

## **Committee: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**Date:** 6 February 2020

Wards: ALL

### **Subject: Fly-tipping operational resource review**

Lead officer: Chris Lee, Director of E & R

Lead member(s): Councillor Tobin Byers, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and the Environment

Contact officer: John Bosley, Assistant Director, Public Space

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### **Recommendations:**

- A. Members are asked to note the content of the report and provide Officers and the lead Cabinet Member with commentary or recommendations with regards to the additional resource applied to the operational service to address the increase in fly-tipping incidents across the borough.
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## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

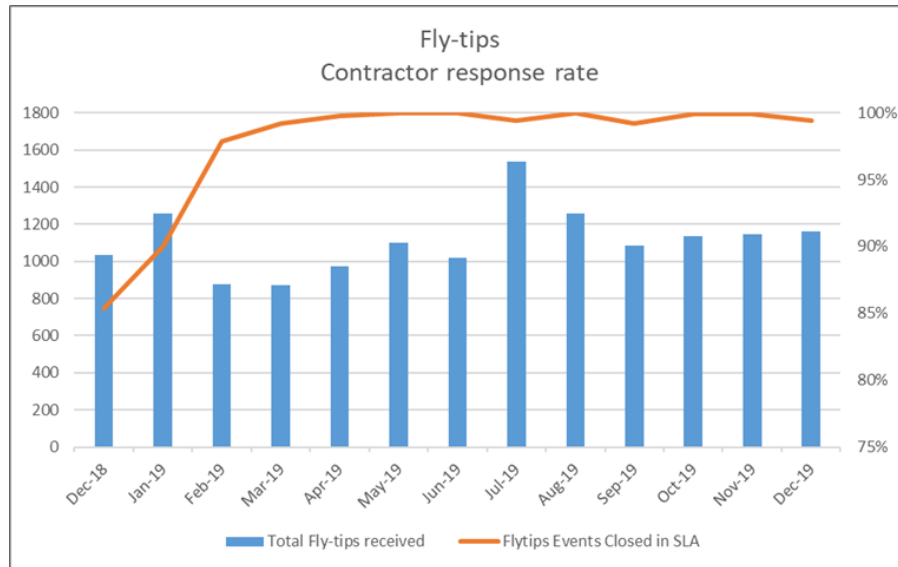
- 1.1. This report sets out the rationale for variation to the resource profile utilised by the waste service provider, Veolia, as delivered through the South London Waste Partnership, Phase C, Lot1 contract to manage the increased volume of fly-tipping incidents suffered across the borough.
- 1.2. As part of the recognised increase in the rise in fly-tipping nationally and the recorded incidents across the borough, the report identifies the required additional capacity invested by Veolia in 2019/20 (contract Year 3) and the commitment by the Council to fully fund the requirement to support the implementation of the Fly-Tipping Strategy.
- 1.3. The resource requirements outlined within the report formed an element of the Annual Review process and this was presented to Cabinet on the 27 January 2020, which recommended that the applied resource in Year 3 is funded and further supported to sustain the improvements that have been made in our reactive management to fly-tipping incidents.

## **2 DETAILS**

- 2.1.1 In line with the National trend, we have been responding to a sustained increase in the volume of fly-tipped waste incidents across the borough. The regularity of waste deposited is becoming a common form of anti-social behaviour, which is damaging to both the environment the overall image of our Public Realm. On average we are clearing in excess of 1,000 fly-tipped incidents per month.
- 2.1.2 Chart 1 below illustrates the number of fly-tipping incidents recorded and our service provider's performance in ensuring that these are cleared in line with

the current Service Level Agreement (SLA). There is clear correlation between the improvements seen in clearing these incidents (Feb 2019) and the increase in resource deployed at this time.

