



**Resource:** Resource 14 – Indirect costs of littering

**Text:** 1) Match the indirect litter cost with the key word in blue. Order the costs related to indirect littering from highest to lowest.  
2) Create a rap, newspaper article or poem about these indirect costs of littering.

It involves literacy and numeracy skills and explores science, health and wellbeing topics.

**Suitable for:** S1/S2

**Approximate time:** 40 minutes

**Curriculum links:** HWB 2-13a, HWB 3-13a, HWB 4-13a, SOC 2-08a, SOC 3-08a

**Meta-skills:** Innovation: Curiosity, Creativity, Critical thinking. Social intelligence: Communicating

**SDGs links:** 3, 12, 13



# Indirect costs of littering

**Task 1:** Match the indirect litter cost with the keyword in blue then put them in order (highest to lowest).

£100  
million

£1  
million

£22.5  
million

£53  
million

£1  
million

£1  
million

**TOURISM** It makes Scotland less attractive to tourists.

**CRIME** There's a link between litter levels and crime rates.

**PHYSICAL HEALTH** It can damage the physical health of people and animals – injury from broken glass, rusty cans and lit cigarettes. Litter in the road can cause car accidents.

**MENTAL HEALTH** It can affect mental health and wellbeing.

**HOUSING** It can negatively impact house prices.

**VERMIN** Food waste can attract unwanted wildlife, such as rats.

# Indirect costs of littering

## Task 1 answers:

Property values (£100 million)

Mental health (£53 million)

Crime (£22.5 million)

Road Traffic Accidents (£1 million)

Wildfires (£1 million)

Punctures (£1 million)

Rats (£1 million)

**Task 2:** There are indirect costs of littering, look at the list above and explain how you think litter is impacting on each one e.g. property value – why would litter affect the value of a house?

How could you educate people about the indirect costs of littering? Pick one cost and brainstorm three ways you could raise awareness about them in your local community.

Create a rap, newspaper article or poem about these indirect costs of littering.

