

TACKLING THE BLIGHT OF FLY-TIPPING

THE CLA'S FIVE POINT PLAN

Rural Britain is facing a surge in fly-tipping. Almost two thirds of farmers and landowners are affected each year, with some targeted multiple times each month. This results in a vicious cycle of costly clean-ups by the victims who bear the burden of waste crime.

We need to take action to tackle this blight on our beautiful countryside, a crime which causes financial damage to victims. The CLA has set out a five-point action plan for how government, farmers, landowners and rural communities can work together to fight back.

1 **Impose and enforce penalties which better reflect the seriousness of the crime** – seizure of vehicles must be the default penalty to send a clear signal that criminals will face damaging consequences if they are caught fly-tipping.

2 **Enforce fines for home and business owners whose waste is found in fly-tipped locations** – to act as a deterrent and encourage waste disposal through legal channels.

3 **Appoint a national 'Fly-Tipping Tsar'** – whose responsibilities would include:

- Co-ordinating with national agencies in tackling serious organised criminal gangs.
- Monitoring and reporting on the scale of the problem across public AND private land.
- Benchmarking enforcement performance across all relevant agencies.

4 **4. Develop new ways to clear up and support victims**

- Introduce a new scheme to allow any private landowner who did not cause or knowingly permit the fly-tipping to dispose of it at a waste disposal site free of charge.
- Remove landowner liability to clear up waste on private land.

5 **5. Promote education and working in partnership**

- Share best practice advice to landowners on how to reduce the chance of being a victim of fly-tipping, based on Design Out Crime principles.
- Showcase excellent examples of local partnerships including shared CCTV monitoring schemes, Countryside Watch and post-incident intelligence sharing.

KEY FIGURES

Almost **2/3** of farmers and landowners have been affected by fly-tipping

OVER HALF AGREE it is a significant issue in their area

85% of farmers have taken measures to prevent fly-tipping such as installing CCTV or security lights, padlocking entrances or blocking gateways

Each incident of fly-tipping on private land costs the owner on average **£844** TO CLEAN UP

Only 13% of farmers and landowners have insured their business against fly-tipping

LANDOWNER VIEWS

"I think the current law is unjust. As a farmer, I am liable for potentially very large costs of clearing up waste as a result of someone else's criminal activity."

Farmer, East Anglia

"As fly-tipping is difficult to police, the penalties should be greater to act as a deterrent."

Farmer, South East England

CONTACTS

For more information contact:

ANDREW GILLETT
LEGAL ADVISER – SOLICITOR
andrew.gillett@cla.org.uk

TOM HARLOW
PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER
tom.harlow@cla.org.uk



@clatweets @CLA_Politics