

**From:** Peter Silverman - Clean Highways  
**Sent:** 03 January 2016  
**To:** Jim O'Sullivan - CEO Highways England  
**Cc:** hailXXhighways.gsi.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Feedback on litter 4

Report 4  
13<sup>th</sup> Dec – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2016

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

[www.cleanhighways.co.uk](http://www.cleanhighways.co.uk)

[See previous complaints](#)

[How this feedback is obtained](#)

Snippets:

*A34 from Oxford to Junction 13 of the M40. The amount of litter either side of the West Ilsley junction is, frankly, on a par with some of the roads in Lagos, Nigeria*

*Slip roads coming to and from the M20 littered with the usual bottles, paper and fast food rubbish. The roundabout deliberately left overgrown to hide the litter*

*A1, pretty much from the A14 all the way up to M62. Every layby was covered in litter*

*M25 in direction of Dartford Tunnel. The Orpington slip roads in both direction are continually littered*

*The southern verge and central carriageway of the A27 west of the Southwick Tunnel is in a disgusting state and is heavily littered*

*.... much of the litter is the same as it has been for years. The slip from the M602 northbound to M60 appears never to have been touched.*

*M25 Junction 6 slipway - Grade D, awful build-up of litter.*

*M3 J 9 to 6, grade C/D =, no litter removal for a long time*

*All motorways, slip roads and even country roads are disgusting and I am sick and tired of the people that do it and the fact that it is never cleaned up*

*I would like to complain about the terrible state of the entire length of the M66.*

*M2 Junction 2 - What the hell has happened to this junction area! It is an appalling mess of months and months of litter, bottles, tins and paper*

The complaints:

45    Stuart Campbell    01-01-2016    I drive regularly along the A34 from Oxford to Junction 13 of the M40. The amount of litter either side of the West Ilsley junction is, frankly, on a par with some of the roads in Lagos, Nigeria where I work.... This is undoubtedly caused by litter flying out of the, in particular Fred Sherwood, lorries arriving at the Waste Transfer Station.... Precisely who is responsible for removing the litter from the roadside as nobody seems either interested or is doing anything about this disgrace - you would think that someone, somewhere, would have insisted on ensuring that this litter is collected / removed when the Transfer Station was originally authorised....

- 46 Emily Bell 31-12-2015 M20 in Kent - Junction 8 - Maidstone Services and Leeds Castle. The junction that tourist use to access the 'the loveliest castle in the world'. What an image! Slip roads coming to and from the M20 littered with the usual bottles, paper and fast food rubbish. The roundabout deliberately left overgrown to hide the litter. The southern link road to the A20 is a delight! Years of litter uncollected in the central reservation and rubbish migrated on the verges and beyond the wired fence area. What a lasting image tourists have of The Garden of England and Leeds Castle. This is one of many areas on the M20 in this condition and nothing changes year on year. As the CEO you are presiding over a national disgrace that you are fully aware of but still side step. Why am I pay taxes to be used on your incompetent contractors? Borderline fraud in my opinion.
- 47 Steven Thompson 31-12-2015 A1, pretty much from the A14 all the way up to M62. Every layby was covered in litter which is turn was blowing around the road. Bins were overflowing
- 48 C Bradford 30-12-2015 M25 in direction of Dartford Tunnel. The Orpington slip roads in both direction are continually littered ,and roundabout and often the spur road to the motorway. No lighting so easy to dump bags of rubbish. Sign up about litter but has been in the same position for years so has no impact. A2 often messy.
- 49 Paul James 30-12-2015 The southern verge and central carriageway of the A27 west of the Southwick Tunnel is in a disgusting state and is heavily littered. Worse still, this section of the A27 is on the edge of the South Downs National Park.
- 50 Terry Dean 23-12-2015 M60 Smart Motorway section (under construction) J8 to J20. In May/June 2015 I complained about various aspects of litter to my MP Barbara Keeley. I received an early and comprehensive response from David Brewer Exec Director at HE. In it he says "...we undertake litter inspections once a month..." Elsewhere he says, "Our smart motorway ... undertook a litter clearance before work started on the scheme" They didn't do it very well, if at all, as J13 on slip was not attended to - I watch it most days and much of the litter is the same as it has been for years. The slip from the M602 northbound to M60 appears never to have been touched. He goes on to say, "...the full extent of the accumulated litter only became apparent when a subsequent exercise to cut back the vegetation was completed..." This laughable, and ultimately exhibits dishonesty: If monthly inspections had been carried out, how come they were surprised when the vegetation was cut back ?? He also says that they have 28 days to clear a Code 'D' litter area. I can show him Code D areas throughout the junction slip roads any day he chooses! This part of the M60 is one of the worst motorways I've seen in the country His letter typifies the fact the HE is not in control of the contractors it appoints to clear letter. It would take me two hours each to clear a slip road, in safety. Our motorways are a joke compared the those in other countries, The harm this does to our tourist industry is much greater in financial terms than the cost of litter clearance. Come on, let's have some joined up thinking, some proper action, and NO more platitudes! Terry Dean FICE
- 51 james miller 21-12-2015 M25 Junction 6 slipway - Grade D, awful build up of litter
- 52 james miller 21-12-2015 M3 J 9 to 6, grade C/D =, no litter removal for a long time.
- 53 Annabel Pearce 21-12-2015 All roads are a disgrace. Some that I drive on regularly are the A505 between Hitchin and Luton. The bypass from Stevenage to Hitchin. The A120 and the A12 to Essex. All motorways, slip roads and even country roads are disgusting and I am sick and tired of the people that do it and the fact that it is never cleaned up.

- 54 Tom Parkinson 17-12-2015 Dear Sir I would like to complain about the terrible state of the entire length of the M66. The grass verges are covered in litter and do not look to have been cleaned for quite some time. The verges have recently been mown with the litter left in place which has resulted in finely shredded litter covering a wider area! I regularly drive across Europe and can honestly say the UK's road network is the dirtiest. Please resolve this issue before I take this to my local councillor.
- 55 Alex Bell 16-12-2015 M2 Junction 2 - all the slips roads and roundabout. What the hell has happened to this junction area! It is an appalling mess of months and months of litter, bottles, tins and paper. Why? What is the private contractor doing? Answer, very little since he is self-monitoring his own low low standards. If your contractors were on a litter bonus the network would be spotless and the best in the world! No doubt you have ample excuses as to why this area is littered, health and safety, lack of access, budget cuts, or 'we must improve on areas such as this in the future' blah blah! It is nothing more than a national scandal allowing public funds to be given to private contractors who are ignoring the law.

Peter Silverman

[www.cleanhighways.co.uk](http://www.cleanhighways.co.uk)

01895 625770

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