

FOR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE: TUESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2016

FAO: Local Reporters

LOCAL MSP CONDEMNS FIFE COUNCIL'S "SHAMBOLIC" WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS

FLY TIPPING SPOTTED IN NEW AREAS ACROSS THE CONSTITUENCY



David Torrance MSP has strongly condemned Fife Council's "shambolic" proposals to introduce charges at waste management facilities across the Kingdom.

The MSP for Kirkcaldy highlighted a notable increase in complaints about fly tipping across his constituency, and directly blamed the Fife Council Labour administration's recent proposals to change waste management in the local area.

Fife Council had previously announced plans to scrap the standard £500 annual recycling permit for businesses in favour of charges per load, with the policy set to be introduced on October 3rd this year. These proposals would drastically increase the charges many local businesses would have to pay for recycling. The council also planned to introduce a booking system for members of the public taking trailers or vans to waste management centres.

The introduction of this deeply controversial strategy has now been pushed back into next year, when it is expected to be formally introduced.

David Torrance MSP said: “These shambolic proposals from the Fife Council Labour administration will cause chaos and could devastate the local environment.”

“Rather than being encouraged to recycle, the Council’s new policies will actively penalise local residents and businesses simply trying to responsibly dispose of their waste. This plan would encourage local businesses and the public to simply dump their waste where they think they can get away with it in order to avoid the new charges.

“As well as reinforcing bad habits, this could seriously damage the local environment and could end up costing the Council more to remove the waste from publicly accessible sites.”

The local MSP spoke out while visiting the site of recent fly-tipping on Midfield Drive. David has contacted Fife Council’s Environmental Services to ask them to clear the waste.

David added: “It is an ill-thought out, counter-productive and irresponsible plan.

“Frankly, this mess of a policy should be binned.”



ENDS

NOTES TO EDITOR:

The fly-tipping photographed was located at Midfield Drive in Kirkcaldy.

David Torrance MSP has contacted Fife Council's Environmental Services about this example of fly-tipping and understands they will be cleaning it promptly.

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