

Portfolio Holder Report

Portfolio Holder Report – Environmental Services and Community Safety

Introduction and Overview:

At Bromsgrove District Council Portfolio Holders provide an annual update to Council on services within their portfolio remit. These services are delivered in accordance with the Council's Priorities, as detailed in the Bromsgrove District Council Plan 2024 - 2027.

This report provides an outline of services and activities within the remit of this particular Portfolio Holder. Information is included in relation to the Council's Priorities, relevant key activities, partnership working, projects and programmes and news stories.

A version of this report, focusing on each Portfolio Holder's remit in turn, will be considered at each meeting of Council (except for the Annual Council meeting).

Whilst services will be contributing information into this report it is worth noting that not all sections of the report will be relevant to all service areas. In this circumstance, some sections may not be completed by all services.

The report will be structured as follows:

Community Safety

- 1) Update on Council Priorities
- 2) Partnership working
- 3) Key activities and priorities
- 4) Good news stories and awards (if applicable)

Environmental Services

- 5) Update on Council Priorities
- 6) Partnership working
- 7) Key activities and priorities
- 8) Good news stories and awards (if applicable)

The Council has the following Priorities:

Council Priorities	Organisational priorities
Economic Development	Financial stability
Housing	Sustainability
Environment	Partnerships
Infrastructure	Organisational Culture – the 4Ps
	Budget & Resources



Community Safety

1. Update on Council Priorities

Relevant Council Priority – Environment:

The Community Safety service, including the Council's Public Space CCTV Scheme, supports Bromsgrove District Council's corporate commitment to *"keep Bromsgrove safe and contribute to improved quality of life and well-being...by working in partnership to reduce ASB and neighbourhood crime and protect vulnerable communities"* [BDC Council Plan 2024-27 Pg. 6]

The team works with partners, other service areas and local communities to fulfil the councils' statutory duties under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and all subsequent community safety legislation. The team provides information and guidance about crime prevention and delivers projects and interventions to reduce crime and disorder, ASB and the fear of crime in local neighbourhoods. Reducing Crime & Disorder is a corporate priority and the team uses its considerable expertise and experience to help other council services embed crime and ASB prevention into mainstream corporate service delivery.

The CCTV service sits within the Council's 24/7 team. The Council owns 66 Public Space CCTV cameras. The team keep people safe, proactively monitoring cameras for crime prevention and detection and reducing anti-social behaviour. The team review footage when an incident has occurred, and produce evidence for use in court and police investigations.

The Council has 5 re-deployable cameras that are used to temporarily and overtly monitor areas with emerging community safety issues.

The cameras are used in accordance with the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice.

Key activities since last report:

NWCSP has an agreed 3-year action plan for 2024 to 2027 identifying the Partnership's priorities based on a strategic assessment of a range of data and information about crime & disorder and ASB. NWCSP's agreed priorities for 2025/26 are: -

- Reducing Public Place Violence & Serious Violence
- Reducing ASB, Nuisance and Environmental Issues
- Reducing Shoplifting and Neighbourhood Crime: defined as domestic burglary, robbery (against the individual/household), theft from a person and vehicle crime.
- Protecting Vulnerable Communities including Hate Crime & Targeted Harassment, Domestic Abuse & DHRs, Sexual Violence
- Joint action against Serious Organised Crime (SOCJAG)

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Reducing the harm caused by drugs & alcohol and reducing re-offending are cross-cutting priorities for Worcestershire which impact across all district areas.

In Bromsgrove District during the last 12 months the CCTV team have:

- Logged 348 CCTV incidents
- Completed 234 footage reviews
- Produced 81 videos for evidence
- Added one new camera to Bromsgrove scheme, which is an additional camera in the bus station, following a successful “Hot Spot” Funding Application through West Mercia Police.

Anticipated Activities/Key Milestones For Next Period:**Community Safety Partnership Funding 2025-26**

Provided by the West Mercia PCC was allocated in April 2025 as follows:

Contribution to West Mercia Police Partnership Analyst Team	£20,000	PCC Top Sliced Amount
Contribution to West Mercia IOM Programme	£1,000	PCC Top Sliced Amount
Contribution to West Mercia Hate Crime Project – Victim Support	£10,383	PCC Top Sliced Amount
NW DHR and Domestic Abuse Support	£48,000	
Bromsgrove Allocation	£10,340	Agreed (For review in Sept 25)
Redditch Allocation	£12,330	Agreed (For review in Sept 25)
Wyre Forest Allocation	£15,330	Agreed (For review in Sept 25)
Total District Allocations	£86,000	
Total NWCSP Funding	£117,838	

2025/26 saw a 20% cut in funding allocated to the partnership and an increase in the amount of funding allocated to the completion of Domestic Homicide Reviews which are a statutory responsibility of a CSP. End of year monitoring and evaluation reports will be prepared to detail the community safety outcomes achieved with the allocated funding.

