

Executive Summary

Fly Tipping

BACKGROUND

- 1 An audit review has been undertaken of Fly Tipping operations within the Waste Education and Enforcement Team.
- 2 The fly tipping teams are responsible for education and enforcement activities, to tackle the offence of fly tipping and household duty of care. They are responsible for working reactively and proactively, monitoring and removing waste, and delivering enforcement through investigation, issue of Fixed Penalty Notices and prosecution.

MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- 3 The audit of Fly Tipping operations within the Waste Education and Enforcement Team identified a number of gaps in processes, which required management. An audit opinion of **unsatisfactory** has been allocated, as there was a need to strengthen the recording of the fly tipping activities and recovery, and to improve the approach to performance measurement and management.
- 4 The recording of fly tipping was inconsistent, with different processes in place for recording and evidencing proactive and reactive fly tipping recovery. Records were fragmented, as whilst processes required proactive fly tipping identified through monitoring hot spots and wider patrols to be logged in the StarTraq system, this was not in place for responsive / reactive fly tipping. Management information, such as GPS co-ordinates, were not being regularly recorded against fly tipping cases, and photographic evidence of fly tipping was not systematically held. Following initial recovery of waste, improvements are also required to the case management of associated enforcement activities. There were a number of instances where cases had not been properly progressed on a timely basis.
- 5 Performance was monitored based on the records completed by operatives when collecting fly tipping materials. The monitoring process should make use of actual weighed-in materials through the weighbridge facilities, rather than relying on judgement-based records created upon recovery. There were also no reconciliations of fly tipping materials and volumes recorded upon recovery, and subsequently recorded and receipted through the weighbridge facilities, to provide the necessary ongoing assurance on the completeness and accuracy of records.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- 6 The audit included seventeen recommendations (four red, eight red/amber and five amber/green).
- 7 Management have agreed all of the seventeen recommendations raised during the audit.

LATEST POSITION

- 8 Management have agreed to deliver all recommendations, through the review and development of their operating and performance management practices.
- 9 Internal Audit will continue to monitor the internal control environment through the recommendation tracker and regular discussions with management. A further follow up audit will be undertaken in line with agreed audit protocols.