

**From:** Peter Silverman - Clean Highways  
**Date:** Friday, 8 January 2021 at 17:08  
**To:** Tamara Finkelstein - Permanent Secretary DEFRA  
**Cc:** A27 Campaign "ben. webster"  
**Subject:** Litter Strategy - trunk road litter survey

For the attention of Tamara Finkelstein, Permanent Secretary at DEFRA

Dear Ms Finkelstein,

The April 2017 [Litter Strategy for England](#) says on p58:

*The Government will commission and publish an independent assessment of road cleanliness and publish cleanliness reviews by authority. We will then set a deadline for underperforming authorities to improve their performance within this Parliament.*

*We also propose to reallocate responsibility for managing relevant cleaning activities from any local authority that is not fulfilling its statutory duties on the road network.*

It is clear from the second paragraph that it was talking about assessing those [All Purpose Trunk Roads](#) on the Highways England network where the relevant local authority, not HE, has the statutory duty to keep them clear of litter.

The Parliament extant in April 2017 began in May 2015 and could have run to May 2020.

The survey was carried out by KBT in January and February 2018.

In [July 2020](#) DEFRA Minister, Rebecca Pow stated:

*In 2018, Defra commissioned an independent survey of roadside litter on those parts of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) where Highways England is responsible for maintenance but the local authority is responsible for clearing litter. The results have been shared with relevant local authorities and will be used in policy development*

She made no reference to:

1. Publishing cleanliness reviews of HE trunk roads (APTRs) by local authority.
2. Setting a deadline for underperforming authorities to improve their performance and
3. Reallocating responsibility for cleaning away from failing local authorities to Highways England

What has been decided with regard to these commitments? This is of concern as it is almost 3 years since the survey was carried out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

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