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### **Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4)**

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**Time and Date**

10.00 am on Thursday, 24th October, 2024

**Place**

Diamond Rooms 1 and 2 - Council House

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1. **Apologies and Substitutions**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 6)
  - a) To agree the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2024
  - b) Matters arising
4. **Garden Waste** (Pages 7 - 24)

Briefing Note of the Strategic Lead for Environmental Services
5. **Fly-tipping Performance 2023/24** (Pages 25 - 26)

Briefing Note of the Strategic Lead for Environmental Services
6. **Work Programme** (Pages 27 - 30)

Report of the Director of Law and Governance
7. **Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

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Julie Newman, Director of Law and Governance, Council House, Coventry

Wednesday, 16 October 2024

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is [tom.robinson@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:tom.robinson@coventry.gov.uk)

Membership: Councillors M Ali (Chair), R Bailey, B Christopher, G Hayre, L Kelly, J McNicholas, E Ruane, T Sawdon and R Thay

By invitation: Councillors P Hetherton (Cabinet Member for City Services) and S Nazir (Deputy Cabinet for City Services)

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**Tom Robinson**

**Email: [tom.robinson@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:tom.robinson@coventry.gov.uk)**

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4)**  
**held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 5 September 2024**

Present:

Members:                   Councillor M Ali (Chair)  
                                  Councillor R Bailey  
                                  Councillor B Christopher  
                                  Councillor L Kelly  
                                  Councillor J McNicholas  
                                  Councillor R Thay

Other Members:           Councillor S Agboola (Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing  
                                  and Communities)

Employees  
(by Service Area):

Adult Services and  
Housing                    J Crawshaw, S Hall

Law and Governance     G Holmes, M Salmon

Apologies:                Councillor N Akhtar (Cabinet Member for Housing and  
                                  Communities - by invitation)  
                                  Councillor G Hayre  
                                  Councillor E Ruane  
                                  Councillor T Sawdon

## **Public Business**

### **6.       Declarations of Interest**

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

### **7.       Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Further to recommendation 3) of Minute 3/24, headed 'Water Quality', the Board agreed that for their scheduled meeting on 5th December 2024 they would visit and hold their meeting at Severn Trent Water Finham Sewage Treatment Works.

### **8.       Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024- 29 Consultation**

The Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) received a presentation and briefing note of the Head of Housing and Homelessness on the Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2029, the purpose of which was to consult the Board as part of the current consultation regarding the identified priorities and themes. The Draft Strategy and the Homelessness Review 2024 were attached as appendices to the briefing note.

All Councils in England and Wales had a statutory duty to undertake a periodic review of homelessness and to publish a Homelessness Strategy. The current Strategy, published in 2019 and ran to 2024, was aimed at providing a high-level plan setting out the main priorities for the Council and its partners for the life of the Strategy, to guide the allocation of resources and investment, and provide a framework to inform project development, to achieve the vision that Coventry Citizens would be able to access a suitable, affordable, and decent home, with the support they needed to sustain their housing.

In 2019 when the Strategy was developed the previous Homelessness Strategy and Housing Strategy were combined into one document. The rationale was for this was recognition that activities to prevent and relieve homelessness were to a degree dependent on the availability of permanent housing. Coventry published its first Rough Sleeping Strategy in December 2019, in line with a requirement by the Government for all areas to have a Strategy to prevent and tackle rough sleeping. The successful delivery of the Rough Sleeping Strategy and Action Plan was not in the Council's power alone therefore a One Coventry partnership approach was adopted to ensure successful realisation of the vision by supporting and delivering the Strategy through effective collaboration and partnership working.

The Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024 and its Action Plan were reflective of and intrinsically linked to the Council's Housing and Homelessness Strategy and the two strategies needed to be considered and delivered in tandem. The Housing and Homelessness Strategy set the vision for housing in the city and the Council's priorities therefore a separate Housing Strategy would be developed for the city which would align with the Local Plan review that was currently being undertaken. The Homelessness element of the Strategy would be combined with the Rough Sleeping Strategy, creating a new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy. The new Strategy, which would run from 2024 to 2029, would focus on what actions were being taken to prevent people from becoming homeless, what was being done when people found themselves homeless and how they were supported to end their homelessness. There would be a focus on partnership working alongside how to ensure that life chances and health outcomes for those affected by homelessness were improving through early intervention and prevention; crisis and targeted support; moving on and tenancy sustainment and assessing the health inequalities impact through National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Guidance.

In considering the presentation and briefing note, the Board questioned officers, received responses and discussed matters as summarised below:

- The impact on local residents when properties were purchased by the Authority for use as temporary accommodation for the homeless and the steps taken by officers such as regular visits, CCTV and liaison with neighbours.
- The risk around short-term funding for the rough sleeping service and the risk management steps being taken to mitigate this.
- The persistent steps taken to engage rough sleepers who refuse support, including regular early morning visits, work with partners in alcohol and drug services, mental health teams, and probation.

- The data the Rough Sleepers Team collects on rough sleeping figures, including reasons for rough sleeping and service engaged with – the total number of individuals found in August was 120 with circa 25 found each morning. The information gathered then allowed the service to offer the most appropriate support.
- That the numbers of rough sleepers who were asylum seekers granted status and were unable to find accommodation or those refused asylum and appealing the decision, were relatively low.
- The work done with probation, including a dedicated worker, to support those leaving the criminal justice system, including sharing information and working with individuals pre-release.
- How agencies work together to support tenancies once accommodation had been found.
- Information regarding Coventry's role in the women's rough sleeping census, recognising that women slept rough differently from men and weren't always easy to find.
- The success Coventry has had in attracting external funding, which was not solely reliant on the numbers of rough sleepers identified.
- Work with faith groups and those organisations who wanted to offer support.
- The rationale behind not offering overnight shared night-shelters anymore, as it wasn't effective in supporting those who needed support the most and the alternative of self-contained short-term accommodation was more effective in engaging those who needed support.
- The importance of looking more widely than just those who slept rough, but that the vast majority of those facing homelessness were either single people or families whose accommodation had become unaffordable or unsuitable.

