

From: Peter Silverman, Clean Highways

Sent: 15 February 2016 13:02

To: Jim O'Sullivan - CEO Highways England

Cc: Kevin Hollinrake MP; Andrew Gwynne MP ; Allison Ogden-Newton, Keep Britain Tidy; Peter Antolik
Office of Rail and Road; Guy Dangerfield, Transport Focus

Subject: Feedback on litter 6

Report 6

26th Jan – 2nd Feb 2016

Attn: Jim O'Sullivan, CEO of Highways England
Feedback on litter

www.cleanhighways.co.uk

[See previous complaints](#)

[How this feedback is obtained](#)

Snippets:

M1 - J28 copious litter

M20 - Central reservation deeply encrusted with litter

*M56, M60 and M62- Disgusting to see the depressing spread of large amounts of rubbish
A27 - from Arundel through to Worthing including all slip roads are an absolute disgrace*

*A11 -The trunk road exiting the M11 northbound onto A11 is absolutely appalling
A11 - between M11 and A14 in East Cambs. The verges are absolutely covered in litter*

*M11 - north from Redbridge roundabout to M25 is badly littered on the verge northbound
A56 - whole section between M66 & M65. Road verges covered in litter*

*M23 - Gatwick Airport entry and exit dual carriageways. The litter ... is absolutely appalling.
M20, M20, M2 - I am completely lost for words...Swathes of plastic sheeting and cardboard
A27 - wherever I looked there were accumulations of rubbish on the verges, especially plastic*

A14- The litter on this road is disgraceful

A3 M - South Bound - there are 5 dead foxes since before Christmas decomposing.

A38 - In Staffordshire full of litter on central reservation

82 ALVAR THOMAS 14-02-2016 A38 FROM M1 --JUNCTION 28TO
DERBY. COPIOUS LITTER ON BOTH CARRIAGEWAYS-AN
ABSOLUTE DISGRACE.

- 83 Derek Gilman 11-02-2016 M20 - Maidstone - Folkestone. Travelled along this route which is one of the first impressions of England for overseas visitors. What do they see? A central reservation which is deeply encrusted with rubbish. Old roadworks signage frames and cones left over from work long since completed. Some road signs which have not been cleaned for years. Trees and bushes festooned with plastic wrap and carrier bags. Although some superficial effort has been made to clear litter, the major junctions around Ashford look like third world rubbish tips. The Maidstone Services exit (leading to Leeds Castle, a major tourist destination) is appalling. In summary, certain stretches have been given a token clean; the vast majority have not been addressed for years. It is obvious that your contractors are not doing the job required - surely there must be a more advanced technology than a couple of workmen with litter pickers and a black plastic sack? This situation is a sad reflection on this country - and on Highways England for failing to tackle the problem. This is but one example of what is now becoming a major problem throughout the country...we are slowly drowning in a relentless tide of litter. I appreciate that you are not the cause of this, but you seem incapable of sorting it. I await your response with interest!
- 84 Rebecca Dearden 11-02-2016 M56, M60 and M62. Just made this journey after returning from Berlin, where the roads are litterless. Disgusting to see the depressing spread of large amounts of rubbish all along our route home. And even worse to think about the other non-British people on our plane who might also be travelling on our roads. How shaming!
- 85 Adrian Brown 10-02-2016 The A27 from Arundel through to Worthing including all slip roads are an absolute disgrace with rubbish strewn along the verges and central reservation. This has not been cleaned for at least 6 months and according to Arun District Council will not be cleaned any time soon. It will soon become a health and safety issue. I will also refer the matter to the Sunday Times where I have a contact who is happy to publicise such failings by Highways England.
- 86 John Stingl 10-02-2016 The trunk road exiting the M11 northbound onto A11 is absolutely appalling
- 87 Helen Simpson 08-02-2016 A11 between M11 and A14 in East Cambridgeshire. The verges are absolutely covered in litter. This is because there are a considerable number of stopping places on this stretch of road and everyone of them as an overflowing rubbish bin - the litter is then being blown along all the grass verges. Now that the area is so horrible fly tipping has also started to occur. It looks awful.

