

Appendix A



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Dear Joanne Roney,

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The Litter Strategy for England, published in April 2017, set out our determination to tackle roadside litter, particularly on the Strategic Road Network. To understand the current situation, and the issues affecting local authorities and other land managers having responsibility for keeping these highways clean, we commissioned Keep Britain Tidy to carry out an independent assessment of the cleanliness of those parts of the Strategic Road Network where responsibility for cleaning and other maintenance is split between local authorities and Highways England.

Following analysis of the results of the road cleanliness survey, I am pleased to inform you that Manchester City Council achieved a passing grade, using the standards as set out in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse. This category covers authorities with an average score equivalent to a grade B or above on one visit and no lower than a B- on the other. The attached note explains the survey methodology in more detail.

	Transect 1	Transect 2	Transect 3	Transect 4	Transect 5	Transect 6
Manchester	B+B	B+	B-	B	B	B-

In the Litter Strategy, we set out our aim to publish the results of this survey, and to set a deadline for authorities falling below the standard set out in the Code of Practice to improve their performance within this Parliament. Before doing so, we would like to understand better how a higher standard can be consistently obtained by all. We would therefore like to explore and understand examples of good practice, as well as to hear your views on any particular issues and challenges that your authority faced in achieving the required standard. A questionnaire is attached below, which we would be grateful if you could complete and return to litter@defra.gov.uk by close of business in 20 working days. This will be considered in the context of the next steps set out above, as well as in our aim to explore and identify means to address the practical barriers to keeping our roadsides clear of litter, including issues relating to both cleaning and litter-prevention, so please be as forthcoming as possible.

In conjunction, Highways England believe that working in partnership is the best way to reduce littering alongside the A-roads which local authorities are responsible for cleaning and Highways England maintain. To formalise and facilitate this collaboration, Highways England have developed a pack of resources called "Tackling Litter Together". The pack focusses on identifying the barriers that can prevent local authorities from litter picking on these roads, and provides best practice examples and support, including health and safety guidance on sharing temporary traffic management. We would be interested to know as part of the questionnaire whether you have used this pack and your views on this approach in delivering results in your area.

Chris Preston,
Deputy Director, Resource and Waste

