

# Minutes

## Formal Council Questions and Responses

Date: 9 April 2025

### 1 Question to the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Biodiversity : 2025/08 - Fly Tipping Incidents

Councillor Sterry asked:

**\*2025/08**

#### Fly tipping and Costs

##### Number of incidents

Out of the 22 authorities in Wales, for 2023-24 Newport took back the No1 spot for the most recorded fly tipping incidents in Wales.

A total of 8139 incidents raised, let us put that into prospective, Newport reordered more incidents for the whole of Mid and South West Wales (7,386).

Mid and South Wales covers Powys, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Swansea, and Neath Port Talbot

The average fly tipping incidents in Newport from 2014 to 2018 was 2638 cases  
The average fly tipping incidents in Newport from 2019 to 2023 was 5761 cases

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	
<b>Wales</b>	54941	49995	55349	48179	41750	36411	34876	32934	31213	30259	28614	26504	25076	23540	40371	41333	39653	42171	100.00%
<b>North Wales</b>	6642	7714	10775	12358	8023	6565	5969	6340	5895	5700	5975	5764	5022	5021	7754	5639	7755	9822	23.29%
Isle of Anglesey	1530	2613	1999	1585	1045	801	1103	1320	1767	1831	2010	1567	1712	1305	1774	1768	2526	3918	9.29%
Gwynedd	1034	878	541	511	648	527	371	514	529	645	624	461	333	567	679	370	295	588	1.39%
Conwy	1328	1336	1580	1009	1361	1055	935	925	980	1078	1351	1540	1734	1274	2078	1447	1601	1563	3.94%
Denbighshire	1086	991	3793	5189	2515	2249	2144	2206	1446	1120	1004	1207	665	680	1208	814	768	1121	2.66%
Flintshire	958	903	746	785	697	911	899	938	898	800	774	1013	1026	1586	988	1592	1477	1477	3.50%
Wrexham	705	993	2116	3279	1759	1022	505	476	235	158	186	215	175	369	429	252	973	1055	2.50%
<b>Mid and South West Wales</b>	12704	12978	11888	9357	8156	7179	7055	7571	9036	10891	9214	8780	8858	8982	8963	8690	7975	7386	17.51%
Powys	855	1584	2435	2033	1614	551	658	682	804	1019	1013	1436	1225	494	483	418	508	377	0.89%
Ceredigion	441	480	356	317	327	270	253	317	446	390	252	240	156	155	134	136	357	124	0.29%
Pembrokeshire	727	819	660	693	634	732	710	1163	818	1199	1521	1323	1159	868	740	659	579	683	1.62%
Carmarthenshire	1649	1215	1487	1619	1542	1516	1363	1438	1306	972	1732	2939	3516	4111	4568	4803	3769	3084	7.31%
Swansea	7401	7323	5081	4042	2902	2003	2705	2702	4415	6040	3646	1766	1450	1450	1399	1772	1904	2485	5.89%
Neath Port Talbot	1631	1557	1049	833	1137	2107	1406	1269	1267	1271	1050	1056	1330	1404	1639	1102	858	623	1.50%
<b>South East Wales</b>	35495	41303	33506	26284	25569	22667	21812	19023	16762	15938	23425	20910	20918	20037	24554	26004	24123	24963	56.19%
Bridgend	1074	2042	482	664	827	664	854	1033	1086	1086	1283	1604	1937	1788	1744	1640	1650	1510	3.55%
Vale of Glamorgan	2030	1546	1391	1598	1388	979	833	1048	906	532	612	324	357	371	393	257	279	135	0.32%
Rhondda Cynon Taff	3478	3257	3950	3961	4448	3864	3193	3935	4252	4023	4252	3349	3247	2946	3147	3295	3322	3563	8.45%
Merthyr Tydfil	1547	1482	1567	1354	850	1128	1416	1320	1010	1682	1970	2273	2909	1850	2096	1838	1177	967	2.29%
Caerphilly	3116	2725	2195	1560	2680	1618	1479	2609	2052	2359	1992	1773	1949	2214	2751	1980	1754	2208	5.24%
Blaenau Gwent	285	394	381	230	237	177	334	483	726	723	845	955	1167	1327	1661	1359	1000	950	2.25%
Torfaen	594	871	795	746	361	316	263	410	590	605	794	696	836	866	857	762	826	927	2.20%
Monmouthshire	846	812	837	659	645	599	446	501	407	303	414	420	300	572	749	558	607	633	1.50%
Newport	133	1637	3455	4015	2648	2014	1982	1578	1828	1811	3270	3588	2697	2725	4060	7621	6264	8139	19.30%
Cardiff	21792	26537	18453	11497	11485	11288	10912	6106	3905	6214	7993	5928	5219	5378	6896	7494	7044	5931	14.06%

#### Cost to the tax payer

Out of the 22 authorities in Wales, for 2023-24 Newport was ranked No1 for the most spend on cleaning up Fly tipping by local authority in Wales.

