

Charging Residents for Fly-tipping Incidents

Solihull Community Housing

Solihull Community Housing has taken a zero tolerance approach to fly-tipping around their 40 high-rise residential properties. A three month pilot was undertaken in 2006 to charge tenants for the clear up cost of waste they have fly-tipped. Newsletters were posted to the residents outlining the purpose of the scheme and the potential penalties for fly-tipping. Warning signs were also attached to each high-rise block.

Existing CCTV is used in conjunction with information obtained from high-rise access fobs, given to all of the residents, to gather evidence of the offence. Once the person responsible is identified, they are visited by an officer and presented with the evidence of the offence and advised that they will be charged for the clear up costs. Anyone opting to not pay the charge will be prosecuted.

The pilot was very successful and this approach has been extended to their other areas. This scheme has reduced the incidents of fly-tipping by around 20%. This approach has also improved the community spirit of the other tenants and witnesses are more willing to come forward to report what they have seen.

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