



Briefing 15/16 April 2015

FlyMapper – a free reporting tool for local authorities to record and manage flytipping crime

To: All Chief Executives, Main Contacts and APSE Contacts in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland

About FlyMapper:

FlyMapper is a free mobile and web-based reporting tool for local authorities to record and manage flytipping crime developed by Zero Waste Scotland, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Flytipping Action Wales and Natural Resources Wales. FlyMapper is currently available for use in Wales and as of 1 April 2015 will be officially available for use in Scotland. A roll out date has yet to be confirmed for England and Northern Ireland, but any interested local authorities from those areas should contact Jon Young at exeGesIS Spatial Data Management via the e-mail address provided below.

If your organisation would like to learn more about the FlyMapper project, please contact your relevant country coordinator:

- In England or Northern Ireland: Jon Young – jony@esdm.co.uk
- In Scotland, Emma Leel – Emma.Leel@zerowastescotland.org.uk
- In Wales, Neil Harrison – Neil.Harrison@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

1.0 Information

FlyMapper is a free-to-use system which combines field recording of incidents via a free app (compatible with Android, Windows and Apple operating mobile systems) and the management of data through a central database. The system provides a visual representation of flytipping on a map allowing for the easy identification of hot-spots and problem waste types to better target resources, interventions and campaigns, and

centralises all the data recorded allowing advanced planning, analysis and reporting. FlyMapper brings together local incident management with intelligence gathering and reporting for use at both local and national level. The FlyMapper system has been developed with the assistance of User Groups of Scottish and Welsh local authorities who have tested it, provided ongoing feedback and suggested improvements to make it as simple and efficient as possible for practitioners and land managers. As flytipping in Scotland alone costs nearly £9 million a year to clear up, it is hoped that FlyMapper will provide local authorities with a more accurate picture of the issue and inform change.

2.0 Comment from Emma Leel, FlyMapper's Country Coordinator for Scotland

"Zero Waste Scotland have worked with a Local Authority User Group through the trial of FlyMapper to ensure the system is user friendly and efficient in the field. We would like to extend our appreciation to the members of the User Group for their continued support. FlyMapper will replace Flycapture as the flytipping reporting tool in Scotland from the 1st of April 2015, if your local authority has not already signed up you can do so by completing [the registration form](#).

The scale and extent of Flytipping in Scotland is currently unknown, in order to gather a baseline figure across Scotland it is important that all Local Authorities embrace the system. The data can then be used as an evidence base to inform policy, target funding and interventions to enable a move towards flytipping prevention."

3.0 How does FlyMapper work?

How the FlyMapper mobile app works

When logged in, the user will see a map of their local authority and can create an incident by clicking on the location of a crime. The user has the ability to add photographs and alter the status of ongoing incidents from their mobile device. When working in areas without an Internet signal, the app logs incidents on the phone which will be synced to the main server once a signal is received again; this means no additional mobile data plan is required for the use of this system.

How the FlyMapper website works

The FlyMapper website – for Scotland <http://scotland.flymapper.org> and for Wales <http://wales.flymapper.org> – allows users to add new incidents as well as edit and resolve ongoing incidents. The website also allows users to apply filters on information to produce live reports as well as being able to export information to Microsoft Excel for further analysis.

For a more detailed description of how the app and web systems work, Zero Waste Scotland and Flytipping Action Wales have released a short video for each country where the system currently operates:

- FlyMapper for Scotland – [video link](#)
- FlyMapper for Wales – [video link](#)

4.0 What are the proposed benefits of FlyMapper?

- **Cost/time benefits** - There is no cost associated with the software (although authorities may need to procure mobile phones if these aren't already in place) and the system should require no additional resources and reduce the need for completing paperwork.
- **Better understanding of the true scale of flytipping** – flytipping information can be shown on a range of levels – from national all the way down to specific streets and parks – allowing flytipping to be tackled in a more targeted approach, such as highlighting cross-border problems for local authorities.
- **Multi-user input and analysis** - It allows operatives, enforcement officers/wardens, other officers and managers to record and access information on a single, unified system and has the ability to produce reports and business cases to submit to management, committees and others, thus involving all relevant parties in the process and business of tackling flytipping issues.

More information on the benefits of FlyMapper can be found at the following link or by contacting your relevant country coordinator provided on the first page of this briefing: <http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/content/flymapper>

5.0 APSE Comment

APSE welcomes the launch of FlyMapper in Scotland, and hopes it will be rolled out in the near future in both England and Northern Ireland. As a free tool that allows local authorities to better understand the true scale of flytipping, allows them to target their resources more effectively and gives them the opportunity to be actively involved in its ongoing development and improvement, APSE believes this should allow local authorities to tackle flytipping more efficiently and effectively, and we would encourage our membership to consider how its use could benefit your locality.

Garry Lee
Research & Coordination Officer

Louise McMillan
Principal Advisor (Scotland)