It cost Newport City Council £343,274 again putting that into prospective, Newport vastly paid more money out cleaning up Fly tipping than any other authority and exceeding the whole of Mid and South West Wales £283,245

		Clearance costs by size (£)							Clearance costs by size (£)		
		Single black bag	Single item	Car boot or less	Small van load	Transit van load	Tipper lorry load	Significant / multi loads			
Wales		£13,818.00	£201,289.00	£431,984.00	£595,728.00	£469,315.00	£136,934.00	£87,498.00	£1,936,566.00		
North Wales		£6,195.00	£55,303.00	£103,182.00	£127,512.00	£77,970.00	£31,600.00	£43,728.00	£445,490.00	23.00%	
North Wales	Isle of Anglesey	£1,540.00	£30,421.00	£47,241.00	£47,152.00	£19,435.00	£1,390.00	£360.00	£147,539.00	7.62%	
	Gwynedd	£210.00	£4,988.00	£4,669.00	£9,240.00	£5,635.00	£4,170.00	£0.00	£28,912.00	1.49%	
	Conwy	£350.00	£7,279.00	£22,156.00	£14,672.00	£8,165.00	£0.00	£0.00	£52,622.00	2.72%	
	Denbighshire	£1,218.00	£5,655.00	£8,671.00	£19,264.00	£12,535.00	£0.00	£0.00	£47,343.00	2.44%	
	Flintshire	£196.00	£4,785.00	£8,178.00	£28,840.00	£29,325.00	£26,040.00	£43,368.00	£140,732.00	7.27%	
	Wrexham	£2,681.00	£2,175.00	£12,267.00	£8,344.00	£2,875.00	£0.00	£0.00	£28,342.00	1.46%	
	Mid and South West Wales		£1,883.00	£18,589.00	£60,088.00	£93,128.00	£68,885.00	£25,032.00	£15,640.00	£283,245.00	14.63%
	Mid and South West Wales	Powys	£350.00	£957.00	£3,625.00	£6,104.00	£5,175.00	£2,800.00	£2,520.00	£21,531.00	1.11%
		Ceredigion	£7.00	£29.00	£696.00	£4,200.00	£2,645.00	£0.00	£0.00	£7,577.00	0.39%
		Pembrokeshire	£266.00	£1,218.00	£6,409.00	£11,816.00	£16,100.00	£3,570.00	£3,900.00	£43,279.00	2.23%
Cardiganshire		£357.00	£9,048.00	£15,109.00	£10,752.00	£9,660.00	£9,627.00	£0.00	£54,553.00	2.82%	
Swansea		£896.00	£4,437.00	£29,261.00	£52,248.00	£21,045.00	£3,185.00	£7,800.00	£118,872.00	6.14%	
Neath Port Talbot		£7.00	£2,900.00	£4,988.00	£8,008.00	£14,260.00	£5,850.00	£1,420.00	£37,433.00	1.93%	
South East Wales		£5,740.00	£127,397.00	£268,714.00	£375,088.00	£322,460.00	£80,302.00	£28,130.00	£1,207,831.00	62.37%	
South East Wales	Bridgend	£1,211.00	£4,495.00	£15,834.00	£18,032.00	£15,640.00	£0.00	£0.00	£55,212.00	2.85%	
	Vale of Glamorgan	£56.00	£232.00	£1,305.00	£2,464.00	£2,185.00	£2,800.00	£1,800.00	£10,842.00	0.56%	
	Rhondda Cynon Taff	£378.00	£14,993.00	£38,338.00	£69,944.00	£40,480.00	£21,700.00	£2,520.00	£188,353.00	9.73%	
	Merthyr Tydfil	£231.00	£4,118.00	£7,105.00	£10,416.00	£12,420.00	£2,314.00	£0.00	£36,604.00	1.89%	
	Caerphilly	£224.00	£10,701.00	£10,643.00	£34,496.00	£87,860.00	£0.00	£0.00	£143,924.00	7.43%	
	Blaenau Gwent	£658.00	£6,235.00	£8,584.00	£11,536.00	£8,855.00	£6,136.00	£2,360.00	£44,364.00	2.29%	
	Torfaen	£364.00	£4,495.00	£8,178.00	£15,064.00	£10,005.00	£12,870.00	£6,490.00	£57,466.00	2.97%	
	Monmouthshire	£294.00	£3,973.00	£5,307.00	£12,880.00	£4,255.00	£657.00	£0.00	£27,366.00	1.41%	
	Newport	£1,862.00	£24,273.00	£128,760.00	£114,184.00	£58,535.00	£700.00	£14,960.00	£343,274.00	17.73%	
	Cardiff	£462.00	£53,882.00	£44,660.00	£86,072.00	£82,225.00	£33,125.00	£0.00	£300,426.00	15.51%	

