

Member Questions and Responses 22 July 2026

Question	Raised By Cllr	Executive Member – Cllr	Response
1. How much has been spent on each individual external consultants used for the local plan?	Michele Mead	Liz Leffman, Planning and Infrastructure	Overall, the spend on the local plan is within the approved budget of £750,000. Of this budget, £500,518 is available to spend in 2026/27. Any surplus funding will be returned to the General Fund at the end of the year. Details of supplier spend over £500 are reported on the Council website. In general terms, individual studies commissioned through external consultants tend to range from around £10,000 - £15,000 up to around £75,000 - £100,000 depending on the nature and length of the commission. National estimates for preparing a local plan from start to finish range from £500,000 to £1.5m depending on the scope and complexity of the plan. This includes a range of costs including the evidence base, legal fees and the cost of the independent examination process.
2. Can you give us an accurate waiting time on replacement requests for garden waste bins as many residents have been waiting 3 months which exceeds the advised 30 working days?	Michele Mead	Alistair Wray, Environment	The Council has 29,755 garden waste bins across the district and delivers or replaces on average 200 per month with an average delivery time of 15 working days. The Council has a robust process in place to manage the replacement of all waste receptacles. However, due to operational reasons deliveries / replacements have at times exceeded the Council's 30-working-day target. A review of the associated logistical / operational arrangements has now been carried out to maintain delivery times.

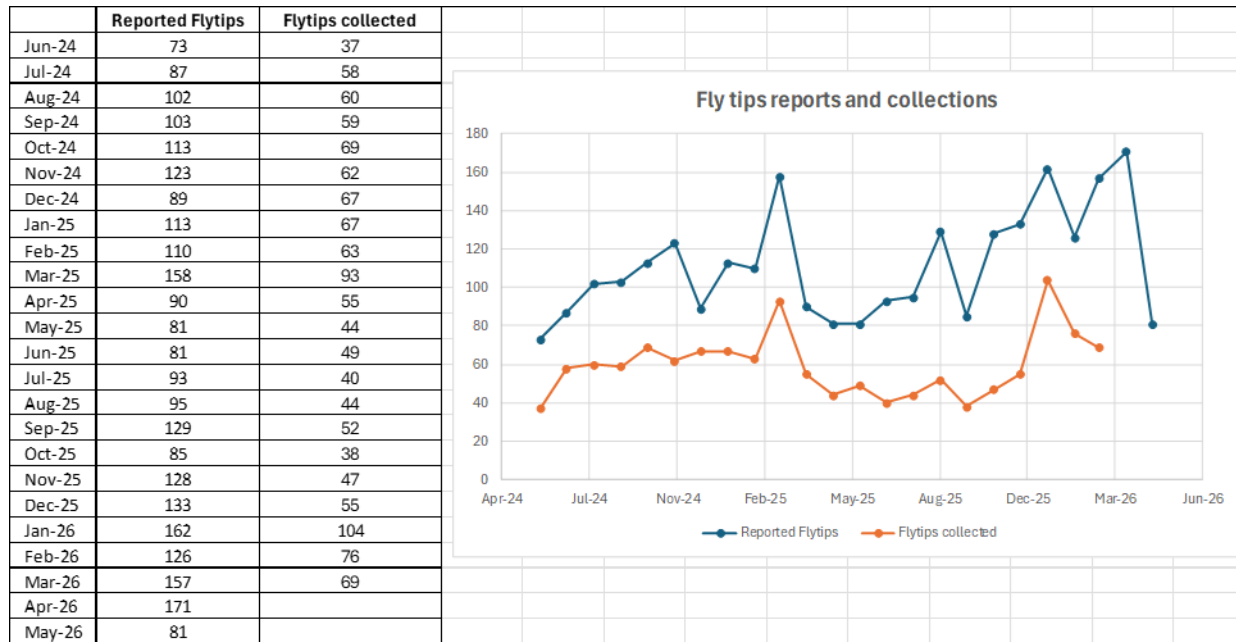
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3. Fly-tipping enforcement is a contracted Publica service, and West Oxfordshire's Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) rate has previously been reported at 1.15%, compared to 4.04% in the Vale of White Horse over the same period. Since the change to the household waste recycling centre booking system, a number of residents and Cllrs have raised concerns that fly-tipping may have increased or remained persistently high, as some residents struggle to book tip slots or are deterred from using sites legitimately. Could the Portfolio Holder please provide: a) The total number of recorded fly-tipping incidents in West Oxfordshire for the 12 months to June 2026 (by month), compared with the same 12-month period the previous year; b) The number of FPNs issued and the resulting FPN rate for each of these two periods, by month; c) Whether officers have identified any correlation between the introduction of the tip booking	Simon Watson	Alistair Wray, Environment	Please see response below a) See Table A below b) See Table B below c) Our officer has noted an increase of reports in the vicinity of the Dix Pitt Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), along nearby routes to Stanton Harcourt. Looking at the data around the implementation of the booking system in February 2026, we observe a drop in number of fly tips reported comparative to February 2025. However, we are noticing a shift in the increased overall amount of reported fly tipping compared to same quarter in the previous year. There is the usual trend around the winter months and into the new year between January to March, where we tend to see increased numbers of fly tipping reports. However following the news about Kidlington, we also saw an increase in people reporting fly tipping, resulting in more duplicate reports. d) Our Officer is working with local landowners to monitor the hotspot areas within the vicinity of the HWRC. We are liaising with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) about any reported issues we are receiving regarding the HWRC and the new booking system. We are also establishing information sharing protocols between the Council and OCC regarding those turned away from the Dix Pitt HWRC, to help
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system and fly-tipping incident levels; and d) What steps, if any, are being taken to address fly-tipping where it may be linked to booking system access issues.			address concerns of increased fly tipping taking place in this area. With the implementation of our new “Alloy” system for waste reporting, we hope to see a reduction in duplicated fly tipping reports.
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Table A



Nb, Flytip reports will always exceed flytips collected because they may be duplicate reports of the same fly-tip, the fly-tip may be on private land and therefore not collected by Ubico, or the fly-tip may not exist or be classed as a fly-tip.

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Table B

Year	Quarter	FPN	FPN rate/month
2024	Jul - Sept	0	0
	Oct - Dec	2	0.67
2025	Jan - Mar	6	3
	Apr - June	2	0.67
	Jul - Sept	3	1
	Oct -Dec	10	3.33
2026	Jan - Mar	4	2.5
	Apr -Jun	2	0.67