

FAQ – Street Cleansing

How can I report litter I have seen on Main Road Verges?

We do this type of clearance on a scheduled basis rather than responding to individual requests.

The main reason for this is that on dangerous main roads we have to use traffic management in order to litter pick grass verges safely. This is expensive and time consuming. Our teams need to undertake specific training to be qualified to close lanes and it is a dangerous job.

Street and verge cleaning is funded from Council Tax. It costs us approximately £30K per year to litter pick our main road verges - and we have many requests from residents to spend a lot more and carry out more litter picking. It is understandably frustrating for everyone to see litter on our verges.

The majority of litter cleared is fast food packaging and items thrown from vehicles. This litter would not exist if people took responsibility for the waste they create. The money spent cleaning grass verges could be better spent on other essential services for residents.

We litter pick our main roads (mostly A & B classifications) once per year in the Spring. The programme begins in March. It takes us about six weeks to get around all of the roads.

Part of the A46 (and A4 from London Road to the Bathford roundabout) and the A36 come under the control of Highways England. Email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or tel: 0300 123 5000

Although we are responsible for litter picking these roads, we can only do the work on the A46 here when Highways England say it is safe to do, as it's a dangerous high speed road. This is usually early in the morning or overnight, when lanes are being closed for safety works. There is no set time for us to do this.

The A36 is cleaned in Spring and when Highways England say it is safe to do so.

Any litter picking on the A4 Keynsham Bypass and the A4 Globe dual carriageway is planned in with other essential routine work to avoid the need for additional lane closures. This is usually twice a year in June and November. Keep an eye on our social media - Facebook www.facebook.com/bathnes and Twitter www.twitter.com/bathnes to see the results of the cleansing work that we carry out.

Please note- there are some roads/lanes that may need special traffic management, i.e. closures will be needed as they are too narrow or dangerous to use traffic management.

Specific litter clearing/leaf clearance

How can I get leaf litter cleared?

Where can I report litter (on public land) to be cleared?

We operate a scheduled street cleansing service and as such, these will be cleared as part of the next scheduled visit. Details of how often we visit each street are shown below:

Bath City Centre – daily

- http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/city_centre_manual_sweepers_overview_map.pdf

Shopping Precincts within Bath City Centre and residential areas – daily

Main shopping areas outside of Bath – daily (these include Radstock, Midsomer Norton, Peasedown St. John, Keynsham and Saltford)

Outer Bath residential areas – 2 consecutive days every six weeks to each ward

Our aim is to achieve and maintain the appropriate standard of cleanliness in this area, however residents need to be aware that we may not get to every street/road within the zones on the scheduled days. This can be down to a number of factors such as vehicle breakdowns, the need for Street Cleansing to divert resources to deal with urgent or emergency service requests elsewhere or special projects, or it may be because your street does not need any cleansing on the day.

- http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/street_cleaning_rota_for_outer_bath.pdf

Rural areas – estimated every 7-8 weeks

Parishes – 18 parishes have the responsibility to keep their own streets clear and litter free:

- Batheaston
- Cameley
- Camerton
- Chew Magna
- Chew Stoke
- Clutton
- East Harptree
- Englishcombe
- Farmborough
- Freshford
- High Littleton
- Hinton Charterhouse
- Monkton Combe
- Paulton
- South Stoke
- Timsbury
- Ubley
- Wellow

Weed Clearance

How do I report that weeds need to be removed?

We operate a scheduled weed treatment service rather than responding to individual requests. This is carried out every spring throughout Bath and North East Somerset.

Fly tip

How do I report fly tipped rubbish which is on private land?

We operate a fly tip removal service from any council owned land. If it is on private property/land however, it is the responsibility of the owner to remove it, for example Curo housing land.

If the fly tip is on council land, please go to <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/reportit>

Graffiti

Someone has sprayed graffiti on the wall of my property, how do I get the council to remove it?

*The **Council has no legal obligation or responsibility to remove graffiti** on commercial premises or private property. However if it is on a council owned building, we will remove it. If graffiti is offensive*, we will remove it as long as it is safe to do so and aim to do this within 48 hours.*

**Graffiti classified as offensive will be illegal or unauthorised and may contain some or all of the following elements*

- *Offensive language*
- *Language of a politically/racially/religiously insulting/inciting nature*
- *A hate statement*
- *An image which is graphically explicit*
- *An image which is visually offensive or textually offensive by the message that it contains*

For all other graffiti, we remove it from stone or brick work at low level from any council owned properties.

If the graffiti you see is on utility assets, for example bus shelters, post boxes etc, these are the responsibility of the owner (eg. bus company, post office) to remove so we suggest you contact them direct.

www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/streets-and-highway-maintenance/litter-street-care-and-cleaning/graffiti-removal