



Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 2017/18

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful have been collecting information about the amount and distribution of litter for over ten years.

Recognising in 2012 that litter was not the only indicator of the quality or cleanliness of a space, we began to monitor graffiti, flyposting and pavement staining, as well as specific information about dog fouling.

Here are some key facts and figures from our 2017/18 surveys:

5% The spend on street cleaning services has gone up 5% to **£45,562,534**

6% The percentage of transects with dog fouling present has held steady at **6%**



12% of transects surveyed were completely **free of litter**, up **7%** from last year

15% The number of transects failing to meet the accepted standard for litter has remained at **15%** from last year

256
Adopt A Spot

groups have adopted a spot in their local area, committing to undertake four clean ups per year in 2017-18



322



Fixed Penalties were issued for failing to clean up dog fouling during 2016-17

(the last complete year for which records are available)



30%

of the operational time accrued by a mechanical sweeping machine is wasted because **obstructions prevent them from reaching the curb or pavement backline**



The rural litter issue

39% of rural transects surveyed in 2017/18 were unacceptably polluted by litter.

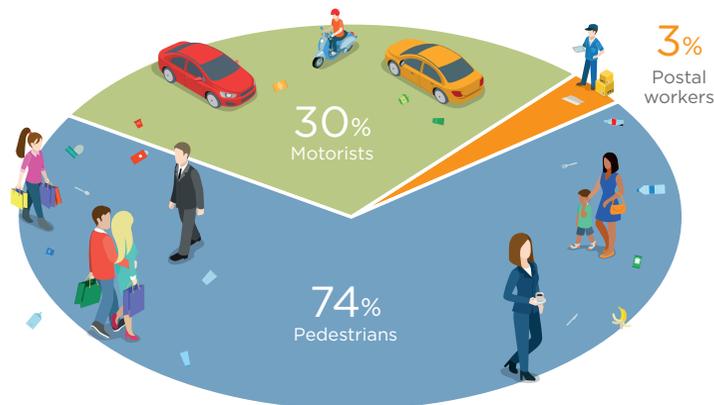
Compare this to both primary (3%) and secondary retail (13%) and it is clear that there is a difference in the volume of rubbish accumulating in these areas. This is most likely explained by the way cleansing resources are allocated to each area. In the main towns and cities, sweepers and teams of litter pickers are deployed on a daily basis, whereas very few Councils are able to clean the rural roads in their areas very often, due to fears over the health and safety of their staff.



* Average LPI across both Primary and Secondary Retail areas.

Sources of litter

During the survey, a decision is made by the surveyor as to the most likely source of the litter found in each transect.



The reasoning is based on type of litter, land use, footfall, presence of fast food outlets and the weather. The graphic above shows the four most common sources of litter. It should be noted that multiple sources can be ticked for one transect. From the table below we can see that more litter is coming from motorists and less from pedestrians this year when compared to 2016/17. This is mostly due to the increase in rural litter, 95% of which comes from passing cars.



To find out more about our work with litter contact:

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