RAND EUROPE

Impacts and Outcomes of LARS
A Toolkit

LBRO Conference

19 November 2009

Christian van Stolk and Jan Tiessen

Introduction

Objective:

- ***Develop a tool for Local Authority Regulatory Services to assess the impacts and outcomes of their activities***

The toolkit should…

- **Provide an analytical framework to consider the outcomes and impacts of the work of LARS**
- **Provide guidance to local authorities on how to:**
  - **identify impacts and outcomes**
  - **link activities to impacts and outcomes**
  - **measure these impacts and outcomes**
  - **communicate the findings to LARS' stakeholders**
- **Be a stepping stone towards further analysis such as cost-benefit analysis and full quantification**

What should a toolkit look like?

Interviews:

- **A toolkit could be helpful for communicating the impact**
- **A toolkit could help making a (business) case for LARS**
- **A toolkit should make smart use of existing data, rather than generate new data**
- **A toolkit should be quick and easy to use and produce meaningful results**
- **A toolkit should allow for comparison between local authorities**

What should a toolkit look like?

Survey (what features would be most useful?)

- **Easy to use**
- **Provide examples practitioners can relate to**
- **Provide local/district level outcome information**
- **Include comparative data ("nearest CIPFA neighbours")**
- **Covering all areas of LARS**
- **Tools that help us link input to outcome (financial)**
- **Something that helps us reflecting on the activities we do**
- **No need for toolkit**
- **There are enough toolkits and indicators, instead methodologies to assess impacts and outcomes would be useful**