Continuation of the Community Safety Respect Programme

The Respect Programme is a therapeutic mentoring scheme which provides weekly support and guidance sessions to young people at risk of becoming victims and/or perpetrators of crime. Referrals into the programme continue to increase in complexity with support being provided to young people who are at significant risk of being affected by criminality, both as victims or potential perpetrators. The programme also provides community safety awareness sessions as part of school PHSE drop down days and bespoke classroom sessions on several subjects such as recognising and reporting hate crime, understanding healthy relationships/domestic abuse, the dangers of substance misuse and promoting respect and community responsibility.

Development of the Older and Vulnerable Persons Project



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A Safer Bromsgrove project focused on the intensive delivery of the Nominated Neighbour scheme in Alvechurch was progressing well. Two events were held in Alvechurch to promote the scheme:

25th May – a Community Safety stand at the Picnic in the Park event

10th June – A bespoke event at the Alvechurch Village Hall, supported by Ward Members and other partners. Both events went well and 15 sign-ups to the scheme were secured. Also, number of people offered to become Nominated Neighbours for those who may need them.

Digital Evidence Management Project

A project providing a technology solution for the digital evidence management system, enabling Partners to access, review and capture evidence from CCTV footage remotely. This will save hours of Police Officer physical travel time in collected footage and support reduction of the West Mercia carbon footprint. It will also save time for the CCTV operatives who can pass lengthy footage reviews directly to Police. The system will provide added security and audit to the data sharing arrangements.

2. Partnership Working:

The Council works with a range of partner organisations to meet the needs of residents and businesses in the District. The following section details work delivered within the remit of this Portfolio Holder.

Partnership working examples:

Through NWCSP, the Safer Bromsgrove CSP sub-group and other crime prevention sub-groups, the team co-ordinates support for residents and communities who are victims of crime or are more susceptible to crime and disorder to help them to move toward a better quality of life, free from the fear of crime. The team works with partners and voluntary sector services to provide support to those who have experienced crime and disorder; for example, providing security assessments for Domestic Abuse survivors, encouraging and supporting victims of hate incidents to report and seek help and co-ordinating a problem-solving approach for areas experiencing anti-social behaviour. The team also co-ordinates activity and interventions to help protect young people who are at more risk of becoming victims of crime and providing interventions for young people at risk of falling into criminality and anti-social behaviour.

Safer Bromsgrove, Town Centre Management Group and Pub Watch are partnership sub-groups that work together to address several issues affecting Bromsgrove residents such as ASB, crime and disorder in neighbourhood areas and affecting the Town Centre and the night-time economy. The CCTV team are represented at each of these meetings and actively support the group's priorities to tackle the arising and ongoing issues.



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Multi-Agency Targeted Enforcement (MATEs) is a restricted officer's group that discusses and identifies areas at risk of being targeted by organised criminals. The group shares data and intelligence to co-ordinate enforcement operations at locations that are potential hubs for criminality and cause significant harm to local communities. Partners, including a CCTV representative, work together to collate and share reports of suspicious activity and signs of concern, feeding this back to enforcement agencies to support joint action.

Re-deployable CCTV

This CCTV initiative relies upon cameras that were initially purchased through PCC funding. WCC Highways are key, allowing permission for the use of their lighting columns. Community Safety budget supports the installation and decommissioning costs. The CCTV team assess the suitability of the site and arrange the installation and consultation. The Police ensure their staff are aware of the camera installation and to pass on incident reports to the CCTV team, and the CCTV team to proactively monitor and report suspicious incidents.

Key activities since last report:

Delivery of the Right Path Project

Using Serious Violence Duty funding allocated to Worcestershire, and working with South Worcestershire, NWCSP has commissioned a youth support organisation "The Right Path" to deliver intensive 1:1 mentoring that is specifically designed to support and guide young people who are at greater risk of criminalisation through use of violence, including those not accessing education and those at risk of permanent exclusion. The Right Path project was hugely successful in 2024/25 to the point of being oversubscribed. Reasons for young people being referred included physical aggression and violence, verbal abuse, use of weapons, sexualised behaviour, robbery, assault, harassment, use of drugs and alcohol and shoplifting. Currently 15 of the 20 programme spaces available in 2025/26 have been allocated.

