

The following work has been carried out in May & June 2017 on behalf of MKCCM and CMK Town Council.

Landscaping

Requests logged: 13

Resolved: 5

Outstanding: 8

Types of job and locations

The following jobs have been carried out during May & June 2017.

- Landscapes pruning complete all Elder Gate.
- Landscapes pruning complete all Grafton Gate.
- Landscapes pruning complete all Witan Gate.
- Landscapes pruning complete all Saxon Gate.
- Landscapes pruning complete all Marlborough Gate / Campbell Park.
- Landscapes pruning complete all Boulevards / Underpass sections.
- Landscapes pruning complete all Gateways / Underpass sections.
- Landscapes for pruning all North Row.
- Landscapes for pruning all South Row.
- Landscapes for pruning Market area Midsummer Boulevard.
- Weeding required centre of the bus lane near Intu.
- Weeding required all Station Square.
- Weeding required frontage Intu Centre.



Above: Market area.



Above: Station Square.

Rough sleepers

There are approximately 35 rough sleepers (this includes professional beggars) in Central Milton Keynes, the main areas being Marks and Spencer, Sainsbury's Car Park has been much worse recently, with Anti – Social Behaviour in the car park. I have been working closely with management and the in house security teams to resolve this, the offenders have been spoken to and the issues have eased slightly. The Job Centre, the underpass nearest Jury's Inn, the Xscape complex, and centre:mk, Intu, and the Train Station surrounding areas. During May & June noticed a big increase rough sleepers, and aggressive beggars, and even more tents than ever before, this is due to warmer weather for this time of the year, and this is a pattern that normally occurs. Jointly working with the Police and premises' Security Officers, we have managed to move many of the beggars away to stop them intimidating the general public. Often within less than an hour of the reported issue, the offenders return and the whole process starts again.

The bus project and the profile of it is gathering up speed with the volunteers. The launch took place at the Intu shopping centre with good media coverage and fundraising- in 3 days of bucket handling a total of £7,500 was raised and many more events like this will follow in the coming months.

All the rough sleepers daily say no support is given to them via Multi-Agency working, and all of the feel isolated, 48 hours before the launch all rough sleepers had an invite to look around the bus, only one of them turned up to view it, and this leads me onto my point we have more professional beggars than genuine rough sleepers and genuine homeless, and this needs to be addressed by Thames Valley Police and Milton Keynes Council.

Milton Keynes Council, Bedfordshire Council, and Luton Council have all come together to fund 2 Outreach workers who will be full time talking to occupants of the tents to find out how help and support can be provided, to ease this continued problem in most areas of CMK, the Outreach Team have started and I will have further updates on the progress of this in the coming months.

Highways and Maintenance

Requests logged: 16

Resolved: 5

Outstanding: 11

- Damaged road barriers in all Boulevards still an unsightly issue, won't be removed.
- Damaged Porte-Cochere op Iceland boarded up but waiting full repair.
- Porte-Cochere refurbishments continue in Midsummer Boulevard.
- Bus lane resurfaced Midsummer Boulevard looks amazing.
- Street column made safe op Nationwide Silbury Boulevard after an accident.
- Path inspections Station Square pending for further works.
- Underpass sections all that lead to Station Square paths for inspection.
- All Underpass sections on Campbell Park entrance for inspection.
- Road inspection near old Sainsbury's Avebury Boulevard pot holes along this section.
- Granite blocks for repair edge North 9th Street.
- Road inspection pitted and pot holes near Debenhams Avebury Boulevard.



Outside of Xscape Avery Blvd.



