# London boroughs ramp up penalties as fly-tipper caught on CCTV sparks outrage



This week, a fly-tipper was filmed dumping a bag of rubbish beside a public bin in Southall, west London, prompting calls from Ealing Council for the public to 'name and shame' the individual responsible. The man, captured on CCTV hastily crossing the road and leaving the trash by a bin already surrounded by litter, has sparked local outrage. An Ealing Council spokesperson confirmed that an investigation is underway and urged residents to provide any information through their dedicated reporting channels. The council emphasised that fly-tipping carries penalties of up to £1,000 in fixed penalty notices, a tool it has been actively using to deter such offences.

Locals applauded the council’s efforts to track down the culprit, with many calling for hefty fines and public exposure of the offender. One commenter remarked to the Daily Mail, "Hefty fines should be applied to these people," while another suggested more transparency, arguing, "Why blur? Show his face so that all his neighbours and friends see his filthy behaviour." While some debated the terminology—considering whether dumping next to a bin qualifies as fly-tipping—the consensus was clear that measures must be toughened to curb such behaviour.

Ealing Council’s stance against fly-tipping is robust and supported through a structured enforcement framework. According to the council's environmental enforcement guidelines, offenders face on-the-spot fines starting at £150 for littering and up to £1,000 for fly-tipping, which covers the illegal dumping of items such as black sacks of rubbish, mattresses, and builders’ rubble. The council underscores its commitment to prosecuting persistent offenders and encourages residents to report incidents. Further, official council information highlights that fly-tipping penalties can extend beyond fixed penalties to potential prosecution, with unlimited fines or prison sentences of up to five years for serious breaches.

Beyond this incident, London continues to grapple with a wider fly-tipping crisis. Recent figures reveal that England is experiencing its worst illegal dumping levels in two decades, with over 1.15 million reported cases in 2023/24—an increase of 6% from the previous year. London boroughs dominate the list of worst affected areas, with eight in the top ten spots for fly-tipping volume and highest incidents per population. Environment Secretary Steve Reed has described fly-tipping as a "disgraceful act" damaging communities and vowed to intensify enforcement measures nationwide.

This surge in illegal dumping carries significant financial burdens for councils. For instance, Brent Council recently secured a £4,600 fine against a repeat offender caught on CCTV dumping a divan base and other waste in Queensbury Park. Such large-scale incidents are particularly costly, with councils spending millions annually on clean-up efforts. Brent Council reported that it handled 35,000 cases in 2022-2023 alone, costing approximately £1.5 million to address, underscoring the economic strain inflicted on local authorities and taxpayers.

In Ealing, the fight against fly-tipping is strongly actioned through rapid response and enforcement. The council's contractor, Greener Ealing Ltd, manages to clear 98% of reported fly-tips within two working days. An impressive volume of enforcement is underway; since the start of 2025, over 1,500 fines have been issued for fly-tipping, with nearly 200 fines issued just in July. Residents are actively encouraged to assist by reporting fly-tipping incidents, as evidence from CCTV and community tips often leads to successful prosecution and fines.

The recent footage from Southall highlights the ongoing challenge faced by London boroughs in curbing illegal waste disposal. While the fine for the current incident remains at up to £1,000, councils across the capital are pushing for tougher penalties and more rigorous enforcement to deter offenders. Public cooperation remains a critical part of these efforts, with authorities urging communities to remain vigilant and report offenders swiftly to protect the cleanliness and safety of shared spaces.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/2274/environmental_enforcement), [[4]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/2274/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/2274/environmental_enforcement), [[3]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/197/fly-tipping/1), [[5]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201221/fly-tipping/3512/about_fly-tipping)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201221/fly-tipping/3514/enforcement_activity), [[7]](https://www.aroundealing.com/news/fly-tippers-pay-for-their-actions/)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201221/fly-tipping/3514/enforcement_activity), [[7]](https://www.aroundealing.com/news/fly-tippers-pay-for-their-actions/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15032075/fly-tipper-caught-CCTV-dumping-rubbish-bin-road.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/2274/environmental_enforcement> - Ealing Council's Environmental Enforcement page outlines the penalties for littering and fly-tipping. Offenders can receive on-the-spot fines of £150 for littering and up to £1,000 for fly-tipping. The page defines fly-tipping as the illegal dumping of waste, including black sacks of rubbish, mattresses, and other unwanted items on public land. The council emphasizes its commitment to prosecuting offenders and encourages the public to report illegal dumping activities.
3. <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/197/fly-tipping/1> - This page from Ealing Council provides information on fly-tipping, describing it as the deliberate dumping of rubbish in inappropriate places. It lists examples such as single bags of rubbish, mattresses, or large amounts of builders' rubble. The council states that fly-tipping is illegal and outlines the penalties, including fixed penalty notices of £400 and potential prosecution with a maximum penalty of an unlimited fine or up to 5 years in prison. It also offers guidance on legally disposing of rubbish.
4. <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201153/street_care_and_cleaning/2274/> - Ealing Council's Environmental Enforcement page details the penalties for littering and fly-tipping. Offenders can receive on-the-spot fines of £150 for littering and up to £1,000 for fly-tipping. The page defines fly-tipping as the illegal dumping of waste, including black sacks of rubbish, mattresses, and other unwanted items on public land. The council emphasizes its commitment to prosecuting offenders and encourages the public to report illegal dumping activities.
5. <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201221/fly-tipping/3512/about_fly-tipping> - Ealing Council's 'About Fly-Tipping' page explains that fly-tipping is the deliberate dumping of rubbish in places where it shouldn't be left. It can involve single bags of rubbish, mattresses, or large amounts of builders' rubble. The council states that fly-tipping is illegal and outlines the penalties, including fixed penalty notices of £1,000 and potential prosecution with a maximum penalty of an unlimited fine or up to 5 years in prison. The page also provides guidance on legally disposing of rubbish.
6. <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201221/fly-tipping/3514/enforcement_activity> - Ealing Council's 'Enforcement Activity' page highlights the efforts to combat fly-tipping in the borough. It mentions that Greener Ealing Ltd, the council's rubbish and recycling contractor, collects 98% of reported fly-tips within two working days. The council uses evidence found in dumped waste, CCTV footage, and reports from witnesses to identify fly-tippers and issue fines. The page also provides statistics on fines issued, with 188 fines in July and a total of 1,517 fines since January 2025.
7. <https://www.aroundealing.com/news/fly-tippers-pay-for-their-actions/> - An article from Around Ealing reports that nearly 200 fines have been issued to fly-tippers since Ealing Council launched its campaign to take tougher action against illegal dumping at the start of the previous month. A total of 181 fines have been issued, each requiring the fly-tipper to pay the £1,000 fine or face court action. The article emphasizes the council's zero-tolerance approach to fly-tipping and highlights the financial and environmental impacts of such activities.