



Clean Green Croydon

Cabinet Member Bulletin

Councillor Stuart Collins

December 2019

Real Christmas Tree Collections

If you decide to use a real Christmas tree this year then it will be collected between Monday 13 January and Monday 27 January 2020.

All you have to do is remove the decorations and tree pots then place your tree as close to the front boundary of your property as possible, making sure that it is visible from the kerbside, without blocking access or the pavement at the start of the two-week period.

Alternatively if you subscribe to the garden waste collection service, cut it up and put it in your bin and present it on your normal garden waste collection day,

Properties with communal bins should put their trees outside the bin store but make sure they do not block access.

If your property has no frontage then present your tree with your normal rubbish on your collection day.

If your tree is missed during this two week period you can:

- Take it to the Household Reuse and Recycling Centre at Factory Lane, Fishers Farm or Purley Oaks
- Put it out next to your rubbish bin on your next collection day (please note your tree won't be recycled)
- Cut it up and put it in your garden waste bin if you have a subscription

Trees must not be dumped outside a recycling centre.

Letter to Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

As I wrote in a previous bulletin, I sent a letter to both Theresa Villiers who started in July and Michael Gove who was the Secretary of State until July. I wrote to express my concerns about the increasing number of fly tips being seen on a national scale and the costs to local authorities of dealing with these. I did receive a response from Theresa Villiers at the end of September and was disappointed that the letter did not address a purchase tax for commonly fly-tipped material.

I have since replied expressing my disappointment that the reply did not address the key points. Despite the lack of any new schemes from the Secretary of State Croydon are tackling these issues locally.

We will soon be introducing an initiative that gives £100 reward for any information about fly tipping that leads to a successful prosecution. Residents can report any fly tips they see via the Don't Mess with Croydon App.

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Warning After Business Waste Clampdown

Croydon shopkeepers are being reminded they face fines if they illegally dump their trade rubbish after a council-led multi-agency operation found several businesses flouting the law.

Over the past three years Croydon Council has introduced time restrictions on when businesses in fly-tipping hotspot areas can legally leave their trade waste on the street for collection to stop other people adding more rubbish illegally.

More than 3,000 business properties along major routes affected by fly-tipping, from London Road in Norbury to Brighton Road in Coulsdon, can only have their trade rubbish collected between 5pm and 8am. This waste has to be properly bagged and sealed and collected by a licensed private contractor.

Known as time-banded waste collection, it was introduced in 2016 as part of the council's Don't Mess With Croydon – Take Pride campaign. This focuses on enforcement against fly-tipping alongside boosting recycling figures and the number of community champions who lead litter picks.

However, an operation focusing on 40 businesses along Thornton Heath High Street last month found several traders either leaving their own trade waste outside these times, dumping loose items or littering.

To keep pavements outside shops clear of fly-tips, shopkeepers must be properly licensed and get rid of their rubbish responsibly.

The mess caused by shopfront fly-tipping is bad for the environment and bad for business, so this operation is a wake-up call for shopkeepers to follow the rules or risk both more fines and fewer customers.

Out of 40 visits by council officers and Veolia staff, 10 fixed penalty notices of £150 were issued, including six for not leaving trade waste in the correct bags, two for fly-tipping and two for littering.



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