

Formal Council Questions and Responses

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1 Question to the Cabinet Member for City Services : 2019/13 - Waste and Recycling

Councillor Fouweather asked:

The recent information that you provided me regarding the issuing of fixed penalty notices shows a considerable drop in the number issue.

Can you explain to me why this has happened when the budget for cleansing has increased because of the amount of rubbish being dropped.

2012/2013	162 FPNs issued	No fines issued by the court
2013/2014	588 FPNs issued	91 fines issued by the courts
2014/2015	1642 FPNs issues	84 fines issued by the courts
2015/2016	1766 FPNs issued	146 fines issued by the courts
2016 /2017	1774 FPNs issued	187 fines issued by the courts
2017/2018	724 FPNs issued	82 fines issued by the courts
2018/2019	288 FPNs issued	3 fines issued by the courts

2012/2013	1,412,033
2013/2014	1,065,402
2014/2015	1,273,128
2015/2016	1,729,944
2016 /2017	1,583,674
2017/2018	1,332,847
2018/2019	1,663,976

The leader of the council has claimed that there has been a 30% reduction in rubbish volume since the new smaller bins have been introduced, she has also claimed that recycling and food waste collections have improved by 25%. Therefore can you answer the following. Because the leader has made this public statement the information requested to the questions below will be available.

1 Has there been any increase in use of the landfill site since the introduction of the smaller bins?

2 Has there been any increase in the cost of running the landfill site since the smaller bins have been introduced?

3 Has the council incurred any costs regarding the traffic congestion on the SDR caused by people queuing to get into the landfill site?

4 Has the volume of waste at the landfill site increased since the introduction of the new smaller bins?

5 Many residents are complaining about the opening hours at the landfill site. Are there any plans to increase the availability of the site to residents?

Councillor Jeavons responded:

Historically FPNs have only been issued by Community Safety Wardens, therefore the number of notices issued are not directly related to the cleansing budget. There has been no increase in resources deployed. The only budget increases in the last 4 years relate to national pay award increases and the inclusion of operational management costs as part of a budget realignment exercise.

For the month of April 2018, 9871 tonnes was disposed of at the landfill site, whereas for the month of April 2019, 9480 tonnes was disposed of at the landfill site. However, the landfill site located at Docks Way is a commercial facility and is not accessible to the public. Newport's residual (wheelie bin) waste goes to Trident Park in Cardiff for disposal. As a result, any changes in the usage of the landfill site and landfill volumes would not be related to Newport's residual (wheelie bin) waste.

No additional costs have been incurred.

The landfill site is not open to the residents, only the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), which is currently open 348 days a year from 7:30 to 4:30 (9:00 to 4:30 on weekends).

I have asked the service area to review the opening hours in advance of delivering the next stage of the Council's waste strategy, which is to develop a second HWRC site by 2022.