

8. STREET SWEEPING AND LITTER COLLECTION

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Corporate Plan Output: Activities on Street	

The purpose of this report is to provide information for the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board on the operation of the street sweeping and litter collection contract which covers the roads throughout the whole of the Christchurch City district.

The Council let a new street sweeping contract to Metallic Sweeping in August 2001. The contract is initially for 3 years and is performance based.

The work involved with the contract for the most part covers sweeping of the street drainage channels and 1 metre of the carriageway out from the kerb and cleaning of the channels and paved areas in the central business district. Other smaller parts of the contract include the emptying of litter bins, sweeping up of spillages on the roads and cleaning of street sumps and drain grates. Also included is the litter pick up covering the cycle and pedestrian access ways throughout the city which are legally designated as road. Those in city parks are generally part of the park and are cleaned under the parks and waterways contracts. There is often an element of confusion as to where the separation lies between these contracts. Clearing of litter bins in parks, reserves, along rivers and the foreshore and the collection of litter from planted areas on roads is carried out by City Care for the Parks Unit. Household refuse being deposited in all litter bins is a widespread problem.

There are two main types of kerbside channel along the sides of the roads in Christchurch. The deep dished channel is swept every 4 weeks and the flat channel is swept on a 6-weekly basis. This frequency has historically provided an acceptable level of tidiness. The deep dished channel some of which is 100 years old, tends to be more messy and difficult to clean with the driveway bridge crossings. About 20 kilometres of this channel is being replaced each year throughout the city under the kerb and channel replacement programme.

Main arterial roads, hillside roads, shopping areas and busy pedestrian areas are swept and have the sumps cleared on a more regular frequency varying from once every two weeks to twice per week.

The contract does include periodically sweeping round the kerbs of the central medians and traffic islands on the road but does not include sweeping of the actual roadway surface or the footpaths. The Council has not undertaken this work in the past.

The work which Metallic Sweeping carry out under the contract is audited by a team of skilled officers. This system is intended to enforce a higher standard of work than was accepted with previous contracts where auditing of performance was not implemented on the present scale. About 100 streets need to be swept every day in the Christchurch area to cover them all within the frequency schedule and the inspectors can not cover every street. Random samples of the work carried out are inspected and given a performance value with respect to an accepted standard. Dated digital photographs are taken where necessary to verify any poor performance. Any failure against the accepted performance value requires that a remedial re-sweep be carried out within 3 days, at no cost to the council.

Other contractors working in the road environment such as trenching and sealing are required to provide their own plant to clean up the street when they have completed their work.

LEAF COLLECTION

A Foliage Accumulation Reconnaissance Technician is employed during the main leaf fall period. This job is to direct a separate contract for the clearing of leaves from the streets where this problem exceeds the set standard and capability of the normal street sweepers. Leaf collection covers the full width of the road including footpaths and grass berms.

Household rubbish collection is an entirely separate contract and takes place on the allotted days, carried out by Onyx.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the recommendation be adopted.