

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's)

Since the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 became law, new measures have been introduced, enabling local authorities to issue Fixed Penalty Notices to anyone committing a crime that damages the environment.

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) generally deal with environmental offences such as litter, graffiti and dog fouling, and can be issued by local authority officers and other authorised officers such as Police Community Support Officers. The FPN is issued as an alternative to a prosecution in court. FPNs can be issued to anyone over 10 years old and penalties will vary according to the offence.

When might an FPN be issued?

Examples of offences where a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) may be issued include

- Dropping litter
- Graffiti offences
- Fly Posting
- Not clearing up dog fouling
- Selling vehicles on the highway
- Abandoning vehicles.
- Breach of a Community Protection Notice (CPN)
- Breach Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

Receiving a penalty notice does not mean that you have received a criminal conviction. The FPN is given instead of a prosecution in court. If you have received an FPN, you have 14 calendar days to pay the penalty or to request a hearing. Certain crimes offer a lower penalty if paid within 10 days. Failure to pay a penalty may result in a higher fine imposed by the court or imprisonment.

What happens if I fail to pay the FPN?

You are very likely to receive a summons to attend a magistrate's court hearing.

What happens when a FPN is paid?

Payment of a FPN means that no further action will be taken for that particular offence.

What happens if I wish to challenge the issue of a FPN?

Authorised officers of the Council will only issue a FPN where they consider that there is adequate evidence of an offence that will support a prosecution in court. However, if you believe that you did not commit the offence in question or that the issue of the FPN was incorrect, you can challenge the Council by opting not to pay the FPN and attend court, if summonsed, to present your case.

Should the case proceed to court the Council will, in addition to any fine imposed, seek to recover its costs associated with the prosecution. The Council retains the right to review any FPN issued before prosecuting. However, in most cases the Council will proceed to prosecute for non-payment of FPNs.

What happens to the FPN payments?

Monies received from FPNs will be re-invested by the Council to help fight Environmental crime and to maintain a cleaner, safer Environment within the District.

How do I make the payment?

Payment can be made by cash, debit/credit card or cheque at Beeston Council Offices Foster Avenue Beeston Nottingham NG9 1AB.

If paying by cheque make cheque payable to Broxtowe Borough Council along with the ticket number which is on the reverse of the fixed penalty notice.