

# **Report for Area East Committee on the Performance of the Streetscene Service**

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## **Purpose of the Report**

To update and inform the Area East Committee on the performance of the Streetscene Service in the Area for the period September 2016 to March 2017.

## **Recommendation**

Members are invited to comment on the report

**The major focus of the service so far for this period that affect Area East, are listed below.**

- Routine cleansing and grounds maintenance
- Christmas tree shredding

## **Operational Works**

Since the last report, the service has delivered the end of the summer work schedules and the winter work programmes have also been completed. We are now preparing ourselves for the 'spring rush' which will now become the main focus of the teams.

This financial year we have delivered two applications of herbicide as programmed through the highway weed killing operation. The quality of the control was excellent and we aim to maintain this level of service in the coming year.

Last year we worked with Glastonbury Town Council to investigate non-chemical options of weed control using a hot water system and we carried out trials using a number of different methods. Unfortunately the hot water system was very costly to employ and gave limited weed control as it is only effective on annual species of plants, unless high frequencies of application are employed, we simply do not have the required resources available to operate in this manner. However, the system would be very useful in specific situations and we could draw on this if required.

Managing the Health & Safety of the workforce is a critical part of our work and having reviewed and reworked our 'working around water' safe systems of work, we have since carried out a review of working alongside the highway, using a health and safety specialist to offer advice and guidance to the team. The outcome of this approach has resulted in the development of flow-chart type guidance for staff of volunteers to enable them to make informed, consistent decisions regarding the safety measures needed in any relevant situation.

I have attached a draft chart for information at the end of this report. (Appendix A)

This year we once again offered our 'Christmas Tree Shredding Service' which proved to be a great success with approximately 3,500 trees being recycled from 43 towns and parishes across the district. As a result of this, the tree chippings were re-used and a notable lack of 'dumped' Christmas trees in lay byes and hedges was seen. We received very little in the way of unwelcome items being left with

the trees, nor did we experience much abuse of the trees that had been deposited for recycling, which was very welcome.

As always, we continue to focus on managing the number of flytips found in the district, the chart below shows the numbers of fly tips collected from Area East since the last report.

<b>AREA EAST</b>	<b>Aug-16</b>	<b>Sep-16</b>	<b>Oct-16</b>	<b>Nov-16</b>	<b>Dec-16</b>	<b>Jan-17</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
Abbas & Templecombe	3		1	1		1	6
Alford							0
Babcary					1	1	2
Barton St David	1						1
Bratton Seymour							0
Brewham	1						1
Bruton		1	2	2	1	2	8
Castle Cary & Ansford	2		3	2	2	4	13
Charlton Horethorne							0
Charlton Mackrell					1	4	5
Charlton Musgrove		2	1		1		4
Chilton Cantelo	1			1			2
Compton Pauncefoot					2	1	3
Corton Denham							0
Cucklington	2			1			3
Henstridge	1	2			1	3	7
Holton	1					3	4
Horsington							0
Ilchester		1	1	2	4	2	10
Keinton Mandeville							0
Kingsdon		2	2				4
Kingweston							0
Limington		1				2	3
Lovington		1					1
Maperton	1	1				3	5
Marston Magna			3	1			4
Milborne Port	1				1	2	4
Mudford	6	2	3	4		2	17
North Barrow					1	2	3
North Cadbury							0
North Cheriton							0
Penselwood					1	1	2
Pitcombe		3	2	1			6
Queen Camel				1		1	2
Rimpton							0
Shepton Montague					1		1
South Barrow							0
South Cadbury			1			1	2

Sparkford			1				1
Stoke Trister		2	1			1	4
West Camel		1	1	2			4
Wincanton	2	3	7	1	3	1	17
Yarlington					1		1
Yeovilton	1						1
<b>TOTAL AREA EAST</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>151</b>

Unfortunately we are seeing a notable increase in the numbers of incidents across the district as a whole, including across Area East. For example during the period Oct 15 – Jan 2016 we cleared 75 flytips which compares figures for this year when between Oct 16 and Jan 2017 we have cleared 106 tips across the same area.

Having analysed the figures, we believe that the reduction is due to the changes involved with the introduction of the SWP ‘vehicle and trailer permit scheme’ controlling access for small vans and trailers at HWRC’s. This conclusion has been reached after analysing the fly tipping data which shows the increase in fly tipping numbers being in the size of load of a small van.

Following the Clean for the Queen initiative that was taken up by a number of parishes and towns last year, we are supporting the Great British Clean Up that is taking place over the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> March, with interest being shown by Keinton Mandeville, Henstridge, Barton St David, Bab Cary, Charlton Adam, Blackford & Pauncefoot, Mapperton, Kingsdon and Templecombe. Altogether a great response from Area East!

### What’s coming next?

- Summer delivery of the annual work programmes
- Continued development of the workshop as an MOT station

### Financial Implications

All of the matters highlighted in the report have been achieved within service budgets.

### Implications for Corporate Priorities

- Continue to deliver schemes with local communities that enhance the appearance of their local areas
- Continue to support communities to minimise floodwater risks.
- Maintain street cleaning high performance across the district.

### Background Papers

Progress report to Area Committees on the Performance of the Streetscene service.

# Working on the Highway

# Appendix A

Assess each situation as you arrive on site to decide what level of action is necessary following the rules below & for specific details see Risk Assessment & Safe System of Work:-

Traffic Flow	Weather conditions	Road Speed
Visibility	Signs required	PPE (standard long sleeved + any additional requirements)