RAND EUROPE

The Toolkit

The three building blocks of the toolkit

Logic model

To establish intervention logic

Performance indicators

To measure elements of the causal chain

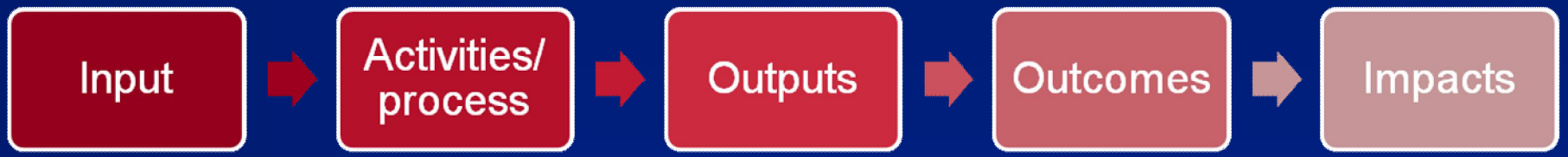
Dashboard

To analyse, monitor and communicate change

Example: Fly-tipping

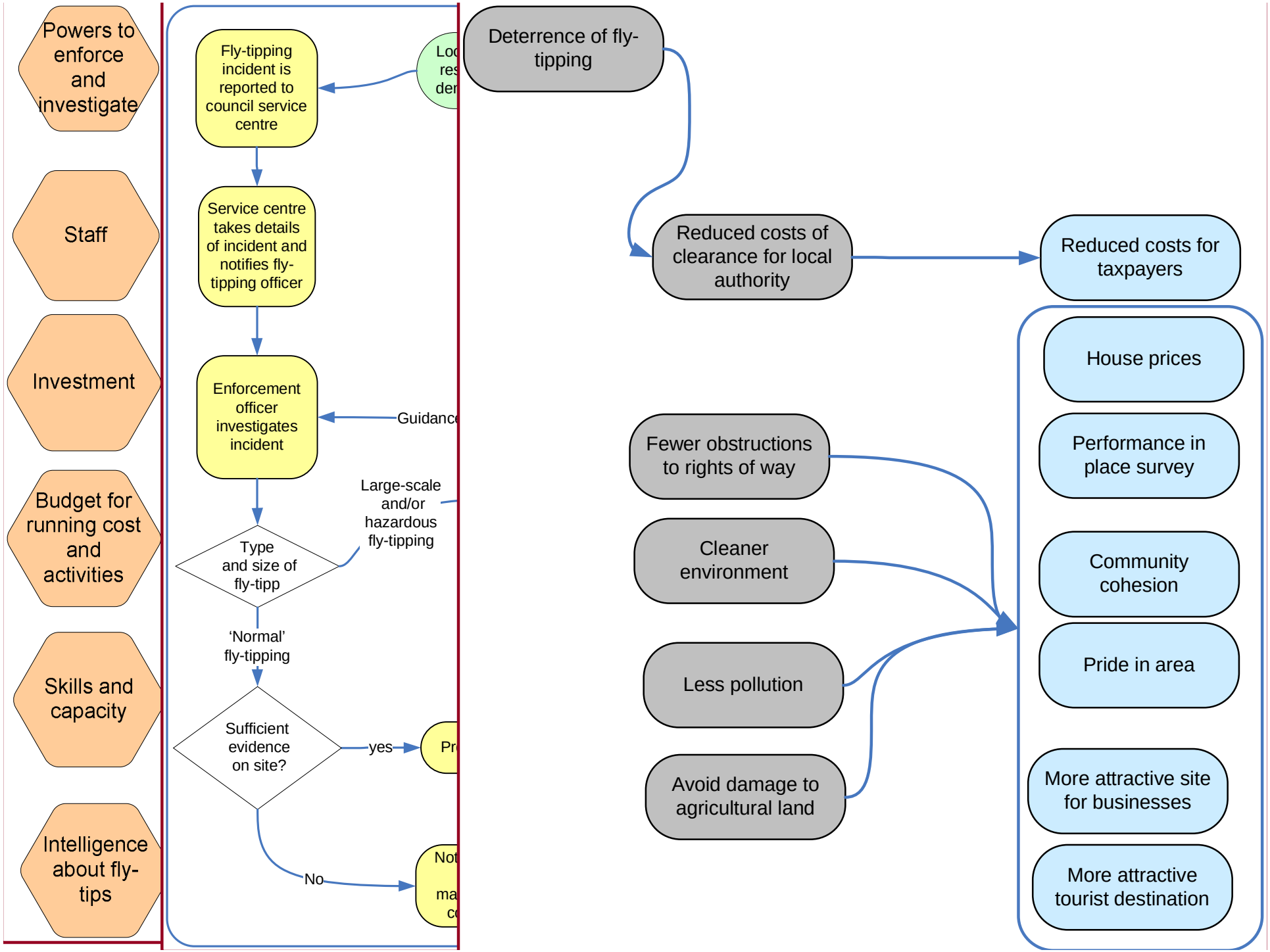
- **Fly-tipping:**
  - **illegal deposit of household or business waste on public land or private property**
- **Small UK District Council:**
  - **a local authority in rural area with a population of around 77,000**
  - **The local authority employs around 200 staff, with around 19 staff working in regulatory services**

Logic model



Objective:

