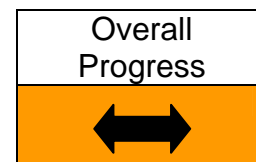


**Improvement Priority – ENV-2a. Address neighbourhood problem sites; improve cleanliness and access to and quality of green spaces**

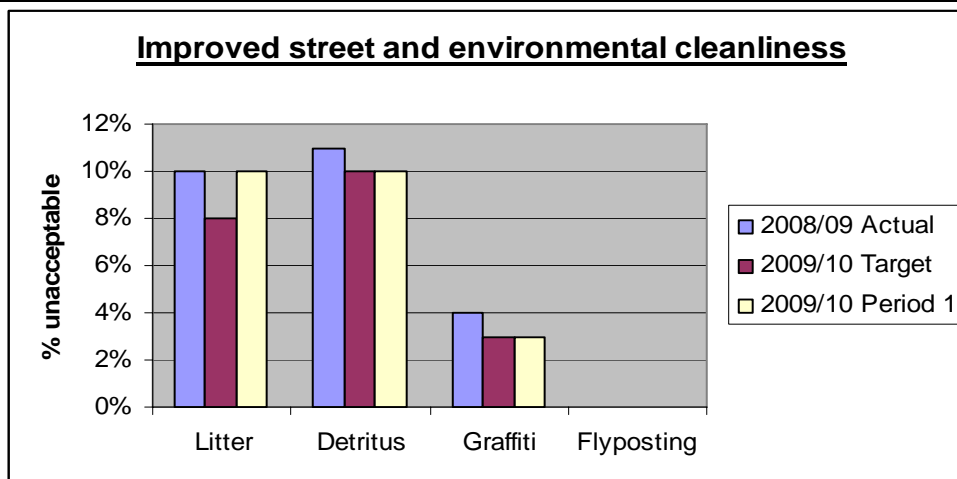
**Accountable Officer – Andrew Mason**

**Apr – Sep 2009**



**Why is this a priority**

Local environmental quality is something that affects people in their daily lives. The place survey (2008/09) showed that local people identify clean streets as the second most important factor in making somewhere a good place to live.



**Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved**

**Overall Summary:** Overall progress on this outcome is steady. A new three year survey plan has been produced outlining which wards are to be assessed in each period for NI 195 purposes. The surveys for period 1 (Apr-Jul) were completed at the end of July and results show that performance on graffiti and fly posting are on course to meet year end targets. Performance on litter and detritus has remained at a similar level as achieved in 2008/09 but litter is currently behind the target set for the year. The surveys for period 2 (Aug-Nov) will be carried out in October/November but the ongoing industrial action in environmental services is likely to have a negative impact on performance and cleanliness levels across the city.

**Achievements since the last report**

- Scrutiny completed an inquiry into street cleansing and made a number of recommendations about street cleansing services. A report was presented to Executive Board in August in response to the recommendations and a number of actions have been agreed as part of an action plan. A further report will be presented to Scrutiny Board at the end of the year.
- A business case was developed which identified the costs and benefits of extending the District Local Environmental Quality Surveys (DLEQS) monitoring regime. The business case has been approved by the Executive Member. This development, once implemented, will enable results to be reported at a ward level and if possible, at mid level Super Output Area (SOA) geographies.
- Environmental Pride Teams (Neighbourhood Renewal Funded) continue to work in the most deprived SOA's in the city, raising general cleanliness standards in these areas.

**Challenges/Risks**

- The industrial action in Environmental Services is likely to impact on cleanliness across the city (especially in relation to litter and detritus). The increased amount of rubbish on the streets and reduction in mechanical sweeping undertaken across the city is likely to have a negative impact on the Cleanliness Indicators (NI 195) scores for 2009/10.
- Neighbourhood Renewal Fund resources are used to fund the Environmental Pride Teams and some Enforcement staff in each of the five inner city wedges. This funding stream is being reduced in 2009/10 and will cease to exist in 2010/11 and there is a risk that cleanliness levels in these areas will be more difficult to maintain.
- Maintaining service delivery standards will be a challenge going forward as increasing expectations are not matched by resources.

<b><u>Council / Partnership Groups</u></b>	(i) Strategic Outcome Group – Clean and Green (ii) links to Neighbourhood Policy Group		
<b><u>Approved by</u></b> (Accountable Officer)	<b><u>Andrew Mason</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>12/11/09</u></b>
<b><u>Approved by</u></b> (Accountable Director)	<b><u>Neil Evans</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>12/11/09</u></b>

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<b>Key actions for the next 6 months</b>				
	<b>Action (Desired Achievements)</b>	<b>Contributory Officer / Partner</b>	<b>Milestone / Actions</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
	Continue to work in the most deprived areas of the city and target hot spot areas. Develop an exit strategy for projects funded through NRF	Steve Smith	Exit strategy developed by Jan 2010	Jan 2010
	Work with the Neighbourhood Policy Group to develop proposals around priority neighbourhoods and adopting a team approach to working in these areas. This will help to identify good practice in environmental partnership working arrangements and outline how benefits to communities and local areas can be maximised through engagement and intelligence.	Steve Smith (Neighbourhood Policy Group)	Keep abreast of developments and feed into proposals on developing a way forward	Ongoing
	Discuss the outcome of the Scrutiny inquiry into street cleansing at the Strategic Outcome Group in October. Identify an action plan to take forward the recommendations	Strategic Outcome Group	Action Plan identified and update report presented to Scrutiny Board in Jan/Feb 2010	Jan 2010
	As reflected in the Parks and Green Space strategy, services will work together on increasing the provision of and quality of green space in the city centre. This will focus on the development of a city centre park	Strategic Outcome Group	Develop a draft planning framework for the city-centre south and commission feasibility work on Sovereign Street.	Mar 2010

Improvement Priority – ENV-2a. Address neighbourhood problem sites; improve cleanliness and access to and quality of green spaces

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Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 195a	Improved street and environmental cleanliness - the percentage of relevant land and highways that is assessed as having deposits of: <b>litter</b> that fall below an acceptable level.	Environmental Services	Survey %	Fall	10% (2008/09)	10%	8%	10% Period 1 (Apr – Jul)	10%	No concerns
NI 195b	<b>Detritus</b> that fall below an acceptable level.		Survey %	Fall	11% (2008/09)	11%	10%	10% Period 1 (Apr – Jul)	10%	No concerns
NI 195c	<b>Graffiti</b> that fall below an acceptable level.		Survey %	Fall	4% (2008/09)	4%	4%	3% Period 1 (Apr – Jul)	4%	No concerns
NI 195d	<b>Fly posting</b> that fall below an acceptable level.		Survey %	Fall	0% (2008/09)	0%	0%	0% Period 1 (Apr – Jul)	0%	No concerns