

Tackling Flytipping in Scotland

Scottish Land & Estates Action Plan

Flytipping is not only illegal, it is an inexcusable and an ugly blight on Scotland's beautiful landscape. There are estimated to be over 60,000 incidents of flytipping reported each year in Scotland, costing over £8.9million of public money to clear up. When litter and flytipping occurs on private land it is down to the landowner to have it removed and to foot the bill for doing so. The costs involved can be huge.

Flytipping can have social, environmental, economic and health implications on our communities and we need to take action to tackle this blight on our countryside. SLE is calling for tougher action and greater support for private landowners in dealing with this crime.

Key Asks

1. **Clarity from Scottish Government** on how it will move forward its work on tackling flytipping in the short to medium term.
2. **National flytipping database** – development of a national database which requires all responsible bodies to submit monthly returns for reported flytipping incidents. Requirement for this data to be reported on annually allowing for national statistic to be compiled to better assess the scale of the issue.
3. **Better support for victims** – local authorities introduce a scheme to allow private landowners, who did not cause or knowingly permit flytipping to dispose of it free of charge at a waste disposal site. Where feasible and resources allow, we would also like to see Local Authorities offer support by uplifting flytipping from private land where it is reasonably close to public land.
4. **Remove landowner liability** – change in legislation which removes the responsibility for clear up from those private landowners who did not cause or knowingly permit flytipping.
5. **Develop new and innovative ways to tackle flytipping** - commitment to addressing fly-tipping more effectively, looking at approaches from across the field, including, for example, those adopted by Perth and Kinross Council <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/flytippingfund>.
6. **Impose and enforce penalties which better reflect the seriousness of the crime** - current fixed penalty notices do not reflect the seriousness of the damage caused and need to be brought up to a more punitive level to send a clear signal to those committing waste crimes. There is also an inherent need to ensure penalty and enforcement measures support one another and are followed through and paid – current evidence suggests very few fly-tippers are caught.

For more information contact:

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