Re-deployable CCTV Installation

There have been 8 Bromsgrove District installations requested by West Mercia, 5 installations completed. 2 sites were unsuitable, and one site is pending.

Anticipated Activities/Key Milestones and Priorities For Next Period

Review of re-deployable camera scheme to evaluate and amend the process, look at successes and required improvements.



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3. Good News Stories and Awards

Older and Vulnerable Persons Project

As part of the development of the Older and Vulnerable Persons Project, the Community Safety Team have created a bespoke webpage on the Council's website - [Older and Vulnerable Residents](#) to direct residents, support workers, carers and relatives to a range of crime prevention and community support information.

MATEs group

Activity from the MATEs group forms part of the NWCSP Serious Organised Crime action plan and where possible the group's targeted enforcement successes are promoted - [West Mercia Police arrest three after drug raid at Rubery shop - BBC News](#)

Environmental Services

4. Update on council priorities

Relevant Council priority – Environment, Infrastructure and Economic Development:

Environmental Services is a key operational arm of Bromsgrove District Council, playing a central role in supporting the strategic purpose of safeguarding the natural environment. This is undertaken by a range of services including domestic & commercial waste, bulky waste collections, fleet management, street cleansing, (road sweeping and litter picking), landscape and grounds maintenance, tree management including TPOs and advice, land drainage via shared NWWM, Bereavement services, all of which is coordinated through our Environmental Services Business Support team.

Key Activities since last report

1. Strengthening Environmental Enforcement

- Enhanced collaboration with Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) to tackle Fly-Tipping and abandoned vehicles.
- Deployment of warning protocols, evidence collection, and remote surveillance technology
- Aim: Improve public space cleanliness, deter environmental crime, and support legal enforcement

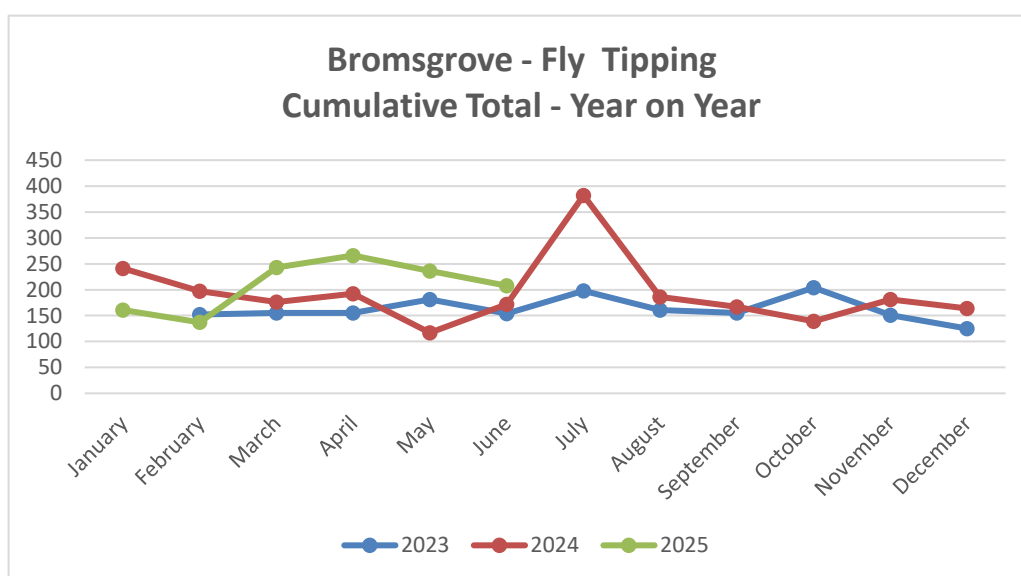
As of 1st June 2024, Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) assumed responsibility for Fly-Tipping enforcement within Bromsgrove District.

Management of abandoned vehicles remains under the remit of the Place Team, ensuring continued local oversight and swift response.

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While WRS now leads investigations into Fly-Tipping incidents, Bromsgrove's Environmental Place Teams continue to remove all waste. To support evidence gathering, waste may be left in situ for 2–5 days to allow WRS time to inspect and identify potential offenders. Despite this, most items are removed within 48 hours, and the Place Teams actively assist in collecting evidence to maintain efficiency and minimise disruption to the public.

