

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE****1 July 2026****Officer:** Stuart Farmer – Operations Manager**STREET CLEANSING TEAM UPDATE****Purpose**

To update the Council the work and implementation of the Street Cleansing Team.

Road Sweeping Areas

The Town centre continues to be swept on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, this involves predominantly using the smaller sweeper apart from a morning to clear any waste from the weekend. This has allowed the larger sweeper to concentrate closer on the estate and main arterial routes. Below is listed some of the areas that have been swept by both machines.

The smaller sweeper has been put to work on some of the narrow streets and in high parking areas. A programme of requests to move vehicles will be put together for areas such as Belle Vue and Castlefields it is hoped that this will work in collaboration with Shropshire Council regarding gulley sucking of the drainage systems.

Some of the area that the machines have swept so far include the following.

- Coton hill Estate
- Mount Pleasant Estate
- Scott Street Reabrook Avenue
- Porthill Road
- Copthorne Road
- New Street
- St Micheals Street
- Greenfields
- Greenfields gardens
- Harlescott Lane
- Bank Farm Road
- Longden Road
- Battlefield industrial Estate
- Herongate estate
- Vanguard Way
- Ellesmere Road
- Brixton Way/Ennerdale Road Estate
- Heath Farm Estate
- Sandford Avenue
- Whitemere Road
- The Mount
- Frankwell Island

- Lancaster Road
- York Road
- Little Harlescott lane
- Old Potts Way
- Pritchard Way
- Hazeldine Way
- Meole Brace Estate
- Meole Village
- Sweetlake Estate
- Mousecroft Lane
- Nobold lane
- Derwent Avenue
- Monkmoor Road
- Abbey Foregate
- Harlescott Grange
- Battlefield Shillington Drive Estate
- The Parks Estate
- Sundorne Road
- Whitchurch Road
- Radbrook Estate
- Grange Road
- Grangefields
- Featherbed Lane
- Regular Cleans of Station Gyratory System
- Abbey Foregate/ Horsefair area
- Greyfriars Road
- Victoria Street/Howards Banks are of Castlefields
- New Park Road
- John Street
- Sydney Avenue
- Darville
- Queen Street
- North Street
- Severn Street
- Sundorne Albert Road Area
- Trinity Street
- Bynner Street
- Betton Street

Setting a route for the machines is still something that the operations manager and Team leader is looking in to however it is still expected that this will occur once a complete sweep of Shrewsbury has been achieved, this will allow the team which machine is needed for which location.

Tipping rates

As of the beginning of June the following tipping rates for waste were

- Road Sweepings – 105 Tonnes
- Litter bin emptying and waste removal – 48.5 Tonnes

This will continue to be a rolling figure throughout the year, A spreadsheet of tipping records is kept using the tipping sheets produced at each tip.

Naming of the Sweepers

The following names were the winners of the naming competition

Large Sweeper – Sweep Caroline

Little Sweeper – Optimus Grime

Alongside the naming of the sweepers was the branding of the street cleansing team the design below has been added to the side of each sweeper to identify it as an STC asset

**Digging Out of Bins**

The digging out of litter bins has carried on, to increase the capacity of the bin and reduce the required frequency of emptying that is required. As well as this a staff are also aware that the large road sweeper has the capability to suck out bins and when requested the sweeper operators will attend, this can only happen to bins that have been previously dug out due to the compaction that may have occurred over time.

Litter Picking

Litter picking has begun where time has allowed in residential areas however, at present this is being completed following the completion of the days bin emptying routes and requirements. Part of the team's remit has been extended from the previous contractor to ensure that when a site is visited to empty a bin the surrounding area is also litter picked at the same time.

Alongside this some of the organised litter picking groups in Shrewsbury will contact the Operations manager to inform the were abouts of arranged litter picks and agree a location for collection of the waste.

Emptying of Bins

The teams have carried on with the bin emptying as expected and the Team has been looking at optimising routes to ensure all bins are emptying at the appropriate timescales. Weekend bin emptying in the Town

Centre has proved a challenge; however the team Leader has been key in setting rotas for staffing to ensure bins are emptied on a regular basis including afternoons in areas such as the Square and Pride Hill. Ensuring enough cover is provided for high footfall event weekends is also being looked at for the summer season coming up.

Residents and Businesses using street litter bins.

This continue to be one of the biggest issues the team come up against on a regular basis, this is not confined to the Town centre alone, in fact some of the bins on housing estates are requiring daily attendances due to household wate being placed in the receptacles.

Evidence is still being gathered, and the Operations Manager will continue to work Shropshire Council regarding a solution for this, however any solution will relleie on Shropshire Council as the prosecuting authority.



Fly Tipping Collection

The litter picking team are also reactionary for the collection of fly tipped waste and aim to collect as soon as possible following the report. Some of the items collected of late have included white goods such as fridge freezers, Television sets, Armchairs and mattresses.

The teams have developed a good inter team reporting system where for example, the mowing teams can report directly to the cleansing team any areas that require a cleans prior to the mowing operation commencing and preventing further issues, this includes fly tipping.

It is worth reiterating that not all fly tips in Shrewsbury will be collected by this team, land identification is key to establishing ownership, where a report of fly tipping is reported to Shrewsbury Town Council and it is established to be the responsibility of others Shrewsbury Town Council will endeavour to contact the land owner with relevant information.

Weed Spraying

A contractor has been sourced and has begun works on spraying weeds along kerb lines and the back line of paths across Shrewsbury. This was a delay in appointing a contractor for these works which has led to weed growth being further advanced than desired currently.

This is a local contractor based in Atcham, this means that spray will only apply in suitable conditions, should there be any rain the contractor will delay operations rather attending regardless, this will ensure a successful application and will limit the need for return visits. Also, the contractor will only target areas that require treatment rather than spraying a whole kerb line, this will in turn limit the amount chemical used for the operation and further reduce Shrewsbury Town Council's use of chemicals.

The contractor has begun work on areas sprayed to date include:

- Sundorne estate (Between Sundorne Road and Whitchurch Road)
- Battlefield (Shillingston Drive)
- The Parks (Sundorne)
- Meole Village and estate
- Town Centre
- Castlefields (Darville Area)
- Bicton Heath
- Gains Park
- Welshpool Road
- Shelton Estate
- Bowbrook

In addition to this the Stepping up team were tasked prior to the appointment of the contractor and completed weed spraying in the following areas

- Coton Hill Estate
- Belle Vue
- Castlefields
- Sweetlake

This work will be completed in the coming weeks.

Staff training

Staff have begun the standard training programmes that all Shrewsbury Town Council Staff go through in the first months of employment, these include

- Manual handling
- Sharps awareness
- Small machinery Training

Public Feedback

The team continues to receive positive feedback from the public for the works being carried and overall, it is seen as a positive change since Shrewsbury Town Council starting this service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the contents of the report are noted.