

GOLDEN MOTION (LABOUR PARTY): FOUR WEEKLY BIN COLLECTIONS AND CRACKING DOWN ON FLY-TIPPING

This council notes:

1. ~~The Bristol Quality of Life Survey found that in 2023~~, 84% of people ~~thought that~~ ~~ink~~ street litter ~~was~~ is a problem locally – this increased to 94% of people living in areas of deprivation.
2. Fly-tipping is one of the most commonplace issues residents raise with their local councillors.
3. Fly-tipping causes environmental damage including contaminating ecosystems, polluting waterways, and harming wildlife.
4. Fly-tipping is a public health issue with hazardous substances and objects posing injury and health risks and decomposing waste attracting pests.
5. The fines for fly-tipping were increased to the legal maximum and enforcement cameras were installed at fly-tipping hotspots by the Labour administration.
6. ~~The previous Labour administration cut £700k from the street cleansing and fly-tipping budget.~~
7. ~~In the last year four new mobile fly tipping cameras have been funded by the government and are being used to monitor hot spots in various locations where problems are recurring. However, more needs to be done.~~
8. ~~In February 2025, a new integration of FixMyStreet pro has made street cleansing reports easier and more efficient.~~
9. ~~The introduction of measures such as increased fines will act as a significant deterrent.~~
10. The Green-led administration's consultation on waste collection ~~and recycling~~ closes on 10 March, which includes ~~gathering public opinion on options for~~ ~~how the public would feel about moving to~~ three or four weekly black bin collections.
11. ~~The aim of this consultation is to improve recycling rates.~~

12. Bristol currently recycles 45% of its waste and this has been falling, and the Government's 'Resources and Waste Strategy' aims for at least 65% of waste to be recycled by 2035.
13. Analysis from Bristol Waste shows that over 40% of what's in Bristol's black bins can be recycled.
14. The move from weekly to fortnightly bin collections has been one of the only significant changes the council has made in the last 20 years that has increased recycling rates.
15. Bristol City Council received an additional £7.467m this year through Extended Producer Responsibility Allowance.
16. The Government is set to introduce a carbon tax on Bristol's waste through the emissions trading scheme, which is likely to cost Bristol taxpayers millions if recyclable materials remain in bins for disposal.
17. ~~Despite this additional funding, t~~The Green led Council's budget for 2025/26, includes a £500k annual recurring revenue saving in 2025/26 and a further £500k recurring annual revenue saving in 2026/27 by making changes to 'non-recyclable waste collection'.
18. At the time of submission, over 11,000 people have signed a Labour petition against moving to "monthly" black bin collections, ~~reflecting the strength of feeling across the city.~~

This council believes:

1. The council needs to put residents' priorities first. Cracking down on fly-tipping is a priority for residents across Bristol, particularly those in deprived communities.
2. The council should take a zero-tolerance approach to fly-tipping.
3. Fly-tipping is one of the most common complaints from residents, the council clearly needs to do more to tackle fly-tipping, both through deterrence and through prompt removal.

4. Considering the additional £7.467m, Bristol City Council is set to receive through the Extended Producer Responsibility Allowance, waste services should continue to be invested in.
5. **Once the consultation has closed, a Task and Finish group of the Environment and Sustainability committee will look at ways in which recycling rates can be improved across Bristol.** ~~Improving recycling rates needs to happen without 'putting the cart before the horse'. Soft plastic recycling, exploring mixed recycling, nappy recycling, larger recycling bins, are all ways this can be achieved.~~
6. Petitions are a valid way for residents to raise concerns about issues, and should not be dismissed out of hand.
7. **However, representatives of this council should encourage residents to engage with public consultations whenever they can, as they are the most appropriate way for their voices to be directly taken into account in the decision making process, including sharing their experiences, rating their preferences and adding their comments and suggestions.**
8. ~~That proceeding with budget cuts to "non-recyclable waste collection" whilst a consultation is live on waste and recycling, could be viewed as pre-determining the outcome.~~
9. **The introduction of measures such as increased fines could act as a significant deterrent. (moved from 'notes')**

Full Council resolves to endorse and refer the following points to the Environment and Sustainability Committee:

1. Continue to invest General Fund Capital Funding, into more enforcement cameras to deter fly-tipping in known hotspots.
2. **Continue to** investigate ways to improve reporting processes for fly-tipping.
3. Review the operations centre for the monitoring of such cameras.
4. **Ask the Homes and Housing Delivery Committee, as the committee responsible for the HRA, to look at** ~~Extend the Guarantee of~~ **extending**

- fly-tipping removal on public land to **include** council-owned land, such as that owned by the Housing Revenue Account, and unadopted land.
5. Aim to change the 72 hours guarantee for fly-tipping removal **back** to 48 hours within a year of passing this motion, and report back on progress **in restoring the funding for this** as necessary.
 6. **Ask the new waste Task and Finish group to look at** ~~Look to~~ **how the council could** provide a discount for bulky waste collection fee for those in receipt of Pension Credit, Universal Credit, Local Housing Allowance, Council Tax Reduction, or the mobility higher rate for Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Personal Independent Payment (PIP).
 7. ~~Look to provide local community groups with a skip once a year, where people can take non-recyclable waste of which they are unable to dispose.~~ **Look into using skips for strategic purposes to avoid fly-tipping.**
 8. **Following the strength of feeling expressed on the option of four weekly bin collections, acknowledge that whilst the task and finish group will review all consultation results and make full recommendations, we will rule out moving to four weekly collections at this time.**
 9. **Support the Environment and Sustainability Committee to use the results of the consultation to** ~~and~~ explore other measures to improve recycling rates across the city
 10. **Call on the Government for extra funding to cover the additional burden to council finances from the emissions trading scheme.**