Members requested that information on the outcomes on the Women's Census being held in September 2024, together with the statistics for last year's Census, be circulated to them. They also requested that information be sent to them on how the Rough Sleeping Team would be resourced in the future, mainstream or grant funded, and how the risk of short-term funding would be mitigated.

A briefing note detailing the points of discussion, the comments made, and the recommendations agreed by the Board would be sent to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities.

**RESOLVED that the Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4):**

- 1) Agrees the priorities and themes within the new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2029.**
- 2) Supports the Draft Strategy and the development of a comprehensive action plan that will deliver the key priorities and themes.**
- 3) Requests that the Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities consider how the Rough Sleeping Team will be resourced in the future, via mainstream or grant funding, and how the risk of short-term funding will be mitigated.**

9. **Work Programme**

The Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) received a report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator that detailed issues on the Board's Work Programme for meetings of the Board for 2024/25.

**RESOLVED that the Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) notes the issues on the Board's Work Programme for 2024/25 and requests that 'Parking Permit Fees' be added to the Programme.**

10. **Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 11.20 am)



Coventry City Council

## Briefing note

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**To: Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4)**

**Date: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Subject: Garden Waste**

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### **1 Purpose of the Note**

1.1 To provide the Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) with an update on the new chargeable Garden waste collection service.

### **2 Recommendations**

2.1 The Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) is recommended to:

- 1) Consider the information provided in Appendix 1
- 2) Identify any further recommendations to the Cabinet Member

### **3 Information and Background**

- 3.1 As part of the budget setting process for 2024/25 the introduction of a subscription for garden waste was one of 30 changes that were implemented as part of the revenue and capital budget for 2024/25.
- 3.2 If residents would like to have a garden waste service, they need to purchase a yearly permit for £40 per bin. The new paid-for garden waste (brown-lidded bin) collections started the week beginning 3 June and the permits for this year are from 1 June 2024 to 31 May 2025.
- 3.3 The charges have been in place for almost six months, and this is an opportunity to consider progress on:
- Subscriptions / tonnages
  - Financials
  - Impacts on other services
    - Domestic Waste
    - Household Waste Recycling Centre (Tip)
    - Fly-tipping
    - Bulky Waste Collections
- 3.4 This information can be found in Appendix 1

Appendix 1: Garden Waste Services

Gennie Holmes  
Scrutiny Co-ordinator  
Law and Governance  
gennie.holmes@coventry.gov.uk

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# Garden Waste Services

Sarah Elliott  
Strategic Lead for Environmental Services

Provide an update on the new chargeable Garden waste collection service

- Details about subscriptions / tonnages
- Financials
- Impacts on other services
  - Domestic Waste
  - Household Waste Recycling Centre (Tip)
  - Flytipping
  - Bulky Waste Collections

