

Environmental Protection Team Newsletter



October 2025

Following a busy summer we bring you the fourth edition of the Environmental Protection newsletter.

LOVE YOUR BEACH



We have encountered challenges with waste being left next to various bins located in the district. Officers have conducted regular early morning and evening patrols to tackle this unfortunate issue.

We have taken a proactive approach to towards these challenges and held a series of 'Love your beach' pop up events. These were held at the popular beach at Dymchurch as well as Mermaid beach and Sunny Sands in Folkestone.



It was a great opportunity to chat with the public, answer any questions and be on hand to tackle any issues which arose.



Getting in touch with us!

There are several ways you can do this.

Visit the council website and create a 'MyAccount'

Once done, please click 'Report it' to submit your concern or query to us.

Alternatively you can scan the QR code below to take you directly to the reporting suite. Use our LiveChat service on our website which is open from Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm

Email us: environmental.services@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Call us on: 01303 853660 - Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm

[Visit our website](#)



Did you know?

New Research reveals that almost half (42%) of young people aged 18-24 admit to leaving litter on the beach.

Always remove rubbish from the beach. If the first bin you come across is full, look for another or take it home.

Litter left beside a bin can easily blow into the sea.



Paws for Thought

Microchipping event held on Wednesday
22nd October 2025

Working in partnership with the
Folkestone Branch of the RSPCA

Successful Microchipping Event with the RSPCA

Our officers recently joined forces with the Folkestone branch of the RSPCA to host a successful microchipping event for cats and dogs. Several cats were microchipped on the day, while many dog owners took the opportunity to have their pets' existing microchips checked and updated.

Some owners were surprised to learn that their pet's microchip details were out of date, highlighting the importance of keeping this information current to ensure pets can be quickly reunited with their families if they go missing.

In the UK, it's a legal requirement for all dogs over eight weeks old to be microchipped, but it's also one of the best ways to make sure your furry friend can always find their way home if they ever get lost. A microchip provides a safe and permanent way to identify your dog, helping vets and animal welfare officers reunite lost pets with their owners quickly and easily. Unlike a collar or tag, a microchip can't fall off or get lost, giving you extra peace of mind.

It's just as important to keep your contact details up to date on the microchip database. If you move house, change your phone number, or your dog has a new owner, make sure to update the records. Many pet owners are surprised to find their details have become out of date without realising it! Keeping your dog's information current takes only a few minutes but can make all the difference in getting them home safely if the unexpected happens.



Bin it right! - Keep it clean!

During routine patrols, our Environmental Protection team often encounter cases of waste being disposed of incorrectly. These incidents take many forms, including:

- General littering on streets
- Placing household waste in public litter bins
- Dumping large household items on pavements, beside bins, or in rural areas

Use of Litter Bins



We've identified several litter bins across the district that are regularly misused for disposing of household waste. These bins are intended for small, on-the-go litter such as food wrappers or bagged dog waste—not for domestic rubbish.



Unfortunately, we often find that residents looking to avoid storing waste at home opt to use litter bins improperly, either by stuffing them with household waste or leaving full bin bags next to them.



This not only fills bins prematurely, making them unavailable to others, but also creates a public nuisance and environmental hazard.

Leaving waste beside or overfilling bins is a criminal offence. These cases are investigated and can lead to Fixed Penalty Notices or prosecution in Magistrates' Court. Repeat misuse, particularly of litter bins for domestic waste, is treated seriously and may result in further enforcement action.

Please Dispose of Waste Responsibly

We urge residents to make proper waste disposal arrangements and use litter bins only for their intended purpose. Your cooperation helps keep our district clean, safe, and enjoyable for everyone.



NO MORE MESS - Time to clean up our act!

Got bulky waste to get rid of? Here's what you need to know!

Getting rid of large household items can feel like a hassle—but it doesn't have to be. Good news: many items can be disposed of for free at the Folkestone Household Recycling Centre. Before you load up your vehicle, check if your items qualify for free disposal by visiting ["I want to get rid of..." – Kent County Council](#).

Choosing a waste carrier? Be smart—check their licence!

When hiring someone to collect your waste, it's crucial to make sure they're licensed and legitimate. A trustworthy waste carrier will be able to provide a waste carrier licence and waste transfer note (this confirms your waste has been received and tells you where it's going). You can double-check any company's credentials using the [Environment Agency's public register](#) just search by business name or registration number.

Avoid rogue traders! Here's how to spot red flags:

- They won't say where your waste is going
- They cold-call or knock on doors without any professional advertising
- They offer prices that seem too good to be true – fly-tipping fines can end up costing you!

If a waste collector can't provide proper documentation or refuses to tell you where your waste will end up, don't use them.



Suspect an unlicensed carrier?

Don't ignore it. Record as much information as you can: name or company name, contact details, business flyer (if available), vehicle registration number. Then report it so an investigation can be carried out. Protect yourself and your community from illegal dumping.

We offer a bulky waste collection service - [Bulky waste collection | Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#)

Ready to clear out your bulky waste? Here's how to book a hassle-free collection!

