



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Stevenage
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mobile CCTV & Signage

Stevenage Borough Council – Fly-tipping Intervention Grant

Stevenage Borough Council introduced **mobile CCTV** and **'No Fly-tipping'** signage to raise awareness of hotspot locations to deter possible perpetrators. The council **increased their community engagement** to raise awareness and **improved their partnership working** to ensure positive results. The project started in February 2022 and fly-tipping incidents were monitored for 4 months. Overall, there was a **36% decrease in fly-tipping investigations** compared to the previous year and one fixed penalty notice (FPN) was issued as a result.



Fly-tipped waste around bring-back bins

The Fly-tipping Issue

Stevenage has been blighted by fly-tipping in certain areas of the town, in particular a stretch of co-owned land adjacent to the A1, it's **bring-back sites and flat blocks**.

The council decided to trial the interventions at three hotspot locations, which were communal areas with bring back bins, where people fly-tip using the bins which are already overflowing, or by dumping their waste on the floor, this includes **furniture such as sofas and other household waste**.

Whilst a number of local authorities have removed their bring back sites for recycling to stop the fly-tipping that occurs around these sites; Stevenage wants to encourage recycling but also wants to stop those that fly-tip.

The Intervention

Partnership Working: Stevenage's SoSafe Group has designed a Task Force of partners that allows partner organisations to come together, share information, pool resources, identify hotspot locations and achieve results.

CCTV: The council purchased four mini-HD CCTV cameras that were easy to use, easy to install and the overall design was to a good standard. The council chose mobile CCTV as it allows flexibility of moving the CCTV to other hotspots when required, ensuring the cameras also had infra-red to identify perpetrators in the dark.

Signs: The council purchased 'No fly-tipping' signs to educate residents. The signs have been distributed throughout various locations across the town. The council installed these signs in the hotspots covered by CCTV but also at locations that have the potential to become a hotspot location or that the team are aware have had fly-tips previously such as carparks, bring back sites, outside shops and waste ground close to the motorway.



Fly-tipping sign highlighting enforcement actions

Community Engagement: The council purchased merchandise to give away for free at community events across the borough, such as 'Stevenage Day'. Officers also used the time to speak with residents to help educate them, raise awareness of CCTV presence and engage with locals regarding fly-tipping.

Together with the police, the council has organised a 'Street Meet' focusing on one specific street. This includes engaging with residents and collecting intelligence regarding anti-social behaviour that takes place in the area, including fly-tipping.

The council also issued a press release once the funding was received and have published multiple social media posts to raise awareness of fly-tipping.



The Result

CCTV: The cameras have acted as the biggest fly-tipping deterrent and have had a significant impact on the number of fly-tipping reports the council receives. There has been had very positive feedback from the community who like the use of CCTV to combat fly-tipping in their area.

Signage: Having the permanent signage has become a deterrent, once the mobile CCTV has been moved to another hotspot location the signage still remains, which continues to prevent people from fly-tipping without the presence of CCTV. In the hotspots where the signs were installed without CCTV, has also seen a reduction in fly-tipping reports made.

Data: The council's system shows how many cases of fly-tipping have been investigated, where there is a likelihood of identifying a perpetrator. As you can see below, since introducing the interventions in February 2022, the number of investigations compared to the same period in 2021 has decreased.

Intervention	Pre-Intervention Monitoring	Post-Intervention Monitoring	Results
CCTV & Signage	203 investigations 1 st March 2021-1 st July 2021	130 investigations 1 st March 2022-1 st July 2022	36% Decrease

Data Source: Stevenage case management system

Other Relevant Data

Enforcement – Thanks to the CCTV installed at one of the hotspot locations, the council has captured clear footage of a perpetrator which has resulted in issuing an FPN. Issuing the FPN has been a good deterrent as this has encouraged the council to educate residents regarding the disposal of household waste; residents originally believed they were disposing of correctly.

Feedback

What went well?

The project achieved its outcomes, and the council is happy with the quality and effectiveness of the mobile CCTV. There has been a significant change in behaviour compared to previous years since introducing this intervention to the areas, overall public attitude has been positive, the council have benefited from engaging with the residents and confidence has been reinstated into the council for tackling this issue.

What key information would you pass on so others can deliver this project?

Partnership working: Partnership working was an important factor to the success of our project.

Signage: The council recommend having signage in place to act as a permanent deterrent where necessary. Once the CCTV moved to another hotspot the signage remained in place still warning potential perpetrators that this area is potentially CCTV monitored.

Equipment Inventory

Item	Supplier	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Value
4 mini-HD IR CCTV Cameras	Rapid Vision Systems Ltd	£4,284.00	4	£17,136
4G airtime Sim Cards	Rapid Vision Systems Ltd	£260.00	4	£1,040
Digitally Printed Correx Sign Panel	East Herts Signs & Engraving Ltd	£45	50	£2,250
Merchandise (Pens & Tote Bags)	IGO Promo	N/A	250 Pens 75 Tote Bags	£725.75

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Defra's Fly-Tipping Intervention Grant: The Fly Tipping Intervention Grant supported projects trialling approaches and interventions to tackle fly-tipping. Administered by WRAP on behalf of Defra, this grant provided capital funding for projects at known fly-tipping hot-spots that showed the potential for improving infrastructure, raising awareness, and supporting enforcement activity.