

Fixed penalty notices issued by English local authorities

Fixed penalty notices issued by English local authorities has been collected each year since April 1997 by the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs.

The data below summaries the local authorities who issued the most fixed penalty notices in 2006-2007 and the number and percentages of the fines issued that were actually paid.

Note the table below shows only the 25 local authorities that issued the most fixed penalty notices in 2006-2007 and they were responsible for 62% of the total. This means that the remaining 329 local authorities issued just 38% of the penalty notices and 72 of these issued none at all.

Ranking	Local Authority	Number of fixed penalty notices issued	Number of fixed penalty notices paid	Return Rate (%) [1]
1	Manchester City Council	2,818	1,557	55%
2	London Borough of Southwark	2,809	1,859	66%
3	Nottingham City Council	2,268	1,417	62%
4	Newcastle upon Tyne City Council	2,156	1,458	67%
5	Westminster City Council	1,988	968	48%
6	Leeds City Council	1,802	1,249	69%
7	Trafford Borough Council	1,657	944	56%
8	London Borough of Tower Hamlets	1,375	947	68%
9	Wakefield City Council	1,052	620	58%
10	London Borough of Haringey	821	563	68%
11	London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham	760	332	43%
12	Liverpool City Council	757	185	25%
13	Maidstone Borough Council	672	394	58%
14	London Borough of Islington	641	498	77%
15	Calderdale Borough Council	605	363	60%
16	London Borough of Barking and Dagenham	579	158	27%
17	Birmingham City Council	574	426	74%
18	Salford City Council	540	334	61%
19	Rochdale Borough Council	545	378	69%
20	Wolverhampton City Council	496	352	70%
21	Exeter City Council	472	384	81%
22	London Borough of Croydon	447	178	39%
23	Wigan Borough Council	447	287	64%
24	Dudley District Council	409	199	48%
25	Peterborough City Council	402	173	43%
	Total	27,092 (62% of all penalties issued)	16,223 (60% of total fines paid)	

This information is extracted from the Government's listing of fixed penalties issued for environmental offences under the *Environmental Protection Act, 1990*, the *Anti-social Behaviour Act, 2003* and the *Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act, 2005*. A full listing of performance for every local authority can be found at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/legislation/fpn/fpn-apr06mar07.xls>

Headline statistics

- Local authorities (354) across England issued 43,624 fixed penalty notices in 2006-2007
- All London boroughs account for 25% of all fixed penalty notices issued in England
- 51% of all penalties issued arose from only 15 local authorities (only 1 of which is Rural)

- 42% of the total fixed penalties issued resulted from enforcement activity of 10 local authorities
- 72 local authorities issued no fixed penalty notices for 2006-2007
- 48 local authorities issued less than 10 fixed penalty notices for 2006-2007
- 47 local authorities did not return their local statistics

A local authority is allowed to keep the revenue generated from issuing fixed penalty notices for litter. Local authorities can set the amount of the fixed penalty notice between £50 and £80. However, the default amount is £75. The following calculations are based on each authority issuing a £75 fixed penalty notice under Section 88 of the *Environmental Protection Act, 1990* (as amended by the *Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act, 2005*).

- If all authorities had collected the full amount payable for the total number of fines issued then they would have collected £3.27 million. In reality only £1.521 million was collected.
- If the 10 authorities that issued the most fixed penalty notices in 2006/07 actually collected the total amount for the notices they issued they would have collected £1.4 million. They actually collected £620,288.
- If the 25 authorities that issued the most fixed penalty notices in 2006-2007 actually collected the total amount for the notices they issued they would have collected £2.03 million. They actually collected £976,883.

[1] Not including cases awaiting payment in court