

Cracking down on north London waste crime

Vehicles carrying waste illegally around north London have been the focus for the latest clampdown operation by the Environment Agency and Metropolitan Police.

Crime officers targeted waste carriers on roads across Brent as part of Operation Angola – a collaboration of various agencies led by the Environment Agency to target criminals dumping significant amounts of waste across the south east.

Small tipper trucks were the target of the patrol, as intelligence gathered from Operation Angola identified them most likely to be used by illegal waste operators.

During the day, 45 vehicles were stopped and together with officers from the Metropolitan Police, checks were made to identify compliance with the law on waste management. Environment officers also checked whether waste carriers were transporting waste to authorised and legitimate sites where it would be handled properly. On this occasion, no vehicle was seized but advice and guidance given.

Intelligence gathered throughout the day will help the Environment Agency's waste crime team home in on illegal waste operators in the future.

Daniel Kettridge, an enforcement manager for the Environment Agency, said:

Through the persistent intervention of our officers and by working together with other agencies like the police, we are disrupting organised waste crime and bringing those responsible to justice. Over the last 18 months, the Environment Agency has seized and destroyed 4 vehicles linked to waste crime.

Operations like this provide a brilliant opportunity to remind carriers about their responsibilities, enhance our intelligence around such practices and take action against those who flout the rules.

The Environment Agency wants to make sure businesses carrying waste have the proper authorisations to allow them to transport and transfer rubbish – a waste carrier's registration from the Environment Agency and waste transfer note from the waste producer.

We also want to make it very clear to the general public that everyone has a duty of care to ensure their waste is managed and disposed of correctly by the people they give it to. If you use illegal waste carriers to take your rubbish, you risk being fined up to £5,000.

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Tipper trucks under spotlight in Brent roadside checks.

Campaign launched to celebrate World Teachers' Day

The life-changing contribution of teachers is to be celebrated with a new campaign to align with UNESCO's World Teachers' Day.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson is encouraging teachers, heads and school leaders to take part in the day's celebrations by posting their own videos across social media about why they are #ProudToTeach.

World Teachers' Day, to be held on Saturday 5 October, provides an occasion to take stock of teachers' achievements, with this year's theme focusing on 'Young Teachers: The future of the Profession'.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson said:

Teachers here in England, and around the world, have a truly life-changing impact on their students, acting as inspirational educators, role-models and mentors.

I will always have fond memories of the teachers who guided and encouraged me through my school life, and today I want to celebrate the same role that all teachers have in young people's lives. And I want all those at the front of our classrooms, inspiring our young people, to feel valued in the profession and to use today's celebration to mark the variety of reasons they are proud to teach.

Minister Gibb today met Peter Tabichi, winner of the Global Teacher Prize 2019. He donates 80% of his monthly income to help pupils from poor families in the Kenyan village where he works.

In the next academic year, school teachers and leaders are set to receive an above inflation pay rise, after the Education Secretary accepted all the recommendations from the independent School Teachers' Review Body (STRB), to

raise the upper and lower boundaries of all pay ranges by 2.75 per cent.

The increase in pay will be supported by an additional £105 million to be paid through the teachers' pay grant, on top of the £321 million already committed for the 2019-20 financial year, and is equivalent to a £1,000 increase to average classroom teacher pay and a £1,620 increase in the average pay of school leaders.

Teachers' starting salaries are also set to rise to £30,000 by 2022-23, under government plans for the biggest reform to teacher pay in a generation.

The move would make starting salaries for teachers among the most competitive in the graduate labour market, building on the above-inflation average pay increases for teachers in the last two years.

The Teacher's Pension Scheme is also one of the most generous on offer. From September, the government will be fully funding increased contributions into the scheme, so that school leaders can focus as much of their resources as possible on the front line. It means teachers will get an employer contribution of 23.6% on top their salary towards their pension every year to ensure the scheme is fully funded.

Teachers can get involved with the campaign by posting videos to social media with the reasons they are #ProudToTeach.

Detailed guide: Balai Directive: moving live animals, semen and embryos

How to move animals for research, display and conservation and what you'll need to do if there's a no-deal Brexit.

Air accident error prediction

Aviation has a long history of learning from accidents; the first recorded air accident investigation in the UK was carried out in 1912 involving a Flanders F4 Monoplane. The aircraft took off from Brooklands Aerodrome with the pilot and a passenger onboard, it flew two circuits of the aerodrome before the aircraft was seen to side-slip, stall and crash from an altitude of 200 feet. Both pilot and passenger were killed. The incident was investigated by the Public Safety and Accidents Investigation Committee of the Royal Aero Club who determined the cause to be pilot error.

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