Power Bi Database Demonstration

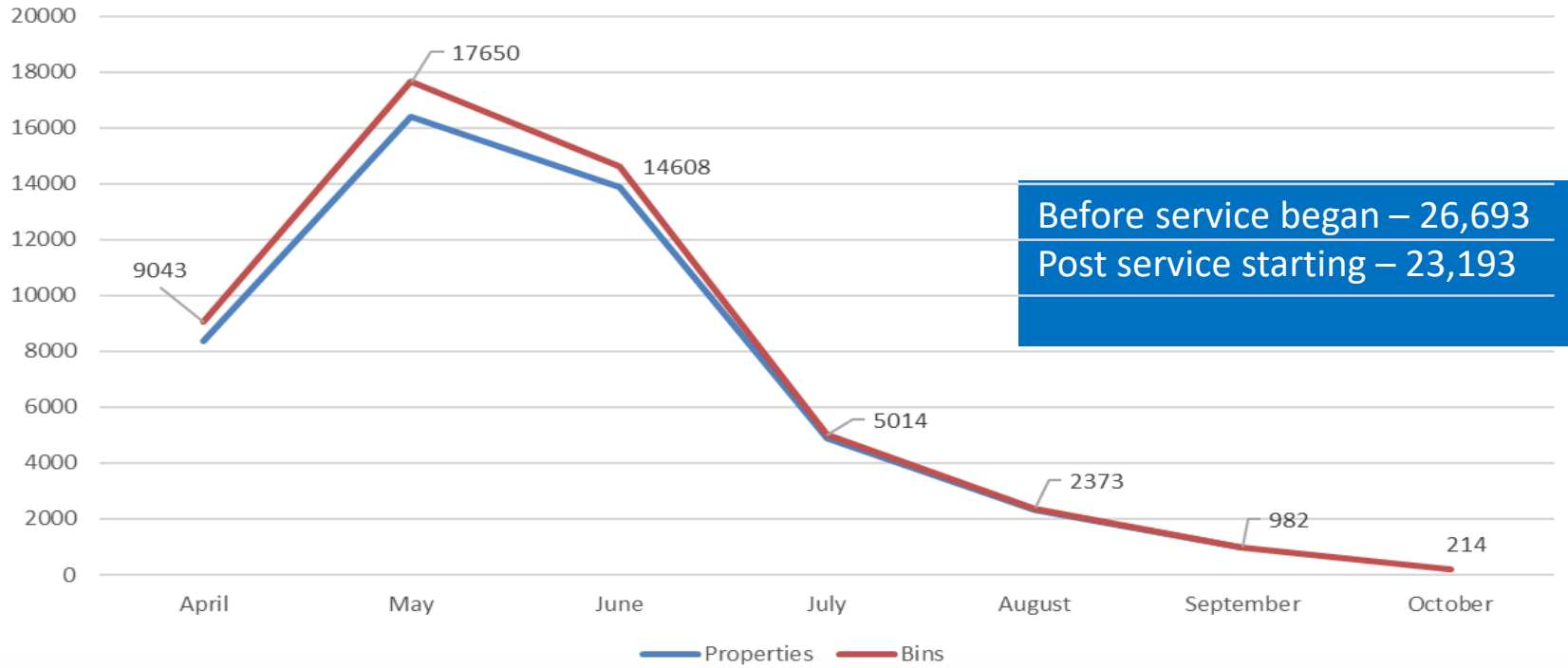
# Garden Waste Services

## Subscriptions

49,886 bins

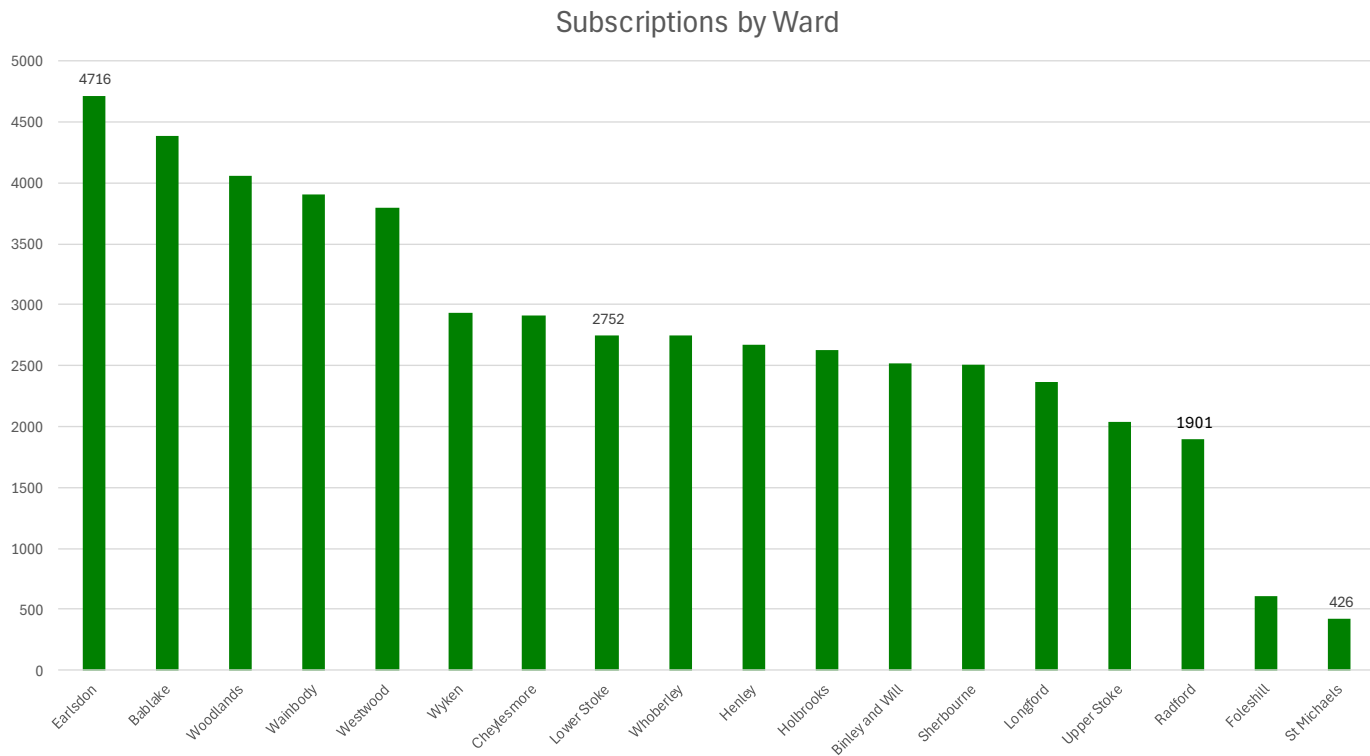
47,048 properties

Monthly Subscriptions



# Garden Waste Services

## Subscriptions



# Garden Waste Services

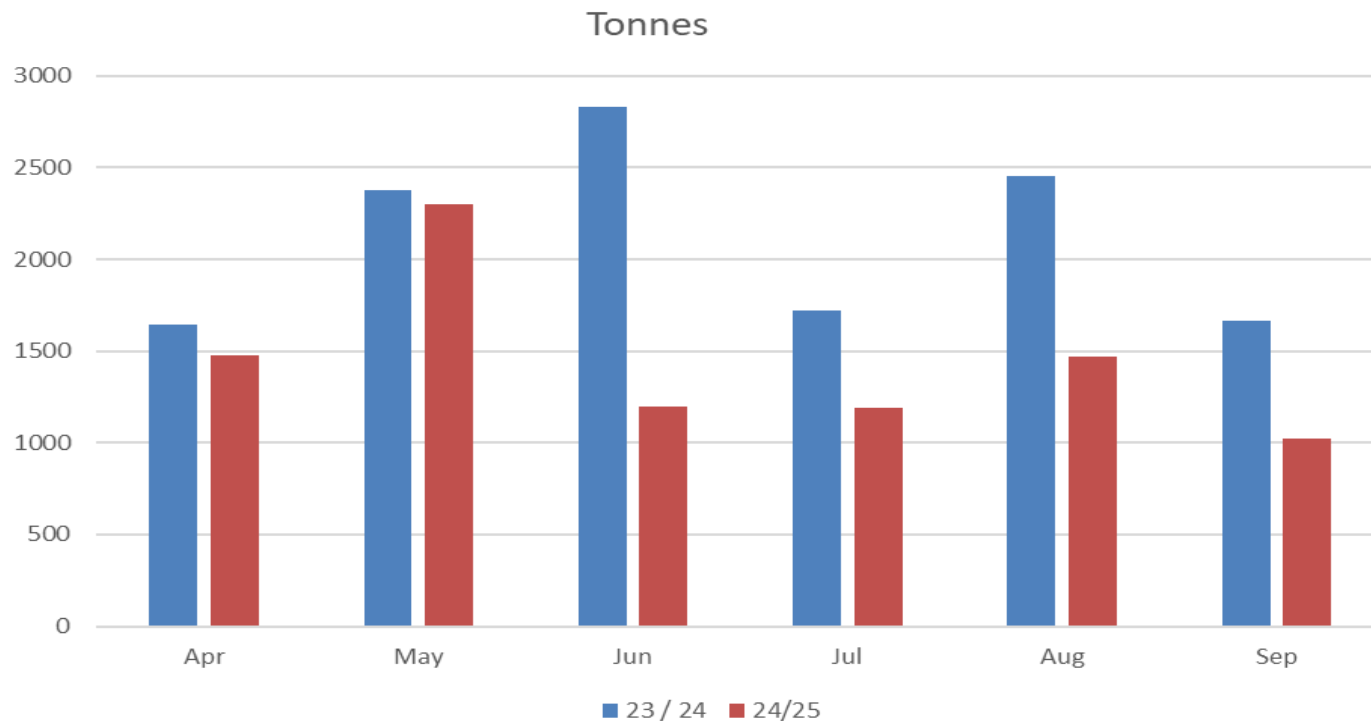
## Subscriptions



# Garden Waste Services

## Garden Waste Collected

Reduced by approximately 40%



# Garden Waste Services

## Financials

	Number	Cost	Saving / Income
