



Clean Green Croydon

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Stuart Collins

March 2020

Recycling rates and fly-tipping

I was delighted to see that a recently published table of recycling rates in London showed Croydon to be one of the top six highest recycling boroughs in London with the percentage of household waste recycled increasing from 38% to 47.3%. A lot of hard work went into making the new service a success and I'm pleased that the remarkable efforts of our residents to do the right thing are being recognised. With flats above shops due to have a recycling collection service introduced within the coming months we are making it even easier for people to do the right thing.

Croydon was recently invited to give a presentation to the East London Waste Authority (ELWA) Board on the rollout of its service change and the resulting positive impact it has had on our recycling rates. It's great that Croydon is starting to be showcased in the industry in this way as a leader in the field as a borough who is bucking the national trend and increasing recycling via well communicated, comprehensive services.

Finally, I am launching a petition in order to get Parliament to take action about fly-tipping. I want the Government to back a national campaign to make fly-tipping a social stigma in the same way that they have done in years gone by with drinking and driving. Croydon has led the way for many years through the Don't Mess with Croydon campaign which has gained national coverage and has led to numerous successful prosecutions, however, this is a national problem and needs to be treated as such.

As well as a national campaign, I'd like the Government to consider introducing a point of purchase tax for the most heavily fly tipped items, which would be returned to customers if they disposed of these responsibly at recycling centres. The Government should incentivise manufactures and suppliers to introduce a new for old collection scheme. Any excess money could then be ring fenced for local authorities to deal with the costs of fly tip removal.



Clean Green Croydon

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Stuart Collins

March 2020

The petition will also call on the Government to legislate tougher penalties and, where community service is given for offenders, that community service should be spent clearing up fly-tips so that the punishment fits the crime. In doing so, ensure that Councils receive ring-fenced funding for enforcement work so that they can better catch those that fly-tip.