Side of North 9th Street

Trolleys & Litter & Bulky Waste

Requests logged: 19

Resolved: 19

Outstanding: 0

Types of job and locations

- Trolleys collected across Central Milton Keynes.
- During May & June Serco beat sweepers have been weeding and sweeping paths as an additional clean of CMK, these areas are much improved.
- Pest control issues at the rear of Greggs Bakers Elder Gate, large rodents in this location, this has been reported to MKC, and an area inspection was carried out, treatments will start soon.
- North 12th & 13th still have issues with bulky waste which is cleaned daily, CCTV would be a great option to catch offenders, but this isn't available due to budget restraints, ongoing still.
- Serco continue to clean up the mess that rough sleepers leave in the landscaped areas, this additional work includes picking up lots of needles and human faeces, staff also face intimidation and threats within most of these underpasses, this continues.
- Ten separate issues of Fly-Tipping with evidence have been removed from North & South Rows; this is with MKC Enforcement teams, this activity continues without much action.
- The mirrors in the underpass Midsummer these have been cleaned, Serco did this even though it wasn't their responsibility.
- More bird and wind proof bins have been installed in Midsummer Boulevard.
- Dog Fouling issues have increased with people not picking up, Serco rapid crews have been acting fast to clear these locations.
- Needles from rough sleepers have increased and Serco rapid crews are clearing up fast after reports come in to make areas safe and clean.

Butt bins

In May & June I have noticed a decline in people disposing of cigarette waste incorrectly, some bins have been damaged by homeless & aggressive beggars, this situation is being monitored. No fixed penalty notices have been issued in May & June 2017. If there are issues of cigarettes not being disposed of correctly in certain areas, it has been highlighted to building facilities managers who issue internal emails to their staff reminding of the need to use the bins provided.



Above: Butt Bin Acorn House.



Above: Litter in Midsummer.

Graffiti

Requests logged: 51

Resolved: 51

Outstanding: 0

These jobs were logged at various dates during May & June, most of these are smaller tags normally, but lately larger tags have been visible. See pictures below. Some tags are marker pen sized. Please note a graffiti tag is the offender's personalised signature.



Above: Buszy Location.



Above: Train Station.

Love Where You Live events

The Love Where You Live events include litter picks, street furniture painting, weeding.

- 20th April
- 25th May
- 22nd June
- 27th July (24 Hour event 10am until 10am the following day)
- 21st September
- 26th October
- 14th December (Santa Hat Special)

Engagement with residents

- I continue to work with Hilarie Bowman on the launch of a Neighbourhood Watch schemes for Central Milton Keynes. We are working with a new Thames Valley Officer and we hope to launch this project at the end of May, we have signage and some signs have gone up already.
- Meeting with the Hub Management and security teams with the Police, and residents, rough sleepers and begging issues have started in this location again, other areas have increased also, and this is on an ongoing concern.
- Meetings with Bob Stones during May & June period of increased litter issues in the play park. After further investigation this play area is only getting one litter pick per month as scheduled by Serco, an increased litter pick has been requested to ease this problem at this popular site.
- LWYL Love Where You Live was well attended with 28 volunteers in attendance the group walked from McDonalds Midsummer to Hub and back collecting 25 bags of recyclables, and the path was cleared of chewing gum and weeds at the frontage of CBX2, this event took place on the 25th May and on June 22nd the teams of volunteers did a litter pick in Midsummer Boulevard and 15 bags of recyclables had been collected, by a team of 12 people, everyone had fun along the route.
- Meetings with residents on South 9th Street regarding Fly-Tipping issues, information passed onto the Environmental Crime Unit Milton Keynes Council.
- Town Council Newsletter drop with Tom.
- Information given to residents about MK50 garden party on 24th June.

Local issues outstanding

- Broken railings outside CMK Library.
- 20 'day burning' street lights have been outstanding for months on Midsummer Boulevard near The Pinnacle. This has been going on for the last two years.
- Weeds everywhere, including all the central Islands in the all the Boulevards, looking at removing these within LWYL Love Where You Live projects in 2017.
- Damaged lampposts remain on the streets with yellow tape attached to them, very unsightly and Milton Keynes Council unable to remove because of wiring issues into the pavement.
- Central island road barriers remain damaged and won't be removed due to budgets.