

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Walk This Waste

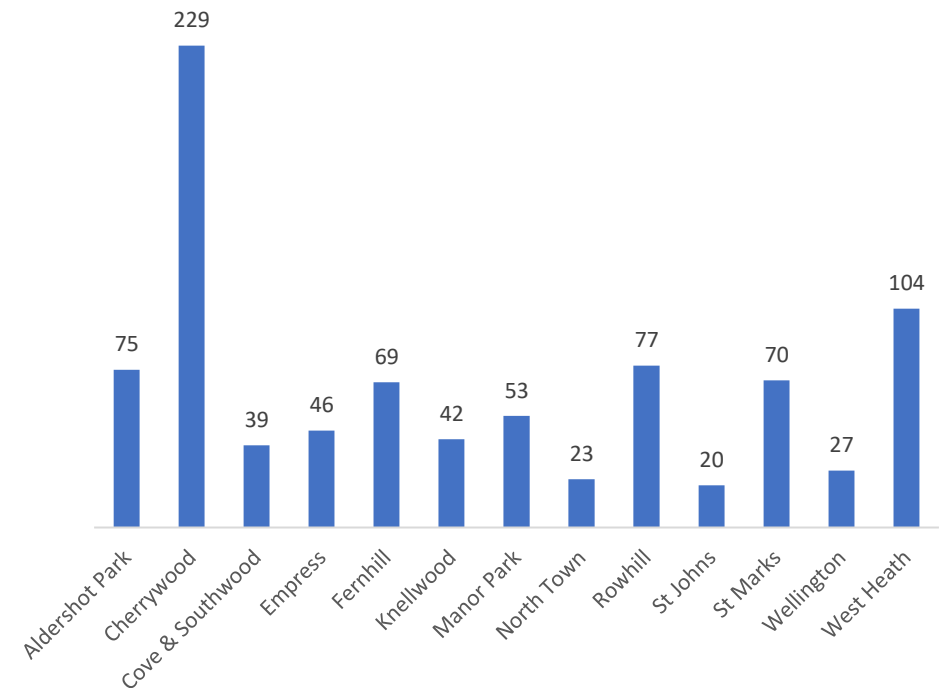
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11 December 2025

Background

- Fly-tipping is a significant problem across Rushmoor, especially in deprived areas
- Council key priority: “Pride in Place - Clean, Safe and Vibrant Neighbourhoods”, which aims to deliver cleaner streets, reduced fly-tipping and address anti-social behaviour
- Hypothesis tested: The provision of a free local bulky waste service reduces fly-tipping in the local area
- Options already available are the HWRC and chargeable doorstep collection service
- Target audience: residents without transport or funds

Number of flytip reports on public land by ward in 2024



Methodology

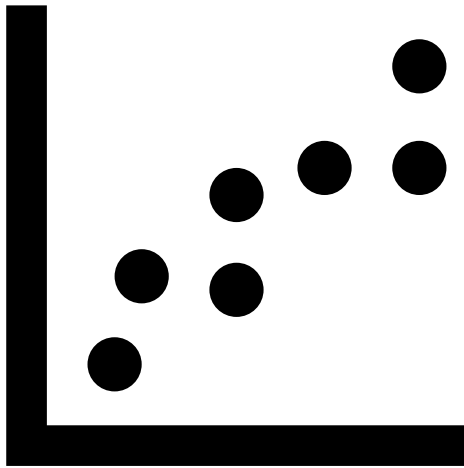
- 9 events took place
- Mobile collection vehicle used, with 4-5 stopping points rather than a static skip
- Advertised via social media, local press, Councillors and Council newsletter
- Accepted waste matched the established chargeable bulky waste service and limited to 3 items per household
- Service staffed by the Contracts team and initially Place Protection enforcement officers



Results

- 178 residents used the service
 - 44 Cherrywood / West Heath
 - 41 Rowhill
 - 34 St Marks
 - 59 Aldershot Park
- 75% residents had no preference between weekday/weekend
- 333 items collected
 - 91 Cherrywood / West Heath
 - 76 Rowhill
 - 63 St Marks
 - 103 Aldershot Park
- 8.34 tonnes of waste collected
- Most common alternative disposal methods were “Kept at home” and “Taken to a HWRC”





Results (continued)

- Response to communications on social media was positive, with initial posts reaching the most people out of all Council posts (within 28 days)
- Environmental visual audits:
 - Pre-events = 51 flytips / 44 suitable for Walk This Waste service
 - Post-events = 46 flytips remaining / all suitable for Walk This Waste service
 - Small number of fly-tips removed during the service, but more added, resulting in overall increase
- Hypothesis of 'The provision of a free local bulky waste service reduces fly-tipping in the local area' was rejected
- No statistically significant impact on bulky waste bookings

Costs

- Trial events cost approximately £5,700
 - £2,550 contractor costs
 - £3,150 staff costs
- Potential lost income from bulky waste bookings not included
- Disposal costs not included. Indicative cost would have been c. £1,700

Lessons & Limitations

- Thorough and varied communications to advertise the service is essential
- The use of a vehicle rather than static skip is more flexible
- Enforcement Officers unnecessary
- Items need to be carried to collection vehicle
- Hours of operation at weekends is limited
- Staffing resource



Conclusion

- Trial was well received by residents
- Vehicle rather than static skip was the best solution
- The service did not reduce fly-tipping locally
- Future boroughwide service of one event per ward / per year will cost the Council £7,970 per year (25/26 rates)