Subscriptions	49,886	£40	£1,995,440
Waste Disposal	-6,935 tonnes	£54.58 p/t	-£378,512
Resource reduction			?

Business Case for introduction of service - £1.5 million saving

# Garden Waste Services

## Challenges and Next Steps

Allocation of resources!

Carrying out full optimisation of routes - approx 7,000 properties to change week to balance rounds

Communication with affected residents to begin shortly.

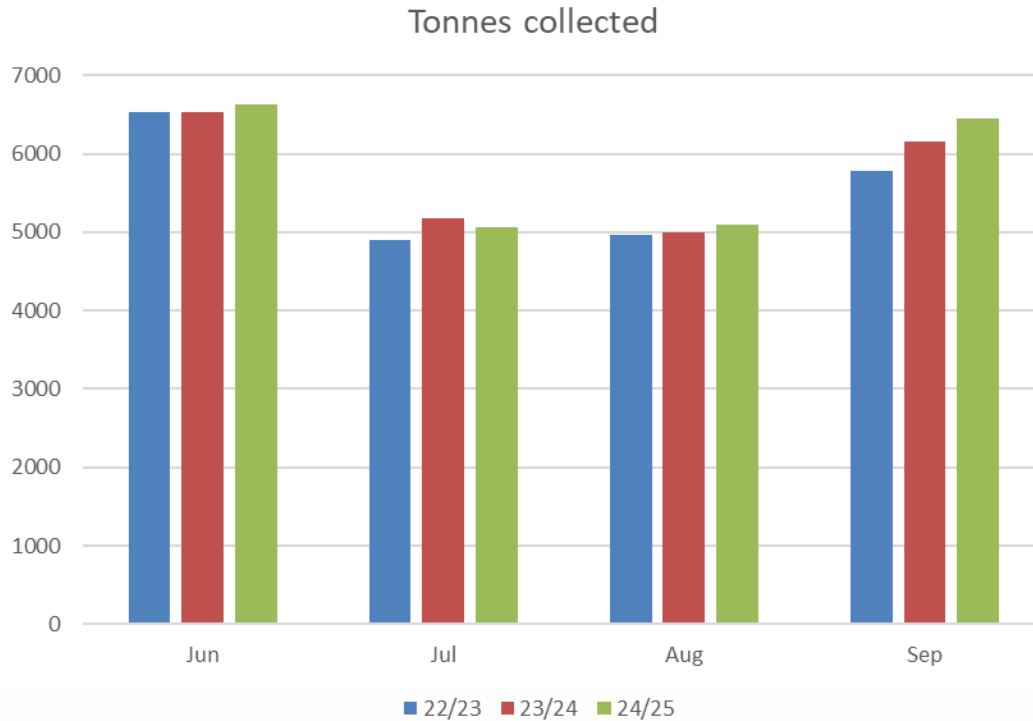
Food Waste

Monitoring the impact of the new service on other services .....

