



Litter Monitoring System

Software overview

Summary

Litter and flytipping prevention activities should be informed by an understanding of the locations, waste types and likely sources to be most effective.

Cleaning up litter and flytipping costs Scottish Local Authorities approximately £1 million per week. To help tackle the root causes of littering behaviour, the Scottish Government published the national litter strategy 'Towards A Litter-Free Scotland' in 2014. At the heart of the strategy is prevention: encouraging individuals to take personal responsibility to make sure that waste does not pollute the environment in the first place.

Prevention activities should be informed by an understanding of the locations of litter and flytipping in area, the type of materials and the likely sources. Zero Waste Scotland are therefore leading on the development of a software system to facilitate data capture, display and evaluation of litter and flytipping monitoring data. This is intended to provide accurate, consistent and transparent information to Local Authorities and other land managers in a readily usable format, mapped across their relevant land. This intelligence will assist in the planning, delivery and evaluation of targeted initiatives to prevent litter and flytipping.

The monitoring system is being developed in partnership with Scottish Local Authorities and key stakeholders including the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE), Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), the Improvement Service and Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB).

The system will be trialled by a small number of authorities in 2018 and, following a period of review and refinement, is intended to be implemented across all authorities from 2019. Other Duty Bodies and Statutory Undertakers will also be engaged throughout 2018 with the software being made available following the review period.

Overview

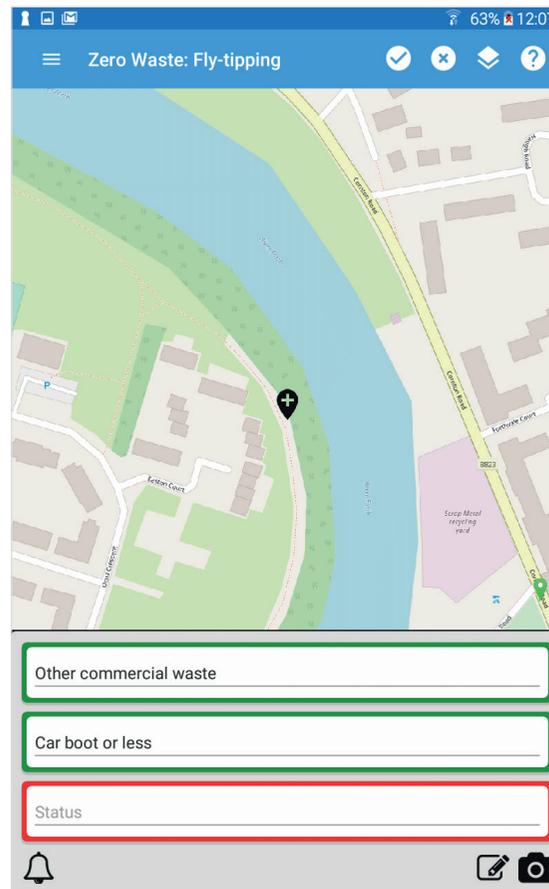
What does the system consist of?

The monitoring system consists of a methodology and associated software which will use a mobile app to:

- Display allocated litter monitoring survey locations; and
- Allow efficient in-field data capture of litter monitoring data and flytipping incidents.

Data captured will be accessible on a central website to:

- View and edit individual litter monitoring survey data and flytipping incidents;
- Evaluate larger datasets for trend information or hotspot areas;
- Interrogate the dataset using a series of filters such as date, political ward, grade achieved etc;
- Produce standardised reports on performance for internal and external audiences; and
- Export data for other uses via .xml documents.



What will the system do?

The monitoring system will:

- Improve the efficiency in planning and conducting monitoring surveys by displaying locations on-map ;
- Reduce time required for data entry and collation;
- Provide ready access to standardised reports for internal and external audiences;
- Support targeted prevention initiatives based on greater intelligence on the location, type and extent of specific litter types.

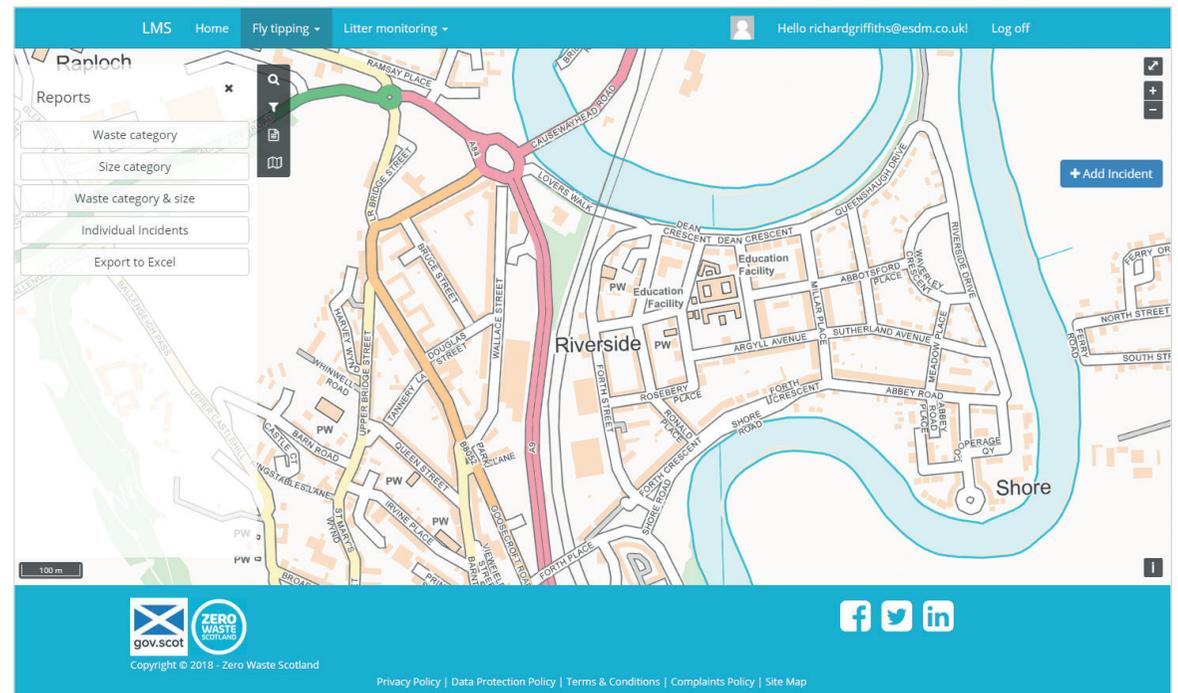
What information will be captured?

- Specific litter and flytipping location information;
- Cleanliness grades for hard - and soft-standing;
- Count data for 7 different litter categories;
- The presence of dangerous or hazardous litter types; and
- Size and type information for flytipping incidents.

Who is the target audience?

The system is intended for use by all organisations with a legal duty to keep land clear of litter and refuse, or keep roads clean, as per the Environmental Protection Act (1990). Initial trials and rollout are focussed on Local Authorities, as they currently collect monitoring data as part of a national Performance Indicator for service delivery.

Other duty holders will be engaged throughout 2018 and invited to use the software following the Local Authority trial period.



What does it cost?

The monitoring software is being developed under an Open Government Licence, therefore it will be free to access and use by duty holder organisations. There will be no ongoing licencing costs and there is no limit to the number of users per organisation.

Individual organisations will be expected to provide mobile handsets for all users and commit staff time

For further information

Please contact the Litter & Flytipping Prevention Team at Zero Waste Scotland on:

01786 433930

Flytipping@zerowastescotland.org.uk

