

Press Releases - Council must adopt Name & Shame litter policy - 17/09/00

Council must adopt Name & Shame litter policy

Embargoed until
9am 17/09/00

As flytipping becomes more prevalent across the County, Councillor Costello has stated that it is essential that the Council introduce a policy of naming and shaming those people who are convicted of littering under the Litter Pollution Act.

Since the commencement of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997 972 on-the-spot Fines have been issued.



Flytipping in Foxrock in August

The majority of these fines have been paid.

However, 21 cases were listed for court of which 3 received the Probation Act, 2 were struck out and one was already in custody.

The remaining 15 cases were prosecuted successfully with fines being imposed ranging from £40 with costs to £500.

According to Councillor Costello fly tipping is now a common occurrence throughout the County. A number of weeks ago he

received a phone call from a resident in Foxrock to say that a car had pulled up and dumped a mattress and three bags of domestic rubbish on a green area in their estate. In Saturday's Irish Times(9/9/00) there was a letter from a resident of Tudor Lawns in Leopardstown saying that Leopardstown Racecourse is gradually becoming a dumping ground for garden refuse, old cars and black bags of rubbish. As a result Councillor Costello is starting a "Flytipping Watch" on his website (www.eoincostello.ie).

If residents experience flytipping in their area he is urging them to go to www.eoincostello.ie and register the details of where the flytipping took place in the "Flytipping Watch" section. He will then pass these details on to the Council officials to have the area cleaned.

The letter to the Times stated that Leopardstown is only five minutes from the official dump in Ballyogan. This may be part of the problem. Charges for the dump have risen by over 50% in the past year.

According to Councilor Costello many residents are finding themselves between a rock and a hard place. The County's bin collection service now costs £150 and many people will not pay this. The alternative is to drive up to the dump however prices there have risen dramatically. According to Councillor Costello the sad reality is that people are just dumping their refuse and will continue to do so unless the Council adopts a get tough policy.

Councillor Costello said he is calling on the council to employ more litter wardens to enforce council policy on litter. In conjunction with this he is asking that the Council introduce a policy of naming and shame when it comes to people who are prosecuted for littering offences. This policy would greatly assist litter wardens in carrying out their duties and it would not take long for people to realise that littering and flytipping are unacceptable.