



a higher street standard



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Higher Standard of Street Cleansing

Introduction

The Council's overriding objective is to encourage economic growth, and a key element of achieving this aim is the attractiveness of our District. The Big Clean project has attained a higher standard of cleansing which appeals to investors, residents and visitors. We must ensure that we protect and safeguard what is special about our natural and built environment in equal measure. It is essential that we maintain the improved appearance of our street scene within our District so that it will continue to attract visitors and businesses, and instil a sense of pride in our community.

Our basic street cleansing programme will continue, and, to achieve our ambition of maintaining this '**higher street standard**', we are funding two additional teams with the specialist equipment and skills needed to deliver this.

These teams will operate all year round and will be driven by a program of works. They will be integrated into our very successful Big Clean website, which has proved invaluable in informing us of our challenges.

We have zoned our areas to coincide with the Draft South Kesteven Local Plan 2017, outlining the market

towns and larger villages. The rest of our area, including small villages and settlements will be deemed rural.

Within our district we have a number of industrial areas, which have been designated as Zone 3.

We will cleanse public highways but not business land or unadopted land. Whilst private property is not separately zoned, we will cleanse the public highways per the stated Zone that they are situated in. Residents and businesses can play a vitally important part in supporting community street cleansing initiatives, especially by maintaining their property frontages free from overgrowing hedges, trees and foliage encroaching on public paths and highways.

We have set out our standards in this document, and welcome reports of street scene problems via our website to ensure we can work with residents and businesses to achieve this '**higher street standard**'. We will also provide an advisory and/or cleansing service for members of the public and businesses in our area, subject to contract and fee.



After...

Our District

South Kesteven is made up of four market towns, Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings. Located within a rural landscape of 365 square miles, interspersed with many larger villages providing its residents with schools and amenities through to smaller villages with more limited provisions and settlements. Historically, although our existing operational street cleansing standard met national standards, we aspire as an authority to deliver a wider scope of work with a higher delivery standard and timescale. As part of the Big Clean we invested in plant, machinery and training to meet and maintain our new higher standard.



An alleyway in Cambridge Street in Grantham has been transformed thanks to The Big Clean



Uncovering roadsigns for all road users at Callens Lane junction near Kirkby Underwood, Bourne

Before...



...after



Before...

The Big Clean team clearing weeds and foliage from the pathway on Trent Road, Grantham.



...during



Before...

...after

Intended visits and timescales to maintain 'higher street standard'

Market town centres where large numbers of people congregate: Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings	Four visits annually (allocated up to 10 days per visit)
Outer edges of the market towns with lower footfall, larger villages and high density residential areas	Two visits annually (allocated up to 2 days per visit)
Low density areas of market towns and larger villages, urban fringe and industrial areas	Two visits annually (allocated up to 2 days per visit)
Rural	Two visits annually (allocated up to 2 days per visit)

