



COUNCIL MEETING

2 February 2017

INTRODUCTION OF FIXED PENALTY NOTICES FOR FLYTIPPING AND REVIEW OF CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL FIXED PENALTY CHARGES

Mike Barker, Acting Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Cabinet at its meeting on 24 January 2017 considered a report on the introduction of Fixed Penalty Notices for flytipping and review of current environmental fixed penalty charges.
2. Implementation of the Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalty Notice) Regulations 2016 gives the Council power to deal with flytipping by Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN). Cabinet has recommended that Council approve the introduction of this power in Gateshead to efficiently deal with flytipping incidents.
3. There has been no increase in tariffs attached to existing FPNs, therefore the amount of the penalties is now relatively low and reduces the effectiveness of the threat of being caught. In addition, the recently introduced Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) carry a higher penalty than many of the existing FPNs. Consequently it is timely for the level of fines to be reviewed to ensure it reflects the cost of dealing with such issues and to bring current FPNs in line with the new PSPO FPNs. Recent consultation has confirmed that environmental issues remain one of the biggest concerns for Gateshead residents and businesses.
4. It is proposed that a new flytipping FPN be introduced and that current FPN tariffs are amended in order to support the protection of the environment in Gateshead through effective enforcement, with penalties that reflect the seriousness with which residents view the issues and reflects the true cost to the Council.
5. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that Council:
 - (i) Introduce a new Fixed Penalty Notice in respect of flytipping in line with Table 1 in the attached report.
 - (ii) Amend the Fixed Penalty Notice tariffs in line with Table 2 in the attached report.