# Garden Waste Services

Impact on other Services

Domestic Waste Service



Jun – Sep

Garden waste reduction  
from collections =  
– 3,793 tonnes

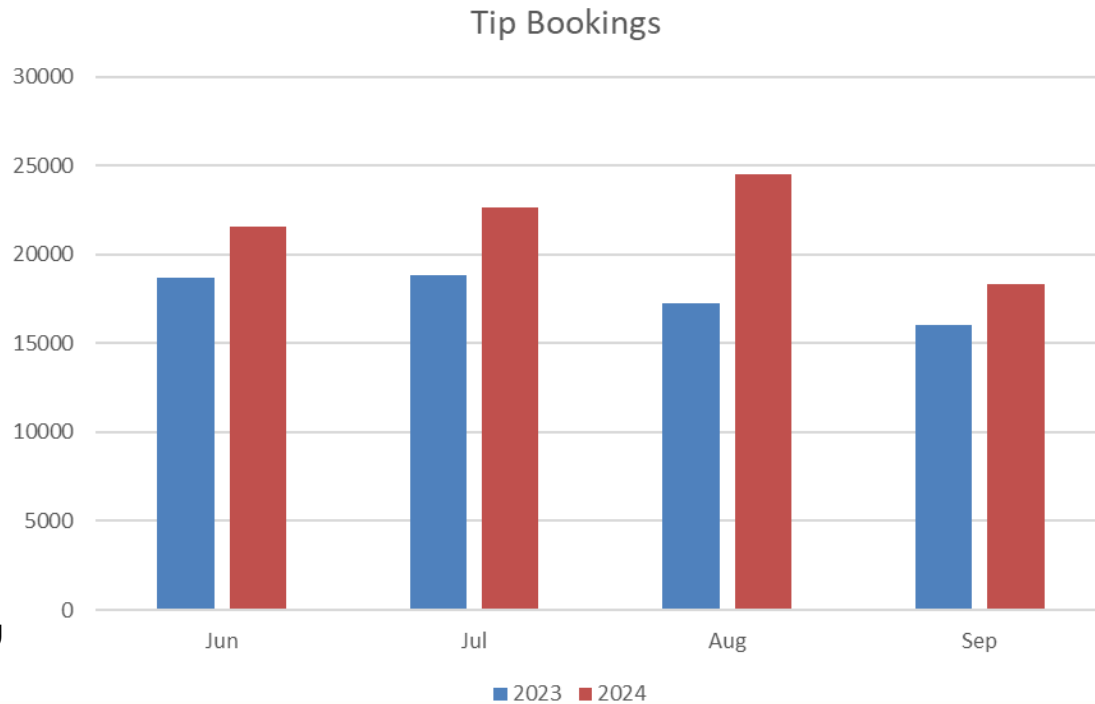
Domestic waste increase  
= 343 tonnes



# Garden Waste Services

Impact on other Services

Household Waste Recycling Centre (Tip)



Jun – Sep

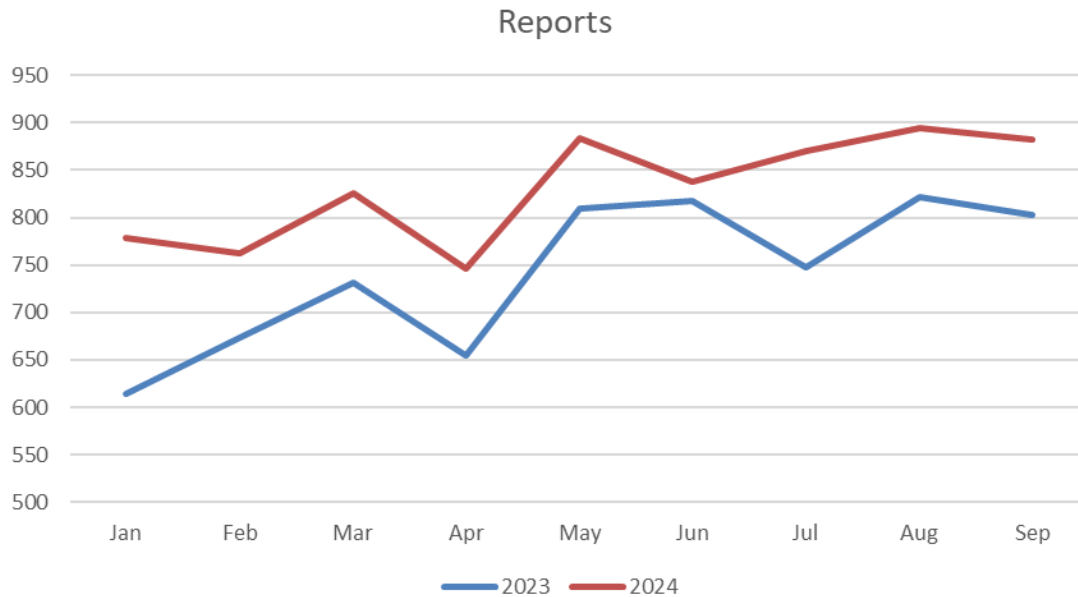
2023 = 70,756 bookings  
2024 = 87,080 bookings