Over the past 12 months, WRS has strengthened its enforcement capabilities by recruiting additional staff and deploying new remote clandestine cameras. These investments enhance surveillance, improve detection rates, and support more effective prosecution of environmental offences.



Aside from the spike in July 2024 created by a surge in crew-based identification along with the public (creating duplicates) the numbers are within a threshold of 120-280 per month. From March 2025 onwards we are also seeing the impact of the Birmingham bins strikes creating a surge in cross border fly tipping in northern areas of Bromsgrove District.

Enforcement in action

The following highlights a small sample of the actions taken by WRS in 2025:

12297061- Malthouse Lane- £120 paid for failing duty of care

12266237- Linthurst Road- £120 paid for failing duty of care





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11809892- Crabmill Lane- £120 paid for failing duty of care



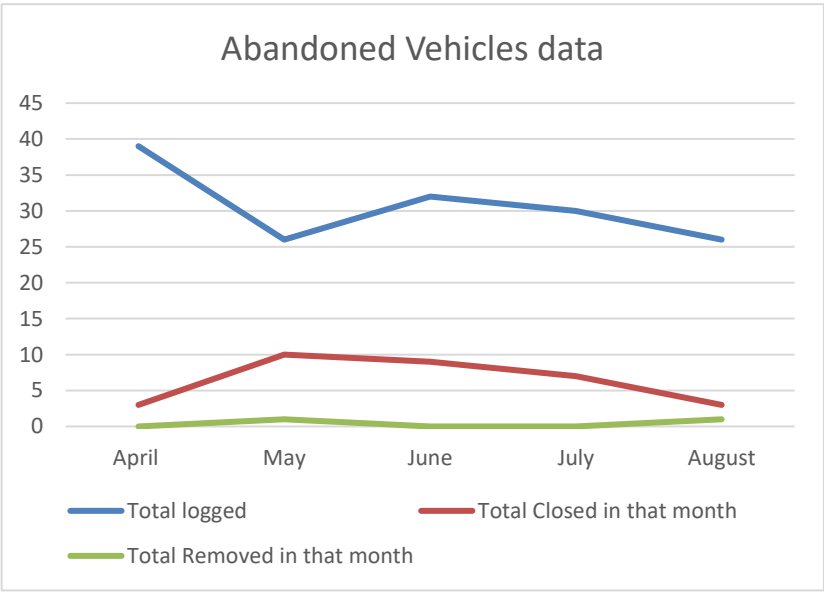
11843303- Grimpits Lane- £120 paid for failing duty of care



Abandoned Vehicles

As of January 2025, responsibility for managing abandoned vehicles was formally transferred to the Place Team Coordinator.

However, due to changes in DVLA software requirements, the council was required to secure a third-party provider to assist with vehicle ownership identification—an essential step in the legal removal process. This partnership was successfully established in April 2025, marking the official start of the updated procedure.



Since implementation, the use of warning stickers and the clear threat of removal has led to a noticeable decline in abandoned vehicle numbers. This proactive approach is helping to maintain cleaner public spaces, reduce environmental hazards, and improve community satisfaction.

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2. Waste Services Development in Line with the Environmental Act 2021

- Standardisation of Recycling materials across Domestic and Commercial properties in England placing additional requirements on our services.
- Renewed focus on recycling performance and the Circular economy, as well as application of the “producer pays” approach to encourage packaging producers to reduce waste entering the waste stream.
- New requirement for a dedicated weekly food waste collection for Businesses from 2025, and Domestic households from 2026.
- On-going partnership with neighbouring Local Authorities to maintain consistency for residents.
- Supports environmental sustainability and legal compliance for residents and businesses.

Simpler recycling

In 2025, Bromsgrove District Council—working closely with the Environmental Services team—undertook a strategic review of bin placement and design across its main town centres.

This decision was driven by data revealing that a significant portion of collected waste was unsuitable for recycling due to cross-contamination from materials such as broken glass and grease-soaked food packaging.

To address this, a new generation of recycling bins will be introduced in late 2025.

These bins will feature clearly separated compartments for Glass, Plastic, Cans, and General Waste, making it easier for the public to dispose of items correctly and for teams to manage collections efficiently.