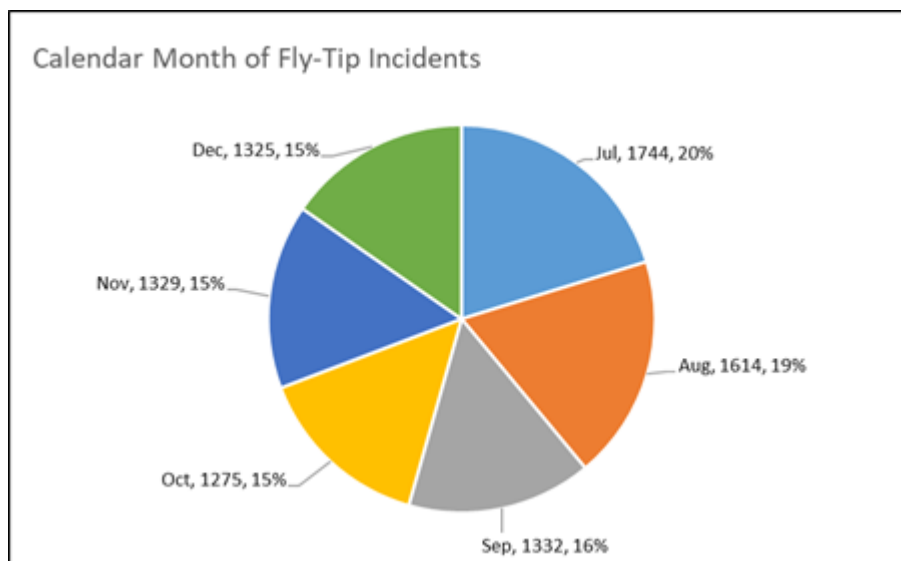
Chart 1. Contractor response rate to reported incidents



2.1.3 In partnership with our service provider, our primary aim is to ensure that we have the right resources in place to address these concerns and to align our approach in tackling fly-tipping to both improve our response to reported incidents and to use this information to inform our enforcement programme.

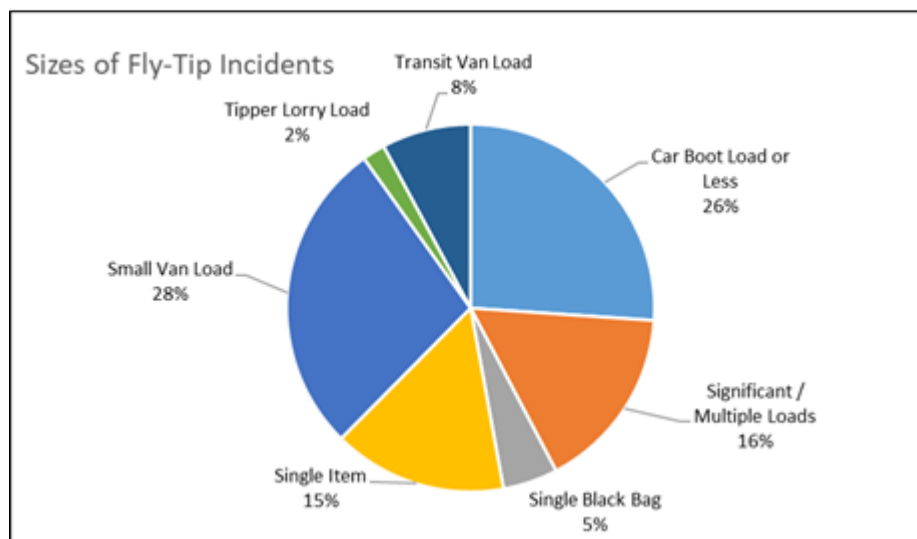
2.1.4 The following chart depicts the relatively proportionate distribution of fly-tipping incidents per calendar month which demonstrates that there is little seasonal variability with the exception of a slight increase during warmer weather.

Chart 2. Incidents per month (last 6 months)



2.1.5 Chart 3 demonstrates the variability of the size of reported fly-tipping incidents. From an enforcement perspective, the use of motor vehicles as shown by the proportion of car boot incidents (26% of reported incidents) and small van load size incidents (28%) provides focus on the importance of identifying 'hotspot' locations where enforcement techniques that focus on the transport of waste would be beneficial. For example, the recent deployment surveillance equipment at an identified 'hotspot' location has resulted in the issuing of over 60 fixed penalty notes for the illegal deposition of waste.

