

Briefing Note

March 22nd 2010

Information held by UK Court Services on fines for waste offences

1. England and Wales

The Court Service in England and Wales indicated that they do not provide a break down of fines in terms of actual offences and in this sense this is consistent with the approach of the Northern Ireland Court Service. The Ministry of Justice produce sentencing statistics that only refer to very general offence groups and indictable offences. The latest sentencing statistics (2008) for England and Wales are available at the following link:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/sentencingannual.htm>

2. Scotland

The Scottish Court Service could not provide in depth analysis on the information required and do not provide general management statistics on fines for waste offences and in this sense is consistent with the Northern Ireland Court Service approach. If provided with the exact offence or charge code, it would be possible to ascertain how many of those cases came to court and how many received fines. There are currently over 30 Environmental Protection codes on the Scottish Court system as well as police anti-social behaviour direct measures fines. Scottish officials have indicated that any further analysis would be both labour and cost intensive.

3. Republic of Ireland

Still awaiting a response from the relevant authority.