- 88 Iain Ambler 08-02-2016 M11 north from Redbridge roundabout to M25 is badly littered on the verge northbound, in particular from Redbridge to Loughton (J5). Please note - this is my 2nd complaint using this new form - I complained about this originally on 1st December and still nothing has been done. I see others (Robert Pickles most recently) have also noted this stretch. To my mind, standards of cleaning are deteriorating on the road network.
- 89 Lee Kearsley 08-02-2016 A56 whole section between M66 & M65. Road verges covered in litter. Not helped with all the lay-bys on this section of road having no litter bins. Is it not possible to install some litter bins at these locations and have them collected?
- 90 Kate Brookes-Smith 06-02-2016 M25 slip roads at Junction 6. Gatwick Airport entry and exit dual carriageways The litter on the slip roads on to and off the motorway here and as you arrive and leave Gatwick is absolutely appalling, I have reported it before and nothing has been done.
- 91 Derek Gilman 04-02-2016 I have recently travelled along the M20 from Sidcup to Maidstone, the Dartford Crossing into Kent and M2 to Sittingbourne and the A2 to/from Dover and am completely lost for words...Swathes of plastic sheeting and cardboard, carrier bags hanging from trees, Highways Agency/road works detritus (cones, sandbags, sign frames), filthy, illegible, broken road signs, lay-bys full of rubbish and piles of litter so deeply embedded that the occasional litter pick, involving one or two workmen with flimsy litter pickers, are unable to rectify. Driving through some stretches is like driving through a rubbish tip and most parts have not been cleaned for years - and if you claim they have, your contractors are NOT doing the job. All this, in the so called 'Garden of England'. God knows what tourists from overseas must think. This is a sad reflection on Highways England. Something has gone drastically wrong and needs to be addressed as soon as possible. I look forward to your response. If this is not forthcoming, I will tale it further with the appropriate Minister(s).
- 92 Bridget James 02-02-2016 How depressing. Today I was a passenger in a car traveling along the A27 from Polegate to Hangleton. Much of the road passes through countryside with fine views of the South Downs though wherever I looked there were accumulations of rubbish on the verges, especially plastic. It was especially bad around the Southerham roundabout near the historic town of Lewes. What sort of message does this send out to our overseas visitors. Whoever is responsible for cleaning up, please can they do something about it ASAP.
- 93 Gareth Brace 02-02-2016 A14. The litter on this road is disgraceful, I can't imagine what drivers heading back to Continental Europe must think of us. Perhaps we should at least put up some signs apologising for such an awful journey.

- 94 angela evetts 01-02-2016 What can I say, there is litter every few metres on most roads, often similar to third world standards. My latest roundabouts and slip roads, motorways, a and b roads, an utter disgrace. I pick up weekly around my own country lanes, but often a losing battle. Makes traveling a depressing chore. Goodluck to anyone who can take on our uk idiots that dump, why are we the worst ?
- 95 Gail Gibbons 01-02-2016 A3M South Bound - there are 5 dead foxes on the motorway they have been there since before Christmas decomposing. Its a gruesome sight. There have been workers on the stretch of road where the carcasses are trimming vegetation however they have failed to arrange for the removal of these animals. There also appears to be no reporting facility, that I can find, to notify that they are there. Overall the litter situation as well northbound is still horrendous.
- 96 ALVAR THOMAS 30-01-2016 I WISH TO REPORT THE AWFUL STATE OF THE A38 IN STAFFORDSHIRE/DERBYSHIRE. THIS ROAD IS FULL OF LITTER IN THE CENTRAL RESERVATION TO SUCH AN EXTENT, THAT IT RESEMBLES A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY! COULD THIS BE CLEANED AT REGULAR INTERVALS ON SOME FORM OF ROLLING PROGRAMME ARRANGEMENT?
- 97 Steven Dennard 27-01-2016 A14 Rugby to Kettering - rubbish in lay-bys. Bins all fallen over in the wind; A45 Wellingborough to Northhampton.

Peter Silverman

www.cleanhighways.co.uk

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Read our report - [Solving the litter problem](#)