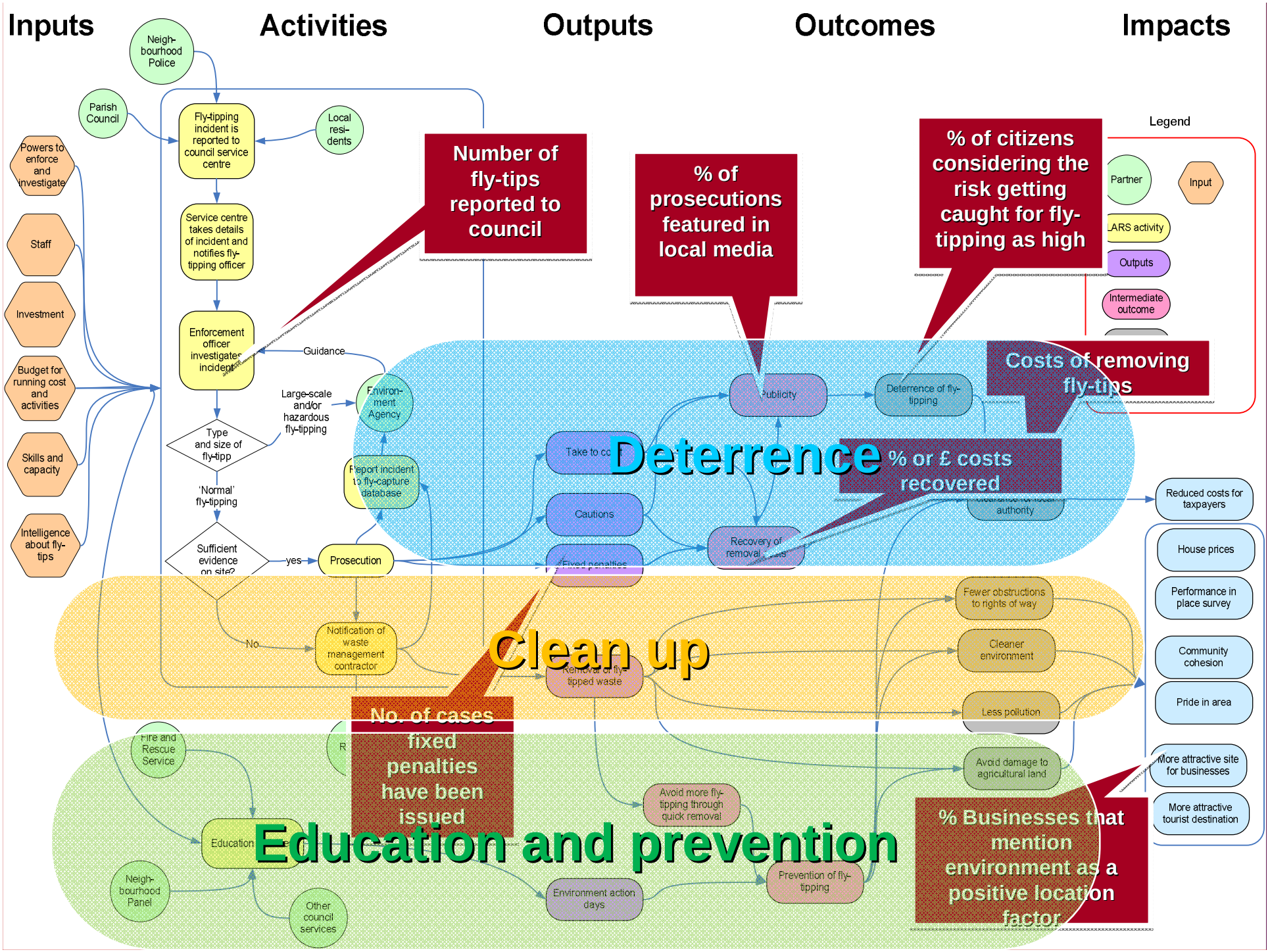
- **To establish the pathway or causal model of how the regulatory service creates impacts and outcomes**
- **To identify the outcomes and impacts that can be causally linked to local authorities actions**


Powers to enforce and investigate
Staff
Investment
Budget for running cost and activities
Skills and capacity
Intelligence about fly-tips
Fly-tipping incident is reported to council service centre
Service centre takes details of incident and notifies fly-tipping officer
Enforcement officer investigates incident
Guidanc
Type and size of fly-tipp
Large-scale and/or hazardous fly-tipping
'Normal' fly-tipping
Sufficient evidence on site?
yes
No
Deterrence of fly-tipping
Reduced costs of clearance for local authority
Reduced costs for taxpayers
Fewer obstructions to rights of way
Cleaner environment
Less pollution
Avoid damage to agricultural land
House prices
Performance in place survey
Community cohesion
Pride in area
More attractive site for businesses
More attractive tourist destination