This initiative is expected to:

- Significantly increase the volume of recyclable waste
- Reduce contamination levels, improving the quality of recycled materials.
- Enhance public engagement through clearer signage and user-friendly design.
- Support operational efficiency for waste collection teams.

This marks a key milestone in Bromsgrove’s commitment to smarter, cleaner waste management and environmental stewardship.

Town centre waste recycling project - improving choice

The Environment Act 2021 has placed additional requirements on Councils regarding how we manage waste, under the label of “Simpler Recycling”.

This aims to standardise the range of recyclable materials collected across all Local Authority areas and has a number of elements that will affect our services to residents and businesses.



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Working in partnership with Worcestershire County Council, our current domestic and commercial dry recycling services are able to meet these requirements already and will be able to accommodate new materials (plastic film and tinfoil) from the target date of 2027.

Food waste collection

The most challenging service to provide is a new weekly Food Waste collection, which is due for implementation in 2026 for residential properties, and has already started for commercial businesses this year.

Government have supplied Capital funding to support the purchase of food caddies and vehicles for operation of this service, and has pledged to provide ongoing Revenue funding, but the latter has still not been confirmed, and leaves uncertainty over our future costs.

Having modelled the resources needed to provide this service in addition to our existing rounds, we do not have sufficient physical space at our depot to operate this service ourselves and so are looking for external partners to support us in this.

Working with Wyre Forest District Council (WFDC) and Redditch Borough Council, we have completed market engagement with the private sector and have interest from a number of providers, so are finalising our specification for a joint food waste collection contract to carry out the full procurement with an expected completion in December 2025. We will then finalise the start date for the service and are liaising with DEFRA regarding the targets contained within the Environment Act.

Extended producer responsibilities

In addition to these pressures, the Environment Act has also implemented Extended Producer Responsibilities, which is specifically intended to make packaging producers financially responsible for end-of-life management of their products and encourage them to proactively reduce waste, promote recycling, and encourage innovations in product design.

It does this through financial pressure, which aims to provide Local Authorities with on-going funding to offset the cost of managing this material, and help ensure that their products are managed in the most environmentally effective way possible, and the funds received from this will be used to support future Communication and Education of our residents.

Bin replacement

In addition to these projects, we are currently in the process of replacing our 20-year-old non-standard wheeled bins with new industry standard ones, which will safeguard the future collection of waste from our residents, increase our service resilience by opening up access to hire vehicles, support us with future integration with our neighbouring authorities under Local Government Reorganisation, and reduce future replacement costs with an increased lifespan.

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Vehicle replacement

The replacement of our wheeled bins is timed to coincide with the receipt of 14 new Refuse Collection Vehicles, which will replace our existing fleet which has been kept beyond the end of its operational life as a result of the need to support the non-standard bins.

3. Carbon Reduction

- Investing in the fleet
- Introducing HVO
- Driver compliance
- Battery hand tools
- Tree management and planting policies.
- Soil Carbon Sequestration
- Alternative weed suppressant technology

Investing in the fleet

An upgraded bin lorry fleet is set to be delivered by the end of 2025, featuring more efficient diesel engines paired with the use of HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) fuel.

This dual improvement supports the council's commitment to reducing emissions and enhancing operational performance. The new engines offer better fuel economy and lower pollutant output, while HVO—a renewable diesel alternative—cuts up to 90% of net CO₂ emissions compared to traditional fossil fuels.

This investment marks a significant step toward cleaner, more sustainable waste collection services across Bromsgrove District.

Introducing HVO

In 2025, Bromsgrove District Council introduced HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) as a renewable diesel alternative across its fleet and machinery.

Also known as HVO100, this fuel is a direct replacement for traditional red and white diesel and is suitable for both on- and off-road use. Derived from certified sustainable raw materials, HVO delivers an immediate and substantial environmental benefit—cutting up to 90% of net CO₂ emissions compared to fossil diesel.

This transition marks a significant step in the council's journey toward low-carbon operations, supporting cleaner air, climate resilience, and responsible resource use.

Driver compliance



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Improved monitoring and targeted training have led to noticeable enhancements in driving styles across the service—paving the way for greater fuel efficiency and reduced environmental impact.

To support this progress, a comprehensive Driver Handbook has been developed and formally signed off by union representatives. This document establishes a clear baseline for best practice and sets consistent expectations for all drivers.

This initiative reinforces the council's commitment to safety, sustainability, and professional standards—ensuring every driver is equipped with the guidance needed to operate responsibly and efficiently.

