



BLAENAU GWENT TOTAL FOCUS WEEK 21st - 25th November 2011

A multi-agency Total Focus Week campaign will bring together partner agencies of Welsh Government funded initiative, Fly-tipping Action Wales to tackle fly-tipping in the county. Latest figures* show that 41,750 cases were recorded across Wales (01 April 2009 – end March 2010) costing Welsh tax payers more than £2 million to clean up.

The campaign is part of the £25 million Valleys Regional Park project, an initiative funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Welsh Government. Through the project, Fly-tipping Action Wales is working with nine local authorities to help make The Valleys a cleaner and greener place for people to live and work.

Fly-tipping Action Wales will work with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and other partner agencies, including Keep Wales Tidy, Tai Calon Community Housing and Wales Probation Trust on a series of activities throughout the Total Focus week.

INTRODUCTION

Our initiative uses a 3 part approach to fighting fly-tipping on the ground – Enforcement, Engagement and Education. This method of working is best seen through our Total Focus Campaigns.

'Total Focus' campaigns aim to show that partners are working together to fight fly-tipping. They demonstrate that the regulatory authorities, businesses and residents are pulling together to clean up an area and fight environmental crime. Likely elements of a campaign could be:

- Waste carrier stop checks (Enforcement)
- Pollution prevention visits (Enforcement)
- Community skips and clean ups (Engagement)
- Environmental improvements to public spaces (Engagement)
- Roadshows in DIY stores and builders merchants (Education)
- Articles in local press (Education)

Bacon Butty Event at Travis Perkins Builders Merchants, Waun-y-Pound Industrial Estate



Richie Jones, Construction and Demolition Officer, Fly Tipping Action Wales spoke to 19 customers at Travis Perkins Builders Merchants, raising awareness of the need to be a registered waste carrier and providing information packs. Application forms to apply for a registered waste carrier licence were given to 5 builders. To thank them for their time, customers were given a voucher for a free bacon butty.

Commercial Tyre Audit

Together with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council FtAW carried out an audit of commercial tyre premises to ensure that tyres from the borough were being disposed of legally. 50 commercial tyre venues were visited, 22 of which sold and had waste tyres to dispose of. Only 2 require a re-visit. One was a storage issue and the tyres needed to be moved to a safer area. The other had just started trading and has not used a RWCL Holder yet. There are only 5 different tyre collectors for the area.

Overall, tyre traders in the area appear to be complying with their Duty of Care very well.

Duty of Care Advice, Litter Pick at Newtown

Fly Tipping Action Wales, Tai Calon Housing, Keep Wales Tidy and Wales Probation Team worked together at Newtown Estate to clean up litter and fly tipping and speak to residents about any issues they may have about waste on the estate.

Fly Tipping Action Wales visited residents to ensure they knew how to dispose of their waste legally, safely and responsibly and to find out if they encountered any problems in doing so. They were also advised of their duty of care to check that anyone they give their rubbish to is a registered waste carrier.



Duty of Care Advice, Litter Pick at Garnlydan

Fly Tipping Action Wales, Tai Calon Housing and Keep Wales Tidy worked together at Garnlydan to speak to residents about any issues they may have about waste on the estate.



Fly Tipping Action Wales visited residents to ensure they knew how to dispose of their waste legally, safely and responsibly and to find out if they encountered any problems in doing so. They were also advised of their duty of care to check that anyone they give their rubbish to is a registered waste carrier.



The Cleansing team from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council also carried out a litter pick in the area, collecting 10 bags of rubbish.



Fly Tipping Action Wales visited over 70 properties and spoke to almost 40 residents to find out if they had any problems with disposing of waste, or waste issues in the area generally. They were given advice on disposing of their waste safely, legally and responsibly.

Duty of Care Advice, Litter Pick at Waun Heulog, Nantyglo

On Thursday 24th November 2011 Fly Tipping Action Wales met with staff from Tai Calon Housing, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and residents at Waun Heulog, Nantyglo to discuss problems of litter and fly tipping in the area.



Waste Awareness advice to shoppers at Ebbw Vale Market

On Friday 25th November 2011 Fly Tipping Action Wales joined Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council recycling team at their stand at Ebbw Vale Market. They spoke to shoppers about their duty of care to dispose of waste safely, legally and responsibly.



Fly Tipping Action Wales assisted the recycling team by encouraging people to recycle their waste and gave advice on how to dispose of waste that could not be recycled.



Article in the Gwent Gazette, raising awareness of the Total Focus campaign