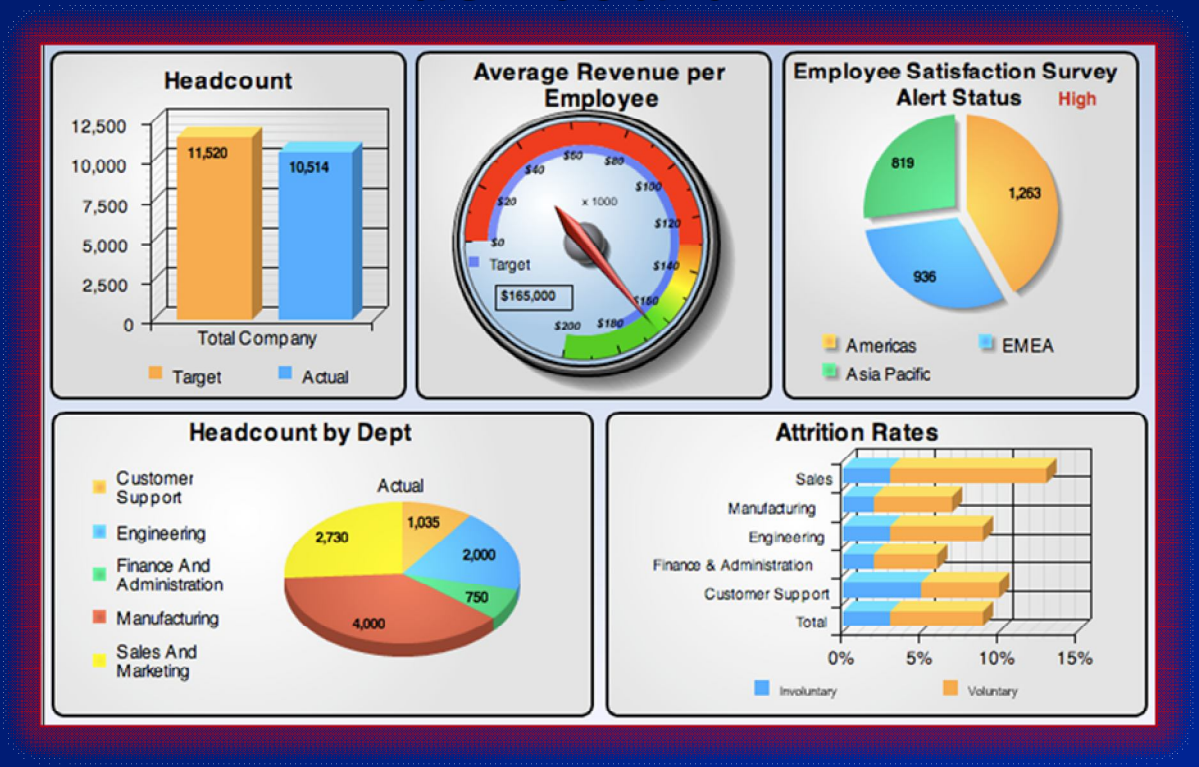
Performance indicators

Objective

- **Find indicators that measure the outputs and outcomes identified**
- **Cover the causal chains identified**
- **Make use of existing performance measures and indicators**
- **Create, if necessary new indicators to measure output and outcomes**


Inputs
Activities
Outputs
Outcomes
Impacts
Neigh-bourhood Police
Parish Council
Local resi-dents
Fly-tipping incident is reported to council service centre
Service centre takes details of incident and notifies fly-tipping officer
Enforcement officer investigates incident
Guidance
Large-scale and/or hazardous fly-tipping
Environ-ment Agency
Type and size of fly-tipp
'Normal' fly-tipping
Report incident to fly-capture database
Sufficient evidence on site?
yes
No
Prosecution
Notification of waste management contractor
Powers to enforce and investigate
Staff
Investment
Budget for running cost and activities
Skills and capacity
Intelligence about fly-tips
Number of fly-tips reported to council
% of prosecutions featured in local media
% of citizens considering the risk getting caught for fly-tipping as high
Legend
Partner
Input
LARS activity
Outputs
Intermediate outcome
Costs of removing fly-tips
Deterrence
% or £ costs recovered
Publicity
Deterrence of fly-tipping
Take to co
Cautions
Fixed penalties
Recovery of removal costs
authority
Reduced costs for taxpayers
House prices
Performance in place survey
Community cohesion
Pride in area
More attractive site for businesses
More attractive tourist destination
Clean up
Removal of fly-tipped waste
Fewer obstructions to rights of way
Cleaner environment
Less pollution
Avoid damage to agricultural land
No. of cases fixed penalties have been issued
Education and prevention
Fire and Rescue Service
Education
Neigh-bourhood Panel
Other council services
Avoid more fly-tipping through quick removal
Environment action days
Prevention of fly-tipping
% Businesses that mention environment as a positive location factor