## Bookings to the tip (by cities in Wales)

2020 Newport introduced the booking system to visit the tip, the amount of fly tipping has significantly increased year on year (apart from 2022 which had a slight drop)

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1578	1828	1811	3270	3588	2697	2725	4060	7621	6264	8139
4.79%	5.76%	4.99%	8.47%	10.13%	7.69%	8.12%	9.89%	18.44%	15.72%	19.30%

Bookings slots for the tip: Newport and Cardiff (The two highest authorities for Fly tipping incidents and costs)

No bookings required: Wrexham and 1 location from 5 for booking only for Swansea.  
Pre 2020 Newport fly tipping by cases was at an average of 6.84% whereas after 2020 we are now at an average of 15.84%

## Recycling rates

2020-21 Newport at 67.2%

2021-22 Newport at 67.1% behind Wrexham 67.9%

2022-23 Newport at 65.2% behind Swansea 71.8%, and Wrexham 65.5%

2023-24 Newport at 67.9% behind Swansea 70.4%

## Summary

- The smaller bins were introduced in 2019, and the 3 weekly bin collection was introduced in 2023, we were assured that the reduction in size of the household

waste bin and moving to 3-week collection, that this would not have an impact on fly tipping.

- The amount of fly tipping cases has doubled in Newport from (stats from 2014-18) and the cost to clear out streets in Newport £343,274 outranks Cardiff £300,426, Swansea £ 118,872, and Wrexham £28,342
- The two highest offenders for fly Tipping costs are Newport and Cardiff are at (33.24% / £643,700) which both use the booking system, whereas the other two cities, Swansea and Wrexham that do not use the full booking system are only at (7.60% / £147,214) of costs. Our recycling rates have been behind Swansea or Wrexham every year (apart from Covid year 2020) since we have introduced the booking system.
- The booking system does relieve the traffic congestion on the SDR , but as the stats suggest it also has an impact on Fly tipping.

All these stats have been taken from <https://statswales.gov.wales/>

#### Questions for NCC

1. What is NCC doing to bring down these costs to an average (£150,000) between Cardiff, Swansea, and Wrexham ?
2. Is the booking system working as the stats suggest that Newport and Cardiff are behind neighbouring Welsh cities Swansea and Wrexham in recycling but ahead in fly tipping?
3. How are you going to measure this to ensure that NCC are on track ?
4. Can we introduce pop up recycling centres to areas that are known high areas for fly tipping? (This would improve our recycling rates and reduce our fly tipping rates)
5. Can we offer an incentive that rewards residents if measures are hit, like a reduction by % in council tax?
6. Can we offer other incentives maybe if a fly tipper is successfully convicted then the person/s who passed on the evidence receives a cash reward?
7. I see the headlines " More investment to combat litter and fly tipping , can you please clarify what the details are?
8. Can the Council review the current booking system? Are there enough booking slots available during the day?

#### **Councillor Forsey responded:**

Unfortunately, the reporting through the national database is not consistent. While NRW have issued guidance to councils on the incidents that have to be reported, this has not been enforced. We see value in fully recording every instance as it helps us target enforcement and enables a more rapid response.

Costs listed via the national database are based on national averages and are not a reflection of actual costs.

Newport has for a number of years had one of the highest rates of recycling in the UK. Last year our rate of 68% was better than every single council in England. Figures for the first three quarters of this year indicate we are likely to move back to the highest performing city in the UK for recycling rate this year.

A discussion with officers may be the best way to address the comments of Cllr Sterry in more detail.

The meeting terminated at Time Not Specified