Battery hand tools

The Place Team has begun phasing in battery-powered hand tools as part of its commitment to cleaner, safer, and more sustainable working practices.

This transition eliminates the use of two-stroke fuel—known for its high pollutant output—and significantly reduces tool vibration, helping to protect staff from hand-arm vibration injuries.

This shift not only supports environmental goals but also enhances staff wellbeing and operational efficiency, reinforcing the council's dedication to responsible service delivery.

Tree management and planting policies.

New council policies, set to be presented to Full Council, establish a strong foundation for the protection and enhancement of Bromsgrove's woodlands.

These policies outline a clear and forward-thinking strategy for increasing tree stock, with a focus on improving carbon capture and supporting long-term environmental sustainability.

By integrating woodland conservation with proactive planting initiatives, the council aims to strengthen biodiversity, mitigate climate impact, and preserve green spaces for future generations.

4. Economic Development

- Commercial waste
- Bulky Collections
- Burial strategy
- Fees and charges

Commercial waste

The Council has operated a Commercial Waste Collection Service since 2015, which has grown significantly from 547 to over 1,200 contracted customers, supporting the collection of over 5,000 tons of residual waste in

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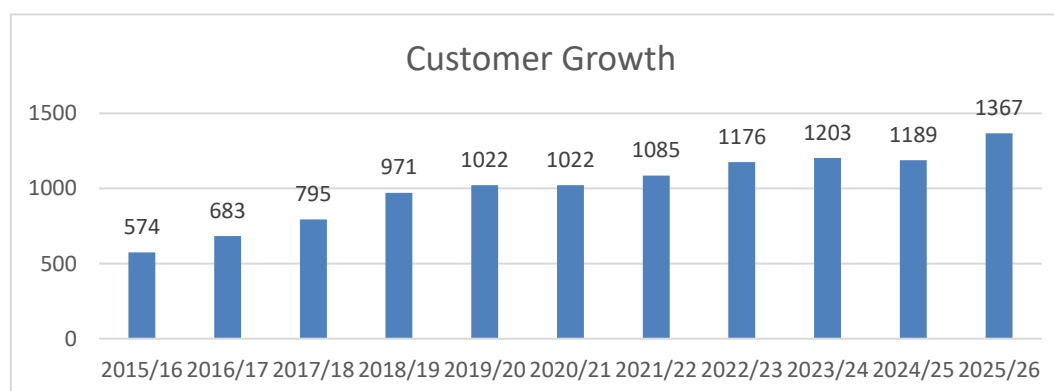
2024/25, and nearly 1,000 tons of dry recycling, as well as supporting local businesses to manage waste at local events such as the Belbroughton Scarecrow Festival, Bromsgrove Sporting Community events, Astwood Bank Carnival, the Hanbury Show, and The Bromsgrove Green Fair.

With a customer retention rate of 97% for 2024/25, and over 200 new customers since April 24, the service has had an average increase in customers of 12.18% per year since 2015, and consistently high praise by existing customers – so much so that when Dudley Council's Commercial Service ended in April 2025, many of those customers sought us out to continue their service and keep their money local.

Our service has also been the subject of a Local Government Association Case Study on delivering successful Commercial Waste Collection services and been asked by other Local Authorities to share details on our service, and how we engage with residents. We have also been featured by the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce for our partnership work with one of our customers to improve their sustainability profile.

Whilst wider operational pressures arising from an aging fleet and staffing for maintenance of vehicles have increased our costs in 2024 and 2025, the service remains a strong local provider operating at maximum capacity, and will be expanding during 2025/26 to improve service resilience and increase capacity to support more local businesses within Bromsgrove and surrounding areas.

