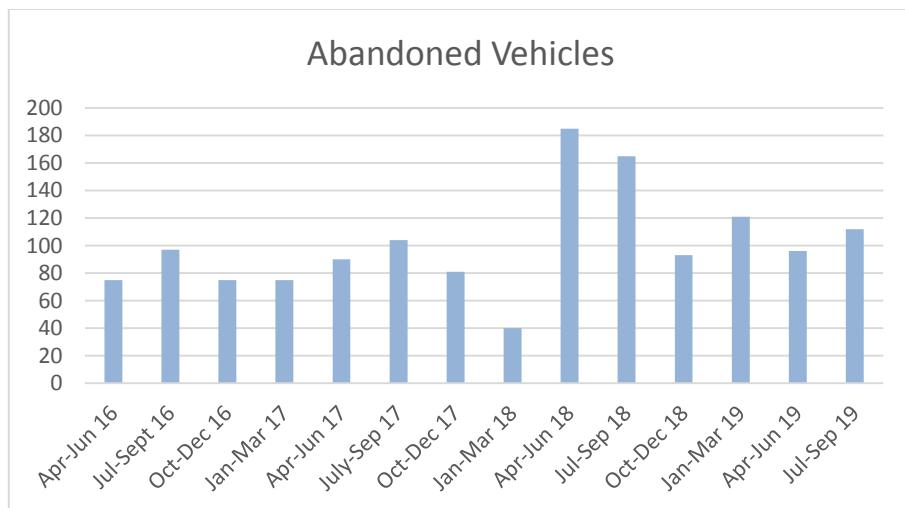
ABANDONED VEHICLES

18. It is not possible to compare national figures as the information stopped being collated centrally after 2008.
19. Owners must be given 15 days' notice that a vehicle is to be removed (7 if located on the Highway) and a vehicle cannot be removed if the landowner or owner objects during this period.
20. The below figures for abandoned vehicles in Fareham show that from January 2018 to September 2019 there have been a total of 812 reports of abandoned vehicles. However, only 42 of these reports resulted in vehicles being sent for scrap (actual abandoned vehicles). In contrast 371 were recorded as "not abandoned" and 362 were recorded as "vehicle gone", meaning the owner had removed it from the original site. The small number remaining (37) were for advice given to residents on the matter or passed to another agency such as a housing association.

Period	Figures
April- June 2016	75
July – September 2016	97
October – December 2016	75
January- March 2017	75
April- June 2017	90
July – September 2017	104
October – December 2017	81
January- March 2018	40
April- June 2018	185
July – September 2018	165

October – December 2018	93
January- March 2019	121
April- June 2019	96
July – September 2019	112
Total	1,409

- 21. There is a noticeable peak in reports of abandoned vehicles in the period Apr-Jun 2018, the bulk of which were reports sent in via the online form were multiple reports submitted by the same person for different vehicles.
- 22. This frequent reporting of multiple abandoned vehicles has resulted from a car dealership nearby that regularly park vehicles around that area. There are other incidents of multiple reports for the same address where similar businesses are operating. They do not result in a vehicle being scrapped but simply being moved by the owner. If more than one of these incidents occur in the same month this will show a spike in the level of reports for abandoned vehicles.

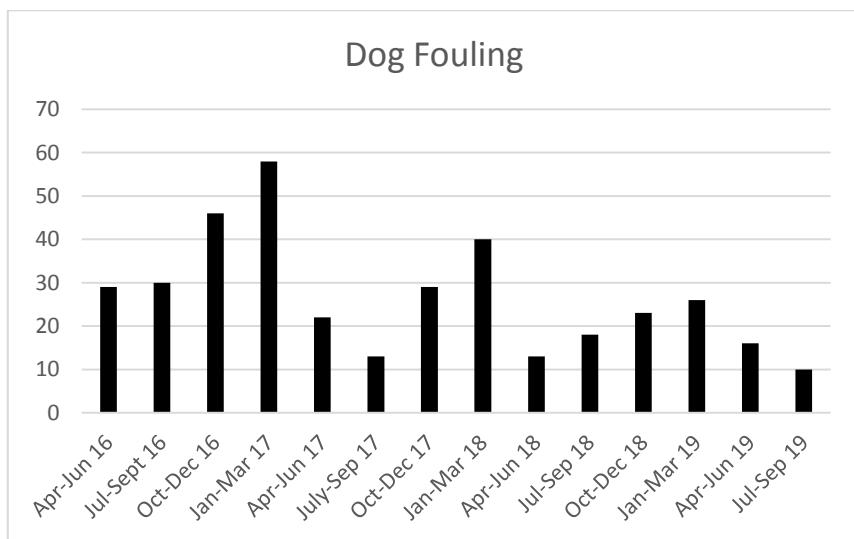


- 23. When reports of vehicles sent for scrap are broken down into wards, Fareham South had the highest incident rate of 11 for this reporting period, while the other wards all had totals of 5 or under.

DOG FOULING

- 24. Estimates made by Environmental Campaigns (ENCAMS) put the UK dog population between 6.5 and 7.4 million, producing 1,000 tonnes of faeces every day.
- 25. Fareham residents report an average of 106 incidents per annum (just over two incidents a week) to the Council.
- 26. The Ward reporting the most dog fouling to Streetscene is Warsash although this is on average just once a month. Hill Head and Fareham North have the least number of reports with an average of 10 months between incidents being reported in these two wards.

Period	Figures
April- June 2016	29
July – September 2016	30
October – December 2016	46
January- March 2017	58
April- June 2017	22
July – September 2017	13
October – December 2017	29
January- March 2018	40
April- June 2018	13
July – September 2018	18
October – December 2018	23
January- March 2019	26
April- June 2019	16
July – September 2019	10
Total	373



STREET WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

27. The following tonnages have been collected by the Operations team for the reporting period (full years only).

Operation	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Fly-tipping, bulky waste, street litter & litter bins	1,661	1,545	1,571
Mechanical street sweeping	40	64	84
Totals	1,701	1,609	1,655

28. Overall waste tonnages appear steady year on year but street sweeping totals have increased over the period. There is no obvious reason for this other than FBC have modernised the fleet in recent years and that will have resulted in improved performance and reduced downtime for the newer vehicles.

RISK ASSESSMENT

29. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

CONCLUSION

30. Fareham's figures for fly-tipping are broadly comparable to the reported national average and most environmental issues seem to be suggesting a slight drop since 2016/17 except for the abandoned vehicle reports.

Background Papers:

None

Reference Papers:

None

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Mick Gore. (Ext 4459)