

From: O'Sullivan, Jim

Sent: 31 March 2016 09:51

To: 'petersilverman(at)cleanhighways.co.uk'

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Subject: Re: Feedback on litter 9

Dear Peter,

Thanks for your further note on litter clearance. I assure you that we take our responsibility for clearing litter very seriously and spend a considerable amount of public money doing so.

On one recent complaint I investigated we had cleared the highway less than a month earlier but the pictures provided showed it was as bad as ever.

On that particular occasion we filled over 100 black sacks at a cost of about £5000. The cost is high not just because of the volumes involved (all that litter has to be picked up, packed, transported, and disposed of) but also because this is the high speed road network and our workers and road users must be protected while the work is done. In many cases the cost of the traffic management is as high as the cost of picking the litter.

I have, as always, broken your complaint into its constituent parts and passed it to our regional directors to incorporate in their maintenance plans.

I note your comment that we are potentially not meeting our legal obligations. We also take our legal responsibilities very seriously and never knowingly breach them so I will ask our General Counsel to respond directly and specifically to you on this point.

I continue to welcome your feedback on the state of our network and assure you that we will continue to do as much as we can constrained only by the sensible use of public money.

I am sure you would agree that more needs to be done to stamp out the disgusting habit of littering at source and we are investigating new measures to encourage better behaviour currently. We will be supporting 'clean for the Queen' this year and I hope, that as part of that campaign, we will start to see a change in behaviour such that the cause of this eye sore and expense is reduced before it happens.

Kind regards

Jim O'Sullivan