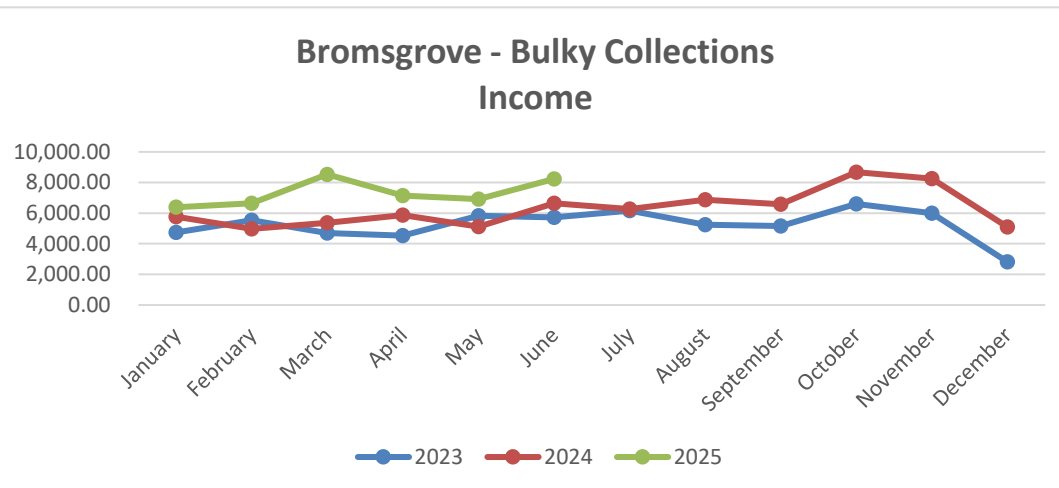
Under the Simpler Recycling reforms, Commercial businesses now need to ensure they are recycling their dry materials as well as food waste, and this will support further growth as we work with businesses to expand their waste arrangements to both support the environment and their legal compliance.

**Bulky Collections**

An essential tool in tackling Fly-Tipping across the district is our Bulky Waste Service.

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This affordable and accessible service offers residents a convenient solution for disposing of large household items—such as white goods, sofas, and other bulky waste—without resorting to illegal dumping.



By providing a legitimate and low-cost alternative, the service helps reduce environmental harm, supports cleaner public spaces, and promotes responsible waste management within the community. Recent data shows a positive trend in income, but more significantly, a marked increase in service usage—despite minimal changes to charges over the past few years.

This reflects strong public engagement and reinforces the value of maintaining accessible pricing.

To build on this momentum, a targeted communication campaign will launch in October 2025.

The campaign will include:

- Monthly reminders running for 8 months of the year.
- Four themed campaigns, beginning with a pre-Christmas clear-out message to encourage early participation and raise awareness.

This proactive approach aims to sustain high usage levels, reinforce the benefits of the service, and ensure continued value for residents.

Burial strategy

A new strategy has been commissioned to provide the necessary guidelines and impetus to maintain a suitable amount of space for full earth burials. As an important statutory service and income generator it is imperative that provision is constantly reviewed and wherever possible existing sites are expanded on to adjacent land to minimize too many managed sites across the district which reduces bereavement services ability to offer as many options as possible due to splitting their team further.

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Fees and charges

2025 marks the second year of the council's ongoing review of fees and charges—a process designed to ensure fair, competitive, and cost-effective pricing across services.

By benchmarking against similar providers and selectively freezing certain charges, the council continues to offer excellent value for money. This is particularly evident in Bereavement Services, where pricing remains significantly lower than commercial alternatives—highlighting a key advantage available to public sector bodies.

In addition, Bereavement Services have expanded their range of memorial options to better reflect the diverse needs and preferences of the community. This enhancement ensures families have access to meaningful, personalised choices while maintaining affordability and dignity in remembrance.

5. Operational Investment

- Software
- Equipment

Software

Over the past year, Abavus—our in-house Environmental Service Management tool—has undergone significant enhancements, moving steadily toward full integration across the service.

This powerful platform now offers streamlined functionality for multiple user groups:

- Business Support Teams benefit from an intuitive interface that simplifies job tracking and administrative processes.
- Members of the public can easily raise service requests through the website portal, ensuring transparency and accessibility.
- Front-line teams use the mobile tool to identify tasks, allocate work efficiently, capture completion evidence, and generate real-time reports.

These improvements have strengthened operational efficiency, improved service responsiveness, and enhanced communication between teams and the community.

2025 marked the launch of a dedicated Tree Management section within our environmental service platform, developed in close collaboration between the Tree Team and the Abavus development team.

Now live, this new functionality enables teams to actively map tree locations, species, and health status across the district. By building a comprehensive and dynamic inventory of our tree stock, we gain deeper insight into its volume, condition, and distribution.



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This data-driven approach lays the foundation for a more strategic and sustainable tree planting programme—ensuring the right trees are planted in the right places, with long-term benefits for biodiversity, landscape resilience, and public amenity.

Equipment

Bromsgrove's rural landscape presents unique challenges, and to manage it effectively while boosting team productivity, the service is committed to embracing innovation and investing in modern equipment.