Zones

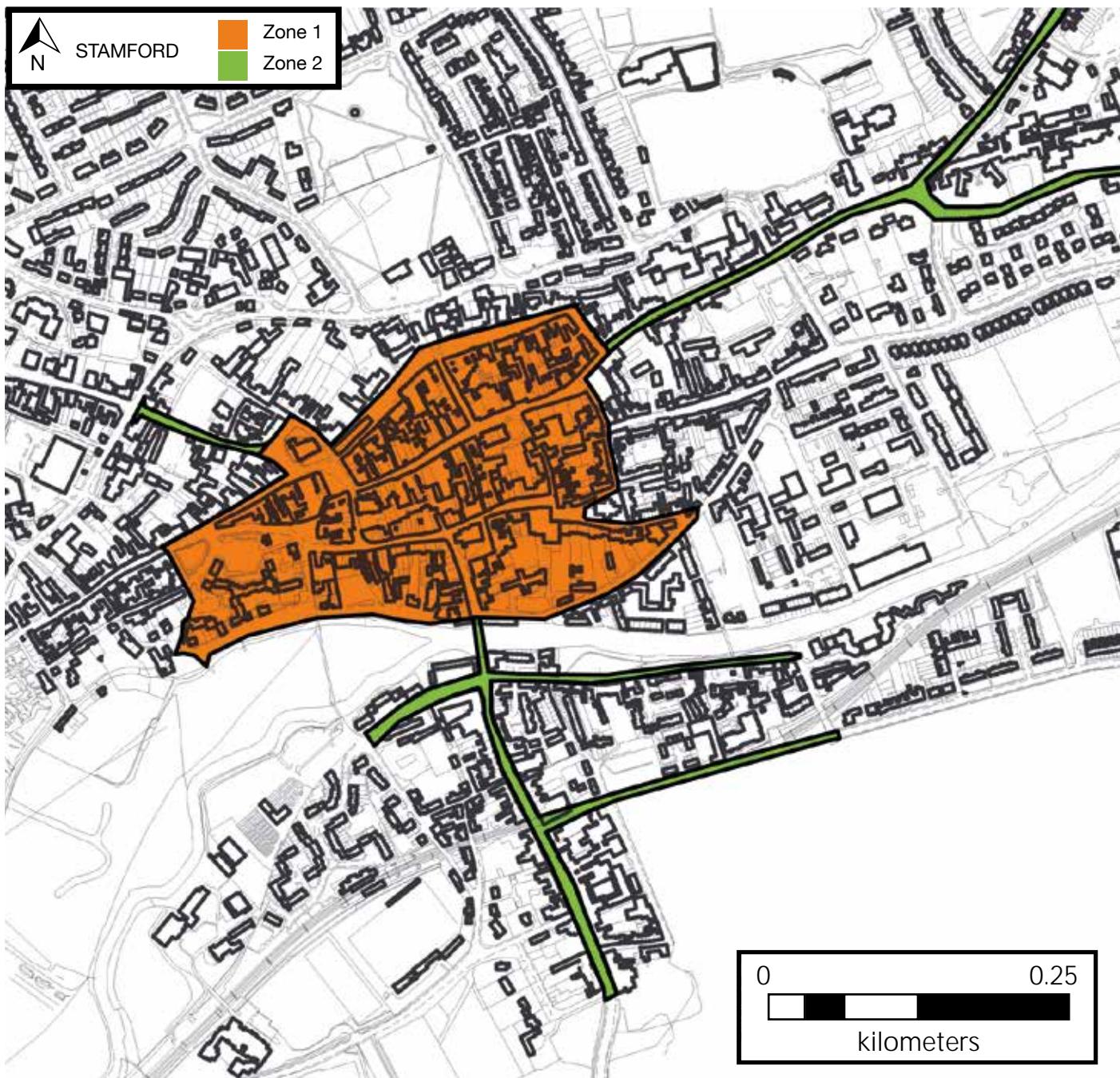
Zone 1	Market town centres where large numbers of people congregate: Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings
Zone 2	Outer edges of the market towns with lower footfall. Larger villages with higher density footfall.
Zone 3	Low density area of market towns and larger villages other than that in Zone 2, urban fringe and industrial areas
Zone 4	Rural

National Standard

Grade A	No litter or refuse
Grade B	Predominantly free of litter and refuse apart from small items
Grade C	Widespread distribution of litter with minor accumulations
Grade D	Heavily littered with significant accumulations

