

Vehicles seized at road stops in Dartford and Gravesham

Press release

Multi-agency operation sees 36 vehicles stopped and waste collectors' paperwork checked.



One of 8 vehicles seized during the roadstop is loaded onto a recovery vehicle

Environment Agency officers – working with Dartford and Gravesham Borough councils, Kent Police Rural Task Force and the Dartford and Gravesham Community Policing teams – stopped 36 waste vehicles and seized 8 of the vehicles while checking their paperwork was in order.

Officers checked the paperwork of waste vehicle drivers

The Environment Agency was checking vehicles in the Dartford and Gravesham area, to check they had a valid waste carrier's licence and waste transfer note describing what waste they were carrying, where they picked the waste up from and where they were taking it to. Waste collectors must have this paperwork as part of their 'duty of care' to be able to collect waste legally.

The Environment Agency and its partners seized the 8 vehicles for various offences such as no valid insurance. They also found a number of waste offences, including not being registered as a waste carrier. The Environment Agency will be taking further action against any operators that had no valid waste carrier's licence or were not compliant with their duty of care.

Another seized waste vehicle is taken away

Matt Higginson, Environment Manager for the Environment Agency, said:

We regularly run these multi-agency operations to check waste collectors are complying with the law. As the results from these operations show, we will not hesitate to use our enforcement powers.

Everyone has their part to play in stopping waste crime. To help avoid giving your waste to an illegal waste carrier and your waste ending up at an illegal waste site, we encourage you to ask your waste collector for their waste carrier's registration number and ask to see their waste transfer note. They must be able to produce both. We also encourage people to avoid paying in cash.

Any investigation by the Environment Agency that leads to a successful conviction could see those responsible facing extensive fines and even a prison sentence.

Paperwork checks included inspection of waste carrier's licences and waste transfer notes as well as vehicle insurance

Anyone who suspects illegal waste activity is reminded to report it to our 24 hour hotline by calling 0800 80 70 60, or anonymously contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

[Check your waste collector's waste carriers registration](#) or call 03708 506 506.

Published 9 August 2021