

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

Landscaping

Requests logged: 04

Resolved: 04

Outstanding: 0

Types of job and locations

The following jobs will be carried out during winter pruning unless otherwise urgent, I am compiling a list for the Landscapes Teams to have a look at in the coming weeks and months.

- Landscapes pruning all Elder Gate.
- Landscapes pruning all Witan Gate.
- Landscapes pruning all Midsummer Boulevard.
- Landscapes pruning all Silbury Boulevard.
- Landscapes pruning all Avebury Boulevard.
- Landscapes pruning all South Row.
- Landscapes pruning all North Row.
- Landscapes pruning all Gateways.
- Landscapes pruning all Campbell Park Sections.
- Landscapes pruned near the underpass with the mirrors, this work was carried out by Frosts as part of the BID process, more works will continue during 2018, working in partnership with Milton Keynes Councils landscapes teams.

Rough sleepers

There are approximately 25 rough sleepers and 4 aggressive beggars, 28 tents in Central Milton Keynes, I do a foot patrol over 2 half days to identify the latest numbers I have noticed trashed tents during December & first week in January, and numbers have dropped slightly, all the mess that has been left behind will be cleared up by Serco within a 48-hour time period. I will be doing a weekly count to assess the situation and passing the information onto the relevant agencies for them to monitor.

Certain areas where encampments are located Serco cleansing teams have been unable to clean or remove unwanted graffiti due to staff being threatened and intimidated, this situation remains the same.

The Winter Night Shelter started on 1st December with 15 places available to start with then over a period of time another 15 spaces will be available taking the total to 30, for use during the winter months, at various churches across Milton Keynes, this will run until the end of March 2018, and the Bus Shelter MK will NOT start this December and a soft launch is delayed, unsure why this situation has occurred more details to follow, could be end of January 2018, with around 16 beds available.

During November and December I arranged several area checks on site with the Police and Bucks Fire Rescue, because of our concerns around safety issues for the residents in the tents, we spoke to many of the occupants about not lighting candles in tents, smoking in tents, or having fires in bins within the underpass sections, everyone we spoke to said we are careful, we found some tents with wooden pallets underneath them to lift them up off the floor, the whole attitude of the homeless residents was relaxed to the extent of you have advised us and let us get on with our lives, I do make a point of reporting anything that looks dangerous to the relevant services. During the Christmas & New Year period a suspect incident occurred when a tent was on fire in an underpass in Avebury Boulevard, I am waiting further news from the emergency services with an update as to what happened.

The PSPO Public Space Protection Order is still being talked through, with Milton Keynes Council and Thames Valley Police, Safer MK within the Milton Keynes Council deciding which direction this should go in to ease the on-street issues and to support the valuable, this is still being looked at, again more updates to follow.

Highways and Maintenance

Requests logged: 08

Resolved: 03

Outstanding: 05

- Damaged road barriers in all Boulevards still an unsightly issue, maybe removed following recent talks, still waiting.
- Path inspections Station Square for further works some carried out but not all.
- Underpass sections all that lead to Station Square paths for inspection.
- All Underpass section Campbell Park entrance for inspection.
- 2 Street Lights for repair at side of the Civic Offices,
- Path outside Ale House Midsummer for inspection cracked slabs.
- Damage Bollard Station Square.
- Path fixed again outside Marks Spencer taxi rank.
- Street Lights out rear Civic Offices.
- Street Lights out Lloyds Court.
- Traffic Light damaged Secklow Gate near Market waiting repair.
- Traffic Light damaged Witan Gate.
- Pot Holes for repair Midsummer.

Trolleys & Litter & Bulky Waste

Requests logged: 07

Resolved: 07

Outstanding: 0

Types of job and locations

- Trolleys collected across Central Milton Keynes.
- Serco continue to try and 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, Serco have informed me that certain underpass sections will not be cleaned because their staff safety is paramount some are at risk of assault, and until these issues are enforced this situation will remain the same and certain areas of CMK.
- Needles from rough sleepers have increased and Serco rapid crews are clearing up fast after reports come in to make areas safe and clean, this situation is bad at the moment, I am working very closely with partner agencies to resolve this problem, I would like to point out Serco are amazing cleaning up these issues.

- Seeing a reduction in Trolley's for some reason, which is good this continues to be the situation.
- Serco collecting on the start of the leaf fall season, I will collect the weight of it all at the end of the season, heavier than you would imagine.
- Serco have also been busy cleaning up abandoned unwanted tents and fly-tipping issues within underpass sections in Midsummer Boulevard nearest Santander, see pictures within this report.
- Fly-Tipping issues again North 13th Street investigations are taking place by the Council.
- Waste collections have resumed normal service in South 9th Street following few weeks of missed collections.
- Homeless residents are throwing waste into the landscapes areas at underpass locations, which look unsightly when members of the public who are walking through, again this can only be dealt with if the Serco Teams can get in and deal with the situation without threats and aggression and intimidation.



Witan Gate; Post for removal.



Midsummer; Pothole issues.

Butt bins

In December I have noticed an increase in people disposing of cigarette waste incorrectly, more bins have been damaged by homeless & aggressive beggars, this situation is being monitored, because of the criminal damage to around 50 bins, members of the public don't walk to another nearby bin if the one that they normally use is out of action, this causes more litter on the floor. No fixed penalty notices have been issued in November, but I will be looking at doing some FPN Fixed Penalty Notice Operations in hotspot locations during December and I will issue if need be and spread some Christmas cheer out there to remind the public a bin is to be used all year and not just at Christmas. 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: 11

Resolved: 11

Outstanding: 0

These jobs were logged at various dates during December most of these are smaller tags normally, but lately larger tags have been visible. See pictures below. Some tags are marker pen sized, some sprayed on with bolder markings. Please note a graffiti tag is the offender's personalised signature. 2 jobs are outstanding due to rough sleepers in the way, and Serco staff being threatened and unable to carry out normal duties, this situation is being monitored.



Above: Near Bidwells



Above: Buszy Location.

Love Where You Live events

The Love Where You Live events include litter picks, street furniture painting, weeding, 2018 dates to be announced in my February report.

Engagement with residents

- Meeting with the Hub Residents about continued intimidation from homeless / aggressive beggars getting into corridors at the flats and taking drugs, causing criminal damage, putting graffiti on the walls, leaving rubbish in the stairways, the Security teams have been advised NOT to deal with these people on a one to one basis and the Police should attend, the Police do have CCTV evidence of unsavoury activity and hopefully this will be acted on in due course. This continues daily.
- Several Meetings with Bob Stones chair of the NHW Crime Prevention Team, around issues of waste collections and littering in and around the play park locations North Row.

Local issues outstanding

- Broken railings outside CMK Library.
- 20 'day burning' street lights have been outstanding for months on Midsummer Boulevard near The Pinnacle 24 months this has been going on.