Start by checking if your item is on the list of what we can collect. Then simply log into your MyAccount (or create one in minutes) and head to the 'Bulky collection' section under 'Recycling & household waste'. Enter your collection details, select your items, add more if needed and choose your preferred collection date. Just don't forget to complete your payment within 24 hours to secure your slot!



Make sure your MyAccount address is up to date, as that's where we'll collect from.

If you're getting rid of upholstered furniture like sofas or chairs, these now require special handling due to new Environment Agency rules on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). These items may be collected separately, but usually on the same day—just possibly by different vehicles.

Bulky household collection (up to three items) costs £54.50, you can add an additional two items for £9.25 each. Cancelling and rebooking fees apply, more information on the website.

Let's work together to keep our district clean—report it!



Enviro-Crime busters

SNAPSHOT

A Fly-tipper was recently issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice for depositing household waste next to bins in Folkestone.

Please remember, domestic waste bins are not intended to be used for clearing out household items, these should be taken to a recycling centre.

Waste left next to bins can result in you being responsible for a fly-tipping offence.



A tidy garden shouldn't make a messy street

A Fixed Penalty Notice for fly-tipping was issued to a Cheriton resident who had been renovating their garden.

They consequently chose to dump the shingle around the surrounding residential area which resulted in the incident being reported and investigated by our officers. The resident paid £300 for early settlement of the FPN.



A Cheriton resident paid a Fixed Penalty Notice of £100 under the Public Space Protection Order for failing to have his dog on a lead in Cheriton Cemetery.

He refused to provide information, however the images captured from the officer's body worn camera allowed him to be identified and the notice issued.

Officers helped to clear a number of abandoned tents that had appeared overnight on the pitch and putt golf course on the East Cliff in Folkestone.

Campers had pitched up and left the site in a terrible state. The area was swiftly cleared by the team.



A groundskeeper from Hythe was found to be dumping garden waste on private land.

Officers worked with the individual to get the area cleared, the offence had been ongoing for a long period of time and instructions had been incorrectly passed down



A local resident was successfully identified and paid a Fixed Penalty Notice for fly-tipping waste next to a bin in Folkestone. The waste was ripped apart by wildlife and the waste strewn all over the path. The resident admitted that they had left the waste next to the bin as they needed to get rid of the waste.

Enviro-Crime busters



Keeping Hythe's Royal Military Canal Clean

In response to ongoing concerns about dog fouling along the Hythe canal, our officers have stepped up patrols in the area and introduced new signage to remind dog owners of their responsibilities. The increased presence aims to encourage responsible pet ownership and ensure the canal remains a pleasant place for everyone to enjoy.

We'd like to thank the many dog owners who already do the right thing — your efforts help keep our community clean and welcoming for all.



Same bin, same story.. Let's stop the dump!

Waste has been frequently fly-tipped next to this bin in Tontine Street, Folkestone. The offender was identified, interviewed and admitted to leaving the waste. He paid the Fixed Penalty Notice that officers issued.

Waste problem solved the right way!

Our officers recently responded to reports of a large amount of waste found outside a property boundary in Hythe. After speaking with the property owner, they made several visits and worked closely together to ensure all the waste was cleared and disposed of responsibly



An organisation were issued with £100 Fixed Penalty Notice for flyposting notices without consent at a location in central Folkestone.

Please remember to always check with our planning team if you are looking to advertise an event.

Meet our new team members



Jason

What have you learnt since joining?

There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes at the council.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

Knowing that when I go home each day I have (even in a small way) made it a better and cleaner district.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

Reuniting owners with their lost dogs and seeing the owner overjoyed to have them home.

What is your favourite part of the district?

I love the tranquillity of the royal military canal in Hythe and the fond memories that emerge of my grandfather teaching me how to fish when I was a child.

If you could have a superpower at work, what would it be?

I love to eat so I would love to be able to fly, so I could go to all the great food establishments in the district in my lunch break.

We're delighted to share that two new members joined our team four months ago and are now well settled into their roles. Both bring great enthusiasm and dedication to our mission, and they're already making a positive impact by helping to keep our streets clean and safe for everyone.

We caught up with them to hear how they're finding their new roles so far.

Sam

What have I learnt since joining?

That you are never too old to learn new skills and that jumping in at the deep end and taking a leap of faith with yourself can pay off.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

I love a day out and about in the district where I can talk to members of the public.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

A happy ending reuniting a lost dog with their owner, a waggy tail is a beautiful sight.

What is your favourite part of the district?

I have a few areas that I love, Farthing Common is one because I spent many hours there as a child with my parents, Dungeness because of its unique landscape and the varied homes set among the shingle.

If you could have a superpower at work, what would it be?

Emotional intelligence.

GOOD NEWS STORY

During weekend patrols officers together with Coastal Park Groundskeepers rescued an injured juvenile fox who was found in the Coastal Park.

Officers took the fox to the vet for treatment and assessment and then to a rescue centre for recovery and release back into the wild.

