

The National Litter Strategy for England



- December 2015 - **coherent clean-up plan** for England' announced, DCLG/Defra
- government **will work with** local authorities , campaign groups and businesses
- **local councils** can play a key role in coordinating local activity

*“We all have a responsibility to keep our communities tidy and our plans will improve the way we work together to tackle this persistent, costly and **avoidable problem**”.* –

Environment Minister Rory Stewart



3 key themes

education and awareness

improving enforcement

better cleansing and litter infrastructure



Concerns



- Levels of litter in England have hardly improved in the past 12 years and the best estimates are that litter costs the taxpayer between £717 and £850 million a year to clear up.” DCLG 2015
- Questions over whether the best approach is national solutions or regional activity.
- local approach, tailored to the characteristics of the area and the community in which the problems occur.” – localism agenda
- At a time when councils face difficult choices about services in the light of reducing budgets, they are having to spend almost £1 billion a year on tackling litter and fly-tipping,” Peter Box - LGA.



Scotland's national litter strategy (2014)

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- Clear goals – to prevent litter and fly-tipping, and to encourage personal responsibility and behaviour change.
- The strategy revolves around **three** primary interventions

Information - improving communications, engagement and education around the issue.

Infrastructure - improving the facilities and services provided to reduce litter and promote recycling.

Enforcement - strengthening the deterrent effect of legislation and improving enforcement processes.



England's Litter Strategy



Aims for Strategy:

- *Achieve a substantial reduction in litter and littering*
- to apply best practice in education, enforcement and infrastructure to deliver a substantial reduction in litter and littering behaviour.
- Over the course of the next generation, we want to create a culture where it is totally unacceptable to drop litter.



Two working groups established:

- Data Collection and Monitoring
- Best Practice on 'binrastructure'





'Binrastructure'

Reducing litter through design, number and location and visibility of litter bins:

Mapping the asset

- Assessing the need
- Developing a litter bin suite
- Case studies -Smart technology/removing litter bins/Neat Street
- Litter as a resource
- Encouraging litter bin use

The role of street design in reducing litter.

Reducing commonly littered items.

Working in Partnership

Locations suffering from littering

'Big Ticket' questions

• Funding ?

- Zero Waste Scotland provide to public, private and third sector groups help to tackle littering through grants of £500 to £10,000.

Greater enforcement powers ?

- Fines for littering will double to £150
- Drivers face £80 fines for any litter thrown from their vehicle, even if it was a passenger who threw it
- on-the-spot fixed penalty notices of up to £400 on individuals who carry out small-scale fly-tipping.

Responsibility/Leadership ?

- advice for projects which aim to reduce litter and flytipping through information, infrastructure and enforcement interventions.



Measures of success

- **Personal responsibility:** people litter less.
- **Improved environmental quality:** value local environmental quality more highly.
- **Economic potential:** value of resources is realised through action and innovation to reduce, reuse and recycle material currently littered or fly-tipped.
- **Co-ordination:** provide customers and staff with consistent messages, facilities and efficient services.
- **Value for money:** the cost effectiveness of public services is improved by reducing the scale of clear up required, at the same time as reducing the negative costs of litter and fly-tipping on wider society.





Watch this space.....

- APSE is working with DEFRA and DCLG on both working groups to voice views and concerns of local authorities.
- APSE will consult with local authorities on their views through Advisory Groups, Seminars, Surveys, network queries and 121's
- 'Binrastructure' surveys received 100 local authority responses
- APSE has provided Government with local authority and industry contacts to help develop strategy.
- Continue to provide advice and examples of innovation and best practice to support National Litter Strategy for England.