

## **Addressing Hotspots**

### **London Borough of Hillingdon**

The London Borough of Hillingdon has many rural lanes making it vulnerable to fly-tipping. This has caused a heavy financial burden on the authority which must deal with large loads of heavy construction waste being illegally deposited.

A service review was undertaken in 2000 where the costs associated with the removal of fly-tipping were considered. As a result of the review, a waste enforcement team was created and a budget was set aside for the team. This allowed investment in a high quality network of 24 hour centrally monitored CCTV sites. The high quality images are used regularly for successful prosecution of fly-tipping offenders. The team initially raised awareness especially amongst the building profession that Hillingdon Council now had a zero tolerance approach towards any fly-tipping offences. This message was also widely disseminated through the media and any other opportunity that presented itself.

The highly motivated team is trained in advanced investigative approach which encourages officers to understand the legislation fully and the points of proof required for successful prosecution. Hillingdon Council also has a separate unit in the contact centre to deal with environmental issues. This ensures that the correct information is gathered and statements are collected as a matter of course. Anyone who makes a report is informed of the outcome which helps to gain support in the local community.

Hillingdon Council enjoy a good working relationship with the police and have a very high success rate from the regular stop and search operations that are carried out along with Vehicle and Operator Service Agency (VOSA). Approximately 50-60% of vehicle searches made result in an offence being found.

#### **For further information please contact:**

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