

Member Questions and Responses for Full Council 25 February 2026

Question	Raised By	Executive Member	Response
<p>I posed a question at the Council Meeting on 29th January 2025 asking, “What extra financial provision is included in the budget to meet the increased cost of rubbish collection for the inevitable increase in fly tipping following the proposed introduction of a booking system at our household disposal sites?”. The response from Cllr Arciszewska was “There have been no changes to budget or potential operating costs as there is no established causal link between introduction of a booking scheme at household disposal sites and changes to fly tipping”.</p> <p>At the Council Meeting on 3rd December 2025 my colleague, Cllr Liam Walker asked, “There is concern amongst residents that these changes (the introduction of a booking system) could increase fly tipping..... Will there be extra resources for enforcement?”</p> <p>We now have a statement issued on 4th February 2026 stating that WODC is investing in new resources to tackle fly tipping – what has brought about this change of heart a year after it was raised? The statement confirms that environmental crime remains a growing challenge in West Oxfordshire and states, “Between January and December 2025,</p>	<p>Councillor Roger Faulkner</p>	<p>Councillor Lidia Arciszewska</p>	<p>The need for additional resources is determined by evidence, not a vague anticipation that something may or may not happen. All neighbouring authorities to Oxfordshire have a booking system to use the HWRCs. There is no evidence that their sites are less used or that there is an increased occurrence of fly-tipping. In West Oxfordshire, the number of reported fly-tipping incidents varies throughout the year, but so far, there has been no clear evidence of a substantial increase. However, the number of reported cases is only one factor being considered when assessing the resources needed. Over the last four years, we have made enormous progress in tackling the enviro-crime. The number of investigations has increased significantly. This is reflected by the large increase in the number of Fixed Penalty Notices served from 9 in 2022 to 48 in 2025. Moreover, an enormous amount of proactive work has been undertaken towards enviro-crime</p>

the Council received 1754 reports of offences, including fly tipping. It further states, “The Council is proposing to create a new post to support its Environmental Crime Officerto strengthen

These statements are extremely vague and so there are two questions that need specific answers:

1. What extra financial provision is included in the budget to meet the increased cost of rubbish collection for the inevitable increase in fly tipping following the proposed introduction of a booking system at our household disposal sites? (A repeat of the question posed on 29th January 2025.)
2. As it has been confirmed that environmental crime is a growing challenge will the Cabinet Member for the Environment provide Members with quarterly updates on the number of incidents of reported fly tipping?

prevention, like the installation and monitoring of CCTV cameras, engagement with town and parish councils and the public and other actions, such as ‘stop and search’ sessions conducted in collaboration with Thames Valley Police. Environmental crime is a growing challenge across the UK, and the Council needs to build resilience and be vigilant. It would be unreasonable to expect that all that work could be covered by a single officer.

1. An additional budget is being sought to recruit a level 1 case and field worker to support the Enviro-crime work, and in particular, enforcement against fly-tipping. Should the budget be approved, there is an additional cost of £40,367.

2. Updates on the number of incidents of reported fly tipping are reported quarterly for each Council.

Year	Quarter	Total Fly tips reported
2024	Q1	251
	Q2	292
	Q3	325

				Q4	379
			2025	Q1	243
				Q2	312
				Q3	310