Chart 3. Sizes of recorded incidents (last 6 months)



2.1.6 Following recommendations from Ward Councillors, the service has been investigating areas with high levels of reported fly-tipping recorded over the last 6 months, with the aim to work with Veolia to develop a reactive approach to visiting the hotspots locations and remove fly-tipping incidents and reduce the potential for added waste to accumulate.

Table 1. 'Hotspot' locations (last 6 months)

Recorded Incidents			Recorded Incidents		
	Road Name	Recorded Incidents		Road Name	Recorded Incidents
1	Streatham Road	292	11	Commonside East	84
2	The Broadway	189	12	Kingston Road	84
3	Haydons Road	178	13	Garden Avenue	82
4	London Road	137	14	Ashbourne Road	77
5	Caithness Road	131	15	Manor Place	77
6	Grove Road	121	16	Acacia Road	76
7	Abbotsbury Road	112	17	Seely Road	73
8	St Helier Avenue	108	18	Love Lane	65
9	Links Road	100	19	Tynemouth Road	62
10	Canterbury Road	92	20	Abbotts Road	61

2.1.7 Additional techniques, such as partnering with the Police to undertake stops of vehicles potentially transporting waste, further reinforces awareness of the requirements to businesses on disposing of waste and that the Council is

present in the community, tackling this issue. The aim of the service is to deliver targeted, evidenced based enforcement supported by wider engagement with service partners, community groups and stakeholders with the goal to provide an overall reduction in the recorded incidents and an improved satisfaction with our residents regarding the cleanliness of the streets within their communities.

- 2.1.8 The main strands of focus within this work stream is to enable the delivery of improvements are;
- Early intervention – education, communication and engagement
  - Preventing reoccurrence – operational service and target hardening
  - Targeted enforcement – FPNs, prosecutions & vehicle stops

### **3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 3.1. The Council could have decided not to fund the proposed resource to address the increase in fly-tipping incidents. This would have decreased the reliability of the service, the resolution of reported incidents and would have limited the service to deliver further improvements in the cleansing of our streets, resulting in public dissatisfaction with the service.

### **4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

- 4.1. Prior to finalising the Fly-Tipping strategy the Public Space division held a number of Member engagement workshops in November and December last year.
- 4.2. The aim of the five (5) separate workshops with all Ward Councillors was to understand key themes and issues arising within specific Wards, along with ascertaining any concerns or recommendations in the implementation of the strategy.
- 4.3. It should be noted that these were not meetings to deal with specific casework, rather they provided an opportunity to discuss the broader issues that were affecting waste collection and cleanliness in their specific Wards in a spirit of partnership working
- 4.4. Each workshop focused on the geographical area divided by the day of collection and the impacted Wards were invited to attend on their relevant day of collection. As such, there was cross party representation on 4 of the 5 meetings as illustrated in the table below.

Date	Collection Day	Wards
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Monday	Raynes Park Hillside Wimbledon Park Village
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Tuesday	Dundonald Trinity Colliers wood Abbey
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Thursday	St Helier

		Ravensbury Lavender Hill Abbey Colliers Wood
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday	West Barns Lower Morden Merton park Cannon Hill
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Wednesday	Cricket Green Pollards Hill Figge's Marsh Longthorton Graveney

## **5 TIMETABLE**

5.1. The payments are to be made this year and for future years.

## **6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1. The financial impact of the increase in fly-tipping detailed in this report is £197k for 2019/20 onwards. A 2020/21 growth item for this additional cost has been presented to Cabinet in January 2020

## **7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1. The proposed increase in resource requirements and subsequent variation has been agreed in principle by both Veolia and the Council. Once formal agreement has been reached, it will allow the parties to concentrate on service improvement and implement a proactive approach the fly-tipping as referenced in the services fly-tipping strategy.

7.2. A deed of variation to the existing contract will be drawn up to ensure certainty over the parties' respective obligations in the future

## **8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. There are no human rights, equalities or community cohesion implications as a result of this report

## **9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. There are no crime and disorder implications as a result of this report

## **10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

10.1. There are no risk management and health and safety implications as a result of this report

## **11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

### **12 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

12.1. Cabinet report, 27 January 2020, Agenda Item 7 - Waste and street cleansing contract annual review

12.2. Fly-Tipping Strategy 2019

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