Historically, equipment replacement followed a like-for-like model, often with minimal team input and long after the tools had exceeded their useful life. This approach limited efficiency and missed opportunities for improvement.

In 2025, a new strategy was adopted—placing frontline teams at the heart of the decision-making process. Staff are now actively involved in trialling new equipment before purchase, giving them time to assess functionality, provide feedback, and take ownership of the tools they use. This shift has led to smarter investments and greater engagement across the service.

This year, the teams have been equipped with a range of new kit, including:

- High-performance mowers for varied terrain
- Compact utility loaders like the Toro Dingo for multi-functional tasks
- Battery-powered hand tools to reduce noise and emissions.
- Advanced sweepers for improved street cleansing
- GPS-enabled inspection devices for real-time monitoring

This proactive approach ensures Bromsgrove remains at the forefront of environmental service delivery, with empowered teams and equipment that meets the demands of a dynamic rural area.

The Toro Dingo, pictured to the right, enables our teams to efficiently scrape back pathways with precision and a clean finish.

Its versatile functionality supports a wide range of tasks, including:

- Path and verge clearance
- Soil preparation
- Transporting heavy materials using forks and buckets
- Land clearing with grapples.
- Digging holes and trenches with augers
- Demolition work
- Stump grinding

This compact yet powerful machine has become an invaluable asset in delivering high-quality environmental maintenance services.



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Anticipated Activities/Key Milestones for Next Period:

- Town Centre recycling bin replacement – March 2026
- Food waste service implementation – April 2026
- Refuse vehicle fleet replacement – November 2025
- New Tree management policies – March 2026
- Burial Strategy – March 2026
- Domestic refuse bin replacements – December 2025
- Commerical waste expansion – October 2025

5. Partnership Working:

Partnership working examples:

The Council works with a range of partner organisations to meet the needs of residents in the district. Following details examples of work being delivered through these partnerships.

King's Trust

In 2025, we were delighted to collaborate with The King's Trust to offer work experience opportunities within our Environmental Services Place Team.

During September and October, several placements were successfully filled, providing young people with valuable hands-on experience in the sector. The team found the mentoring process deeply rewarding, and the initiative brought the added benefit of extra support during those months—strengthening both service delivery and community engagement.

Our partners

- Worcestershire Regulatory Authority (WRS) – Environmental enforcement.
- Hereford and Worcester Strategic Waste Management Board – Intergrated waste management services.
- North Worcestershire Water Management (NWWM) – Land drainage, watercourses and flooding services.
- Parish Lengths man scheme – A range of place based activities.
- Wyre Forest District Council – Food waste collection tender.
- APSE – Measuring performance and benchmarking.



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Measuring Performance

In 2025, we proudly introduced the Land Audit Management System (LAMS) through our strategic partnership with the Association for Public Excellence (APSE).

LAMS is a robust quality inspection tool designed to monitor standards in ground maintenance and street cleansing. Under APSE's expert management, service scores are systematically benchmarked against those of comparable councils. This collaborative approach not only promotes transparency and accountability but also drives continuous improvement in service delivery across the sector.

6. Good News Stories and Awards

The following are examples of compliments received.

Hagley

A resident had some furniture collected on the Bulky Waste Collection Service. They said our operatives were very kind, helpful, professional and delivered a fantastic service.

Hollywood

Compliment for operatives in the place team. They attended to complete a job to cut back a hedge that was over growing the pavement. The resident feedback that they had done a fantastic job

Marlbrook

A big thank you to the hedge cutting, footpath clearing and road sweeping team!

You have all done an excellent job of cutting the hedges, removing litter, clearing, and sweeping the footpaths and sweeping the road. It is very much appreciated and now looks so tidy! Please thank everyone involved.

Oakalls estate

Thank you very much for the detailed and insight approach. I am grateful to hear that your team are doing good work on improving the duck pond.

King George Recreation ground

The team were complimented for the excellent work at the recreation ground. The imagery and the condition exactly represent, what I know that the team achieves on a day-to-day basis to maintain and improve the environment in which the people of Bromsgrove work and play.

Marlbrook

Hi, spoke to the guys yesterday & saw the Toro machine - very nice. Excellent job on the pavement - back to full width!



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Pear Tree Centre

Just wanted to say a big thank you to your team for coming to Pear Tree today to cut down the bush in the car park, we are so grateful, it was a surprise to look out and see they were here cutting it down for us!