

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

Landscaping

Requests logged: 4
Resolved: 4
Outstanding: 0

Types of job and locations

The following jobs have been logged for inspection; these reports are low due to works being scheduled into the winter pruning schedule, October – March.

- Landscapes dead branches op Job Centre removed.
- Landscapes all pruned Witan Gate / Midsummer locations.
- Landscapes all pruned whole of Market locations.
- Landscapes all pruned Grafton Gate locations.



Above: Before Job Centre Midsummer.



Above: After Job Centre Midsummer.

Rough sleepers

There are approximately 32 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 January, i noticed a very large increase in rough sleepers and an increase in aggressive beggars, this is due to cold 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 Winter Night Shelter started on the 1st December, the Buszy' Old Bus Station Elder Gate' this will be a check in point every evening and only 15 places are available throughout the time this operates during December until end of March 2017, this is an increasingly desperate situation for the sleepers who are unable to use this service if they don't meet the set criteria and legislation guidelines.

During February many more rough sleepers with bedding have been seen even more across the streets of Central Milton Keynes, following constant talks with Milton Keynes Council and Thames Valley Police, and Safer MK Who are within councils umbrella for community safety, I am pleased to announce on the 8th March a tasking group meeting will be held and the updates from this urgent meeting will be announced as soon as possible, hopefully with a resolution to overcome this ongoing major issue.

Highways and Maintenance

Requests logged: 8

Resolved: 3

Outstanding: 5

- All path Station Square nearest Subway to Greggs for inspection works have started.
- DHL – Santander Midsummer all paths for inspection, day works have started.
- Damaged road barriers in all Boulevards still an unsightly issue, won't be removed.
- Bus lane Station Square pot hole fully repaired, see picture below.
- Granite out of place Lloyds Court waiting repair.
- Damaged Porte-Cochere op Iceland boarded up but waiting full repair.
- Granite out of place Library waiting repair.
- Street Light defect rectified outside Jurys Inn repaired.
- Granite rectified side of Saxon Court repaired.
- Community Clean contractors continue with phase 2 of painting railings and barriers in all Boulevards, this time frame are over 35 week period, working in partnership with Ringway.
- Request has been made to remove the Bike Shed at door 9 near Burger King, this has become a Health & Safety issue with rough sleepers using this as a Den, and setting fires inside the shed area, after contacting the Police and Milton Keynes Council safety team, we had a site visit and it is advised the shelter should be removed before a serious accident happens at this location, I will update further on this situation when more details are available, Milton Keynes Council have agreed to make this area safe, within the coming month of March.
- Path repairs on day works Midsummer Boulevard CBX section started.



Above: Repaired Pot Hole Station Square



Above: Damaged road below intervention. Saxon Gate Church Of The Cornerstone.

Trolleys & Litter & Bulky Waste

Requests logged: 22

Resolved: 22

Outstanding: 0

Types of job and locations

- Trolleys collected across Central Milton Keynes.
- During February Serco beat sweepers have been weeding and sweeping paths as an additional clean of CMK, these areas are much improved.
- Rodents have been seen again around the Market and surrounding areas, these issues have been reported to the Pest Control Contractors who work in partnership with Milton Keynes Council, these issues continue.
- Rodents are causing issues in surrounding bushes near Morrison's, this has been reported this is on Milton Keynes Council land, these issues continue.
- Rodents have been seen at Xscape hedges near Childs Way side of the complex, Pest Control is being looked at across the City as it is becoming more of a problem, Milton Keynes Council are looking at this problem, this is a slow process and the problem continues.
- Large amounts of leaves have been collected in all Boulevards, and Serco will provide us with the total weight collected at the end of the season, you all thought a leaf was as light as a feather, maybe we should run a competition to see who is closest at guessing the weight.
- Continued problems of Fly-Tipping and waste being dumped at the following locations, South Row South 9th Street, and the gardens between North 12th and 13th Streets, both locations I have identified and gained very good evidence, which has been passed to the Environmental Crime Unit at Milton Keynes Council for further action and possible prosecution.
- Black bags of waste have started to be a problem on Iceland again at the Recycling Bank, if I can obtain any evidence this will be submitted to the Enforcement Team.
- Rough Sleepers are still using most underpass locations as a public Toilet which Serco cleaning teams have to clean up, this really is something Environmental Health Teams need to look at, rather than Serco Teams jet washing these areas out all the time.

Butt bins

In February I have noticed an increase in people disposing of cigarette waste incorrectly. 2 fixed penalty notices have been issued in February 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: New butt bin outside Acorn House.



Above: Cigarette butts issues Midsummer.

Graffiti

Requests logged: 20
Resolved: 20
Outstanding: 0

These jobs were logged at various dates during, February 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: Jaipur location.



Above: Argos location.

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
- 21st 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 April.
- Residents working with us to improve the gardens in North 11th & 12th Streets possible gardening club and Neighbourhood Watch to develop from this work in spring 2017.
- 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.
- Issues in North 9-10 Streets the Police are dealing with this, unable to go into detail data protection Court case pending end of March.
- Issues in North 9th -10th Streets with waste not being put into the bin storage areas, I have spoken to Milton Keynes Council Housing Teams and Enforcement Teams, I have advised all tenants should receive warning letters to stamp out this behaviour, ongoing.
- Working closely with Peter Gladwin in North 14th Street to improve the look of the street working with Serco closely, date to be confirmed.
- Residents in South Row near the approach to the Xscape underpass have been complaining about Cyclists on the path passing these houses at speed, signage is up in this location but are ignored; I have passed this onto the Police to monitor.

- Residents in South Row have submitted evidence regarding fly-tipping issues; this is being investigated by Milton Keynes Council.
- Residents Forum was well attended with four new members.

Local issues outstanding

- Broken railings outside CMK Library.
- 20 'day burning' street lights have been outstanding for months on Midsummer Boulevard near The Pinnacle.
- Bus lanes in and out sections Midsummer Boulevard, urgent inspection was requested due to the condition of the whole road, MKC and Ringway Highways department will monitor the situation, this is in my view a major health & safety issue, concerning busses, cars, and pedestrians using this area, large pot holes, cracked granite, and loose cobbles, after further talks no repair is planned for this location it does concern me works will NOT be carried out.
- 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.
- Central road barriers in all Boulevards damaged unsightly, Milton Keynes Council look at this as a non-safety issue and these barriers will remain like this for the foreseeable future.
- Damaged lampposts with 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.