Increase in garden waste =  
233 tonnes

# Garden Waste Services

## Impact on other Services

## Flytipping



Jun – Sep

2023

Reports of flytipping = 3139

2024

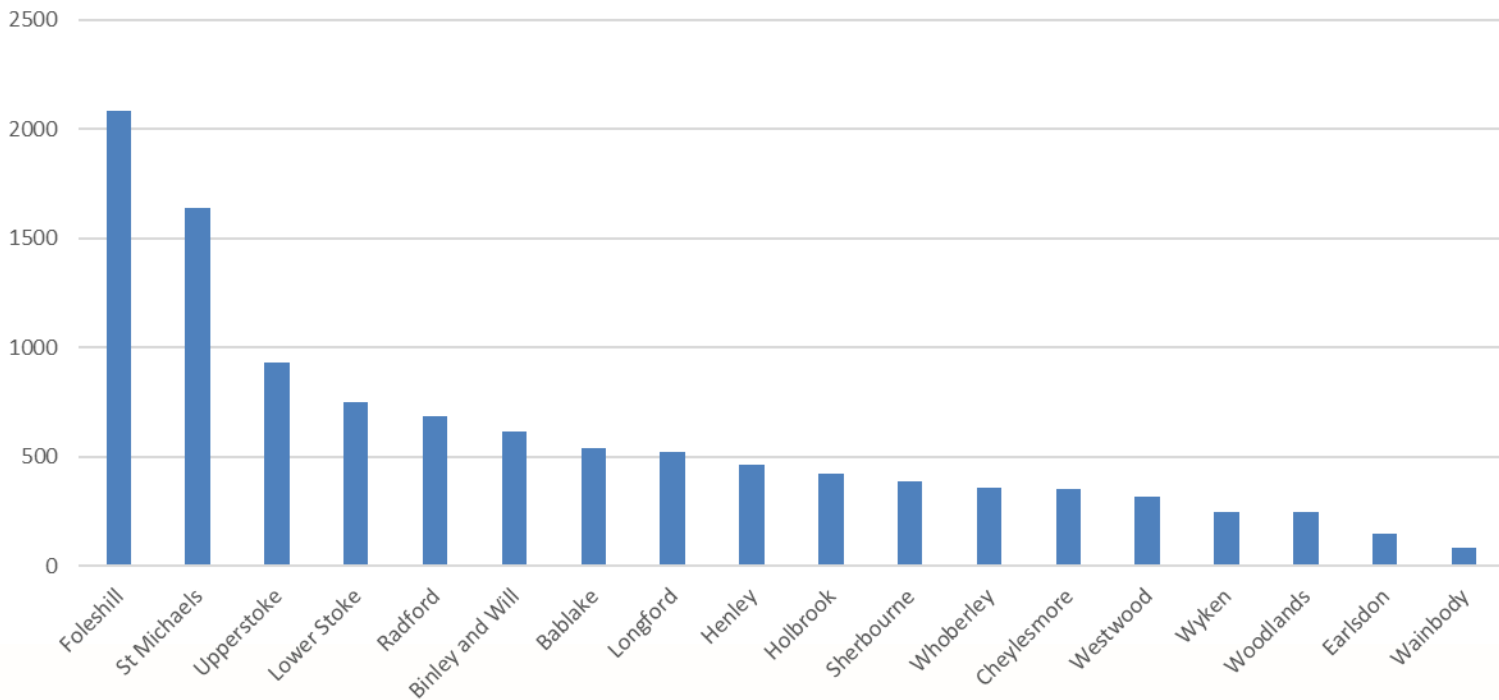
Reports of flytipping = 3485

# Garden Waste Services

## Impact on other Services

## Flytipping

Total number of Flytipping Report 23/24 by Ward

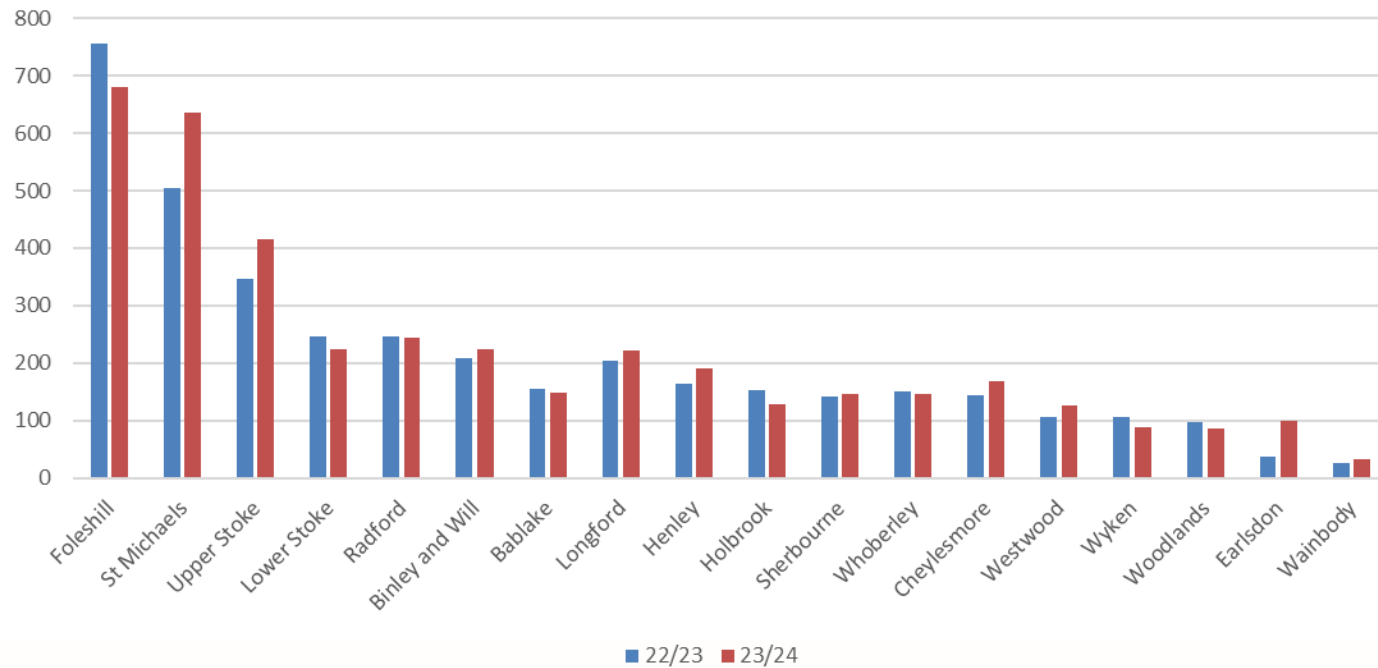


# Garden Waste Services

Impact on other Services

Flytipping

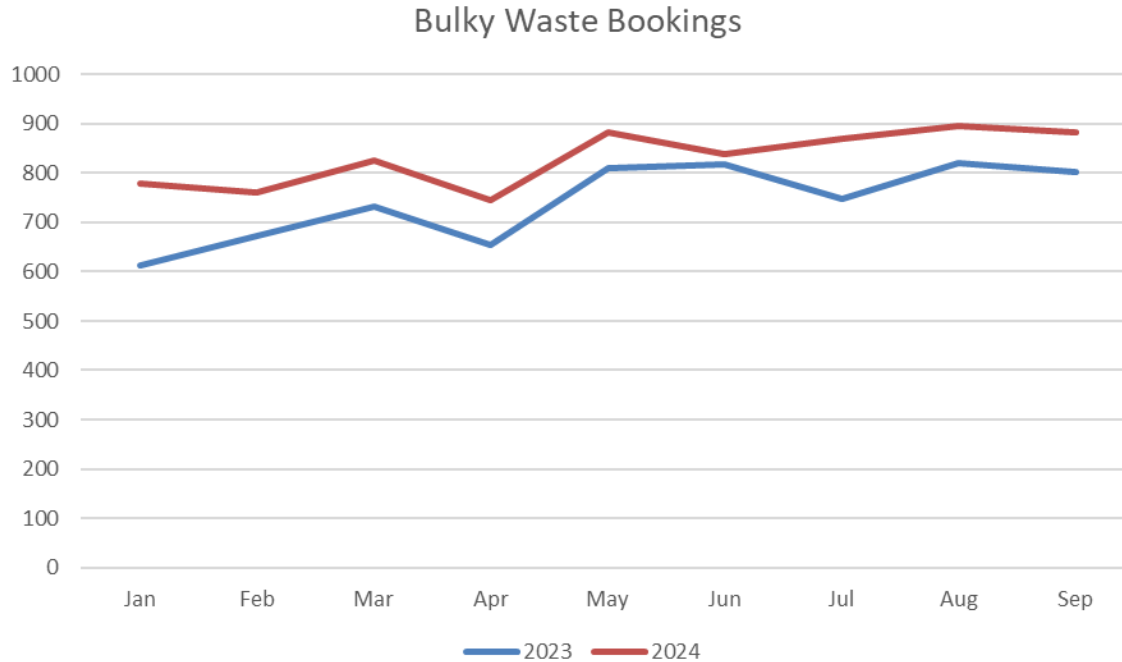
April to July by Ward



# Garden Waste Services

Impact on other Services

Bulky Waste Collections



Jun – Sep

2023

Reports of flytipping = 3139

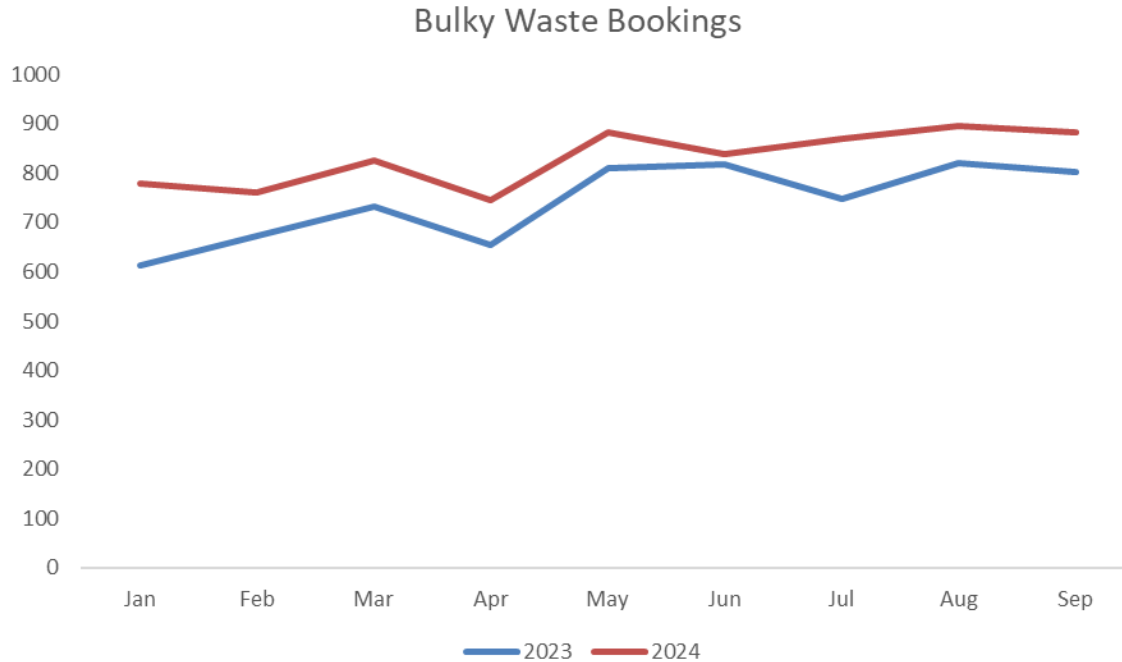
2024

Reports of flytipping = 3485

# Garden Waste Services

Impact on other Services

Bulky Waste Collections



Jun – Sep

2023

Reports of flytipping = 3139

2024

Reports of flytipping = 3485

# Power Bi Database

**Thank you**

**Any Questions?**





Coventry City Council

## Briefing note

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**To: Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4)**

**Date: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Subject: Fly-tipping Performance 2023/24**

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### **1 Purpose of the Note**

- 1.1 To inform the Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) of the performance addressing fly-tipping during the year 2023/24.