Dashboard

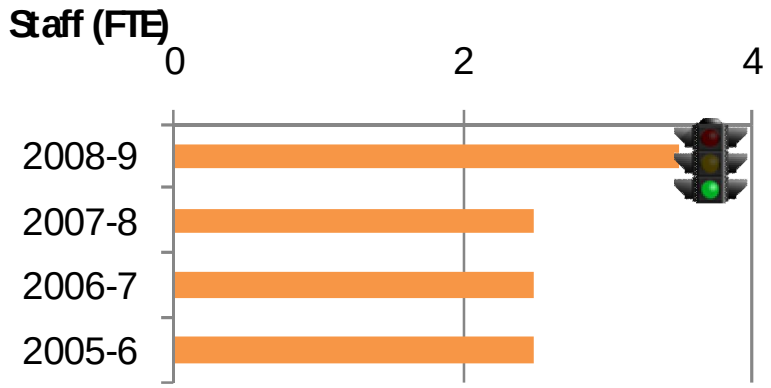


Objective

- To synthesise the findings of the analysis
- To monitor progress and change
- To communicate the findings

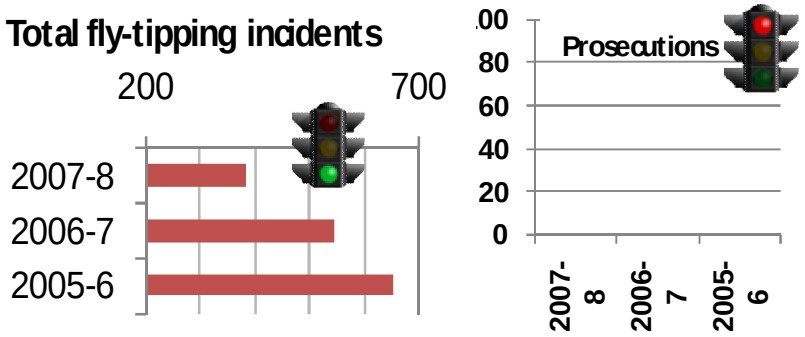
Local authority dashboard

INPUTS

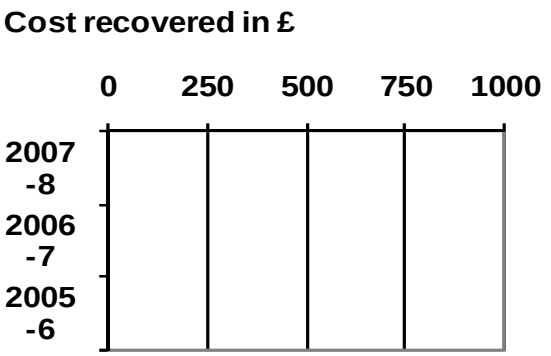


- Specific budget for fly-tipping service
- Investment into fly- tipping service

OUTPUTS

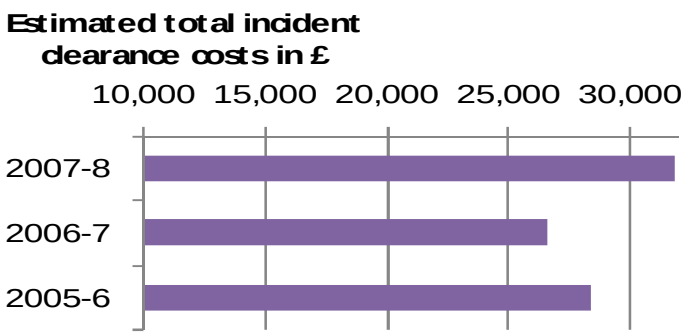


- Average time between reporting and removal of rubbish
- # People reached through education activities



- Perceived risk of getting caught for fly-tipping
- Perceived acceptance of fly-tipping

OUTCOMES



- % residents who think that rubbish and litter lying around is a very or fairly big problem in their local area:
  30% District council - 42% England
- % of business considering the local environment a positive location factor

IMPACTS

RAND EUROPE