

Westminster Legal Policy Forum conference:
Next steps for tackling waste crime in England
Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 25th November 2026
*****Taking Place Online*****



**WESTMINSTER
LEGAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 9.05 **Latest developments and mapping the scale of illegal waste in England**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Assessing strategic approaches to tackling waste crime - prevention, deterrence and priorities for legislative reform**
findings from the Environment Agency's waste crime heatmaps and National Waste Crime Survey 2025 | assessing the scale and changing nature of illegal waste activity | environmental, economic and community impacts of waste crime | understanding the role of organised criminal networks and cross-border activity | addressing concerns raised by the Environment and Climate Change Committee on enforcement effectiveness | priorities emerging from the Government's Waste Crime Action Plan | expectations for future reform, enforcement and prevention
Senior representative, farming
Senior representative, community
Senior representative, environment
Senior representative, waste management
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Regulatory enforcement, current challenges and future priorities for tackling waste crime**
Steve Molyneaux, Director, Waste, Environment Agency
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.00 Break
- 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
- 11.15 **Policing responses to waste crime - enforcement, collaboration and community protection**
David Sidwick, Police and Crime Commissioner, Dorset
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Harnessing technology to monitor waste crime - improving detection, intelligence and surveillance**
Senior representative, technology
- 11.50 **Priorities for enforcement, coordinated responses and deployment of expanded powers**
implementation of the Government's Waste Crime Action Plan | prevention, enforcement and remediation priorities following the Government's zero-tolerance approach | Environment Agency enforcement expansion, increased resources, intelligence-led approaches and strengthened investigations | reform to the waste exemptions system following Defra's July 2025 report | reform of the waste carriers, brokers and dealers system | strengthening licensing requirements, accountability and enforcement capability | preparations for mandatory digital waste tracking | delivering effective disruption, prosecution and remediation of illegal waste activity
Senior representative, legal
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, waste management
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for tackling waste crime going forward**
James Cruddas, Deputy Director, Waste and Recycling, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentary
Thomas Howard, Westminster Legal Policy Forum