### **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) is recommended to:
- 1) Consider the current performance to address fly-tipping in the city
  - 2) Identify any further recommendations to the Cabinet Member

### **3 Information and Background**

- 3.1 At their meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024, Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered Cabinet Report on the One Coventry Performance Plan 2023-2024.
- 3.2 Included in the report was progress made on the metric “cleaner streets, supported by action against fly-tipping”.
- 3.3 The number of fly-tipping incidents reduced from 6,840 in 2022/23 to 5,883 in 2023/24. The Environmental Enforcement Team exceeded the target of the 5% reduction and will continue to drive down fly tipping through a combination of education and enforcement, focussing attention on the streets that are causing the most issues. Working closely with colleagues in streetpride and domestic waste, it is hoped that there will be further reductions over the coming years, whilst maintaining or increasing the current level of enforcement.

3.4 Table 1



3.5 Table 2

Metric	Previous	Current	Comparators	Progress	Target	Status
Fly-tips reported in the city	6,840 Incidents, 6,662 Enforcement Activity (2022/23)	<b>5,883 incidents</b> <b>6,176 Enforcement activity</b> <b>2023/24</b>	N/A	✓	To reduced fly tipping by a further 5%	✓

3.6 There will be a demonstration of the data management tools available by the service which provides real time data to support service improvement.

**4 Health Inequalities Impact**

4.1 The “cleaner streets, supported by action against fly-tipping” metric contributes to the “Improving outcomes and tackling inequalities within our communities” delivery priority in the One Coventry Plan.

Gennie Holmes  
 Scrutiny Co-ordinator  
 Law and Governance  
 gennie.holmes@coventry.gov.uk

# Agenda Item 6

Communities and Neighbourhoods Work Programme 2024-25

Last updated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

<b>18<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b>
Cabinet Member Portfolio Priorities Water Quality
<b>5<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>
Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy - consultation
<b>24<sup>th</sup> October 2024</b>
Garden Waste Fly-tipping 2023-24
<b>5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – at Severn Trent (informal meeting)</b>
Severn Trent site visit
<b>30<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>
Street Lighting Exempt Supported Accommodation
<b>13<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b>
Resident Parking Schemes
<b>2024-25</b>
Waste Services Quality of Social Housing and Retrofit Programme Update on Empty Properties Housing Strategy Pot-Holes Litter picking Gully Cleaning Programme Additional Licensing Scheme progress report Alternative Accommodation

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> July 2024</b>	Cabinet Member Portfolio Priorities	An opportunity for the Board to hear the Cabinet Members priorities for the year	Cllr Hetherton Cllr Welsh
	Water Quality	Referred from Scrucro to address concerns about water quality and to receive progress on Severn Trent’s 5-year plan to 2030 and a pilot program for the use of sustainable drainage (SUDs) over a wider area. A £65 million investment which aims to reduce surface water entering the sewage system, mitigate flood risk, and improve water quality. A Green Futures project based on a pilot in Mansfield has been included in the 5-year business plan	Mark Adams/ Neal Thomas Cllr Hetherton Severn Trent
<b>5<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy - consultation	To consider the strategy as part of the Cabinet approval process – deferred – consultation during August/September	Jim Crawshaw/Sophie Hall
<b>24<sup>th</sup> October 2024</b>	Garden Waste	To scrutinise the impact of the introduction of charges for the garden waste collection, including budgetary savings.	Cllr Hetherton Sarah Elliot
	Fly-tipping 2023-24	To consider the performance on fly-tipping during the year 24-25 and steps taken to address the issue	Sarah Elliot Cllr Hetherton
<b>5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – at Severn Trent (informal meeting)</b>	Severn Trent site visit		
<b>30<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>	Street Lighting	To look at the impact of switching off streetlights, including the budgetary savings	Cllr Hetherton Rav Sekhon
	Exempt Supported Accommodation	To receive an update on progress and outcomes achieved following the meeting on 7 <sup>th</sup> December 23 Information on the uptake and success of monthly forums to be included	Jim Crawshaw/Sophie Hall/ Barrie Strain Adrian Chowns Cllr N Akhtar

Communities and Neighbourhoods Work Programme 2024-25

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b>	Resident Parking Schemes	To consider the impact of standardised charging on residents parking schemes and evaluate whether the budget targets have been met.	Paul Bowman Cllr Hetherton
<b>2024-25</b>	Waste Services		
	Quality of Social Housing and Retrofit Programme	To consider the impact of the retrofit scheme for social housing providers and the quality of social housing	Citizen and other Social Landlords Jim Crawshaw Cllr N Akhtar
	Update on Empty Properties	To provide an update on Empty Property Strategy as requested at the meeting on 9.02.23.	Davina Blackburn Adrian Chowns
	Housing Strategy	To look at local housing provision, including social housing number, as part of the Local Plan	Jim Crawshaw
	Pot-Holes	To include the customer satisfaction survey data	Mark Adams Cllr Hetherton
	Litter picking	Community groups and volunteers. How the Council is supporting local groups.	Cllr Hetherton Martin McHugh/ Sam Morris
	Gully Cleaning Programme	Requested following an item on Water Quality on 17/7/24. To be considered 25/26	Mark Adams Cllr Hetherton
	Additional Licensing Scheme progress report	At their meeting on 21 <sup>st</sup> August, Scrucro requested that SB4 receive regular progress reports on numbers of HMO's licensed and enforcement	Adrian Chowns
	Alternative Accommodation	Cost of accommodation placements – Possibly referred to SB4	Jim Crawshaw Cllr N Akhtar

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