

REPORT FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGER

TO: NELSON, BRIERFIELD AND REEDLEY COMMITTEE

DATE: 28th FEBRUARY 2022

Report Author: David Walker
Tel. No: 01282 661746
E-mail: david.walker@pendle.gov.uk

FOR INFORMATION
MANCHESTER ROAD / HARGREAVES STREET NELSON

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with a response to the question raised in relation to the work being done to address the reports of vermin within the Manchester Road and Hargreaves Street areas.

ISSUE

1. During the Committee's meeting held on the 31st January the Environmental Services Manager was requested to submit a report on what was being done to address the issue of rats in the Manchester Road and Hargreaves Street area of Nelson. In particular Members requested information on how often spot checks were made, the frequency of refuse collection and any enforcement measures that could/were being used.
2. Members are advised that the Council provides the following waste and material collection services to the area.

Service	Frequency	Day of service
Recycling (blue bin)	4 weekly	Thursday
Refuse (grey bin)	2 weekly	Thursday
Recycling (brown bin)	4 weekly	Thursday
Mechanical street cleansing	weekly	Friday
Litterbin service	Three times each week	Monday, Wednesday, Friday

3. Further to the above programmed schedule of service the area including and surrounding Manchester Road and Hargreaves Street is visited each Friday by a Street cleansing team who remove larger items from the highway. This team additionally check for evidence of a producer to enable enforcement investigations to be made.
4. The area is additionally visited three times each week by an enforcement officer who again monitors the level of waste presented on the highway. During this inspection the enforcement officer will make initial investigations to obtain information on an offender.

5. Recent history records that Officers have issued 2 Fixed Penalty notices for littering, one Fixed Penalty notice for flytipping and made one visit to a commercial premise regarding their duty of care in relation to the handling and transfer of commercial waste.
6. Should evidence be found the Council would seek to meet with an alleged offender
7. The offence of fly-tipping, and the additional offences of 'knowingly causing' or 'knowingly permitting' fly-tipping, are set out in Section 33(1)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Section 33 is enforceable by both the Environment Agency and the local authorities.
8. The Council are keen to assist in resolving the issues that the residents face in relation to the presenting of waste on the public highway and the subsequent increase in vermin the waste attracts. We take the opportunity to advise that if reported, the rubbish can be removed and with the help of residents and Members the crime can be investigated. If you see someone fly-tipping, or you want to report an area where fly-tipping has taken place, take note of the following:
 - Date, time and place of the incident
 - What the waste looks like and how much there is
 - Descriptions of any person and/or vehicles involved along with the registration number
 - Name or address of the alleged offender
9. Residents and Members should note that as flytippers are doing something illegal, they will not want to be caught and we advise that you do not approach or confront a flytipper or put your own safety at risk. Both the local authority and the Environment Agency have powers to tackle fly-tipping and they have agreed a fly-tipping protocol to address the important issues associated with the problem. The protocol sets out who will deal with different types of incidents.
10. Local Authorities will deal with smaller scale, more frequent incidents and the Environment Agency will deal with larger scale, more serious incidents of illegal waste disposal, or fly-tipping including hazardous wastes and tipping carried out by organised criminals.
11. Reports to the Environment Agency can be made using their national hotline number 0800 807 060. Reports to Pendle Borough Council can be made via the Council website
12. In response to reports of vermin we advise that Pest Control Officers have carried out several rodent treatments in the area recently including some sewer baiting. An Officer has visited properties in the area and has identified that there are some commercial food premises in the vicinity with food waste in rear yards. An Environmental Health Officer from the food safety team have been notified and will be attending to these issues.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None arising directly from this report

Financial: None arising directly from this report

Legal: None arising directly from this report.

Risk Management: None arising directly from the report

Health and Safety: None arising directly from the report

Sustainability: None arising directly from the report.

Community Safety: None arising directly from the report.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from the report.

APPENDICES

None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None