

Street care policy



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Version Control

| Version | Description of version | Effective Date |
|---------|------------------------|----------------|
| 1.0 | Street care policy | 09/08/2018 |

Approvals

| Approved by | Date |
|--|----------|
| Environmental and Development Services Committee | 19/04/18 |

“Making South Derbyshire a better place to live, work and visit”

Corporate objectives

Important to the success of the District and delivery of services are:

- People
- Place
- Progress
- Outcomes

Through continual improvement of our services, we will deliver connected communities and ensure that South Derbyshire continues to prosper.

Service aims

We aim to keep communities and residents of the District at the heart of what we do through providing clean streets and improving the built environment through soft landscaping and grounds maintenance.

What we do

Our services include:

- Grass cutting
- Cleaning of streets and public spaces
- Fly-tipping
- Abandoned vehicles

Grass cutting

We cut grass to ensure that people can use roads and pavements safely. We cut the grass on all Council-owned land, highway verges (as an agent for Derbyshire County Council), public open space, parks, town centres and memorial gardens. In the summer months, work starts early in the day but, in heavily populated areas, we will start after 7.00am to minimise disturbance to residents.

As a guide, areas outside 30mph signs are cut three times per year, traffic sight lines are cut four times per year and areas within 30mph signs are cut 16 times a year.

We use the largest possible mowers to make cutting as efficient as possible. Sometimes, these machines can't cut close enough to trees and bases of obstacles and we use a trimmer to ensure a consistent cut across all areas on every cut.

Cleaning

Our standards for keeping streets and other public spaces clean and tidy, involve:

- Litter and dog hygiene bins are provided at some 450 locations and emptied weekly

- Road channels are cleaned four times a year, main routes 11 times a year
- Footways are swept twice a year
- Depending on the area, we pick up litter once, three or 12 times a year
- Road gullies are cleaned once a year; twice a year on major routes
- Bus shelters and lay-bys are cleaned four times a year

Swadlincote town centre and public toilets are cleaned every day except Sunday.

We work with Parish Councils to help keep areas tidy and free of litter. The Clean Team also cleans up litter and dog fouling promptly.

Our street cleansing services include a Rapid Response Unit (The Clean Team) to clean up fly-tipping, dog fouling, syringes, litter, fly-posting, graffiti or hazardous substances. In sensitive locations, we will deal with instances of dog fouling within 12 hours.

Fly-tipping

Fly-tipping is illegally dumped rubbish. We take incidents seriously and will issue £400 penalty notices or prosecute anyone caught fly-tipping waste.

The fly-tipping of controlled waste is a serious criminal offence which carries a fine of up to £50,000 (unlimited if dealt with at the Crown Court) or an offender can even be sent to prison. It is important to realise it is also an offence to allow fly-tipping.

Fly-tipping is often associated with dumping waste from vehicles. Using the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act, we have created a Public Space Protection Order, which makes the registered driver of a road vehicle legally responsible for any items of litter which are thrown from the vehicle.

We also have the powers to seize and destroy vehicles used for fly-tipping.

Abandoned vehicles

We have a statutory duty to deal with vehicles abandoned on the highways, housing land, local amenity land and other areas of land controlled by us. We also have some limited powers to remove vehicles from private land.

In most cases where we consider that a vehicle is abandoned we can issue a legal notice requiring it to be removed in seven days. In extreme circumstances, we can issue a 24-hour removal notice.

Measuring our performance

Throughout our work, we aim to set clear targets and measure our achievement.

- Deliver a programme of proactive interventions to reduce environmental crime such as fly-tipping
 - Incidents to be less than 180 a quarter