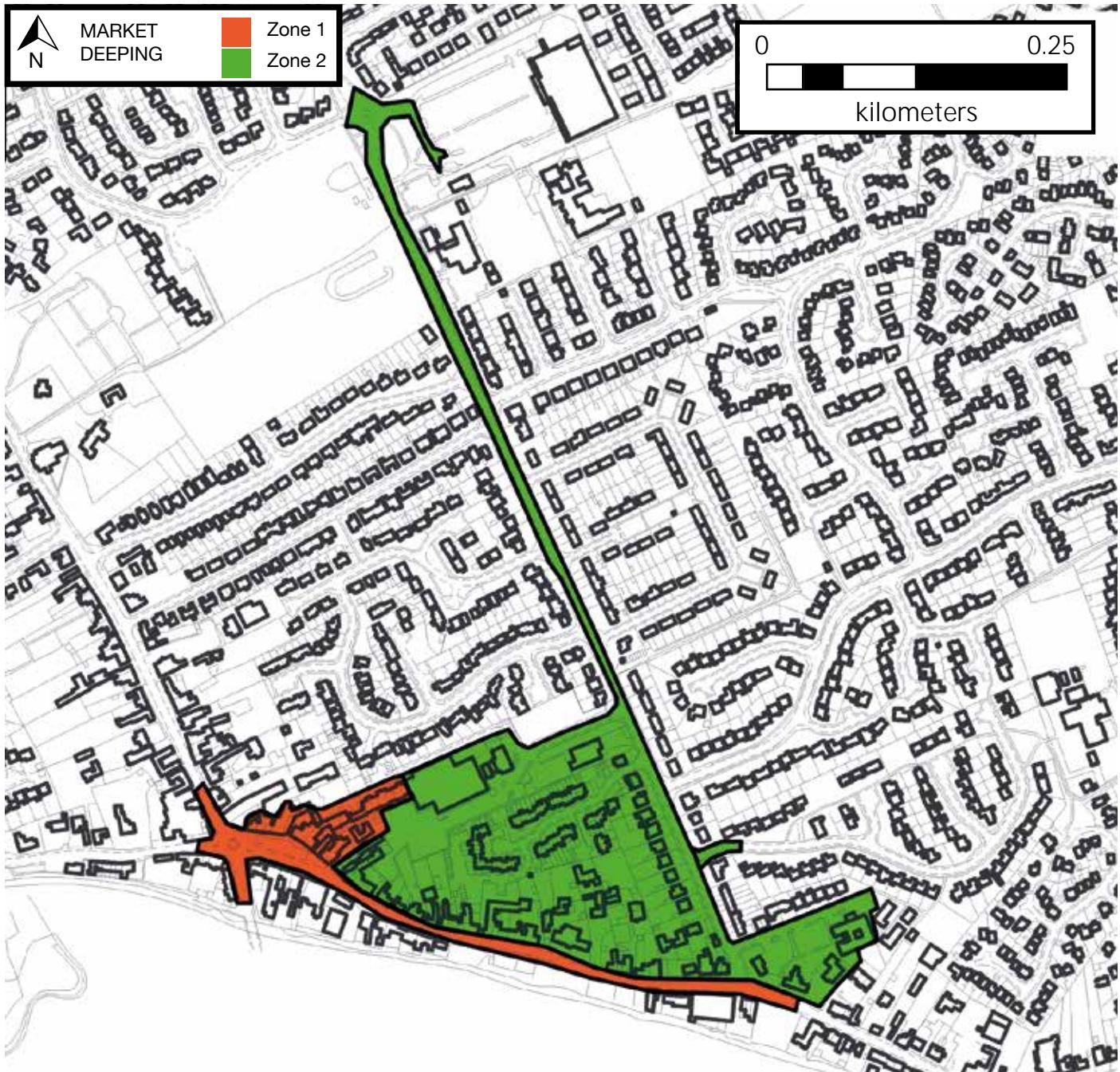
Higher Street Standard





Higher Street Standard





Intended visits and timescales to maintain ‘higher street standard’

	SKDC Current Standard	National Standard	SKDC Higher Standard
Zone 1	Return to Grade A	By 6pm if reported before 1pm, or the next day if reported between 1pm and 6pm on the previous day	Half a working day (five hours)
Zone 2	Return to Grade B	By 6pm the following evening	Within a working day (10 hours)
Zone 3	Return to Grade B	14 days	Within five working days
Zone 4	Return to Grade B	28 days	Within seven working days

SKDC already complies with the national standards detailed below as set by the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse issued under section 89 (7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. In addition we will adopt a higher standard for our residents as detailed in this document.

SKDC's higher standards

We will task supervisory roles to ensure that standards are being kept and reported back to relevant teams on issues found. Supervisors can also undertake a Civil Penalty issuing role relating to littering/fouling and businesses without waste agreements or any other environmental crime that can be evidenced.

Zone 1	Litter /Street Cleaning National Standard	SKDC Standard
Weed spraying/ removal	No requirement or advice	Three weeks prior to the 'specialist team' team attending will spray and follow up with weed ripping for maximum impact
Chewing gum	No requirement to use specialist equipment to clean up residues	Will power wash specific areas twice per annum, generally prior to special events
Graffiti	No requirement just advice	Offensive graffiti (as defined in the Glossary of Terms) to be removed or required to be removed within 48 working hours of report to SKDC If not the local authorities responsibility, a report will be made to the appropriate business/body
Graffiti advice	No requirement just advice	Will offer private / business properties a removal service for a fee
Overgrowing trees obscuring street signs	No requirement as a Highways issue	Where the sign is in a residential street and where work can be done, the offending branches will be removed. Where it is difficult, dangerous or special equipment is required, LCC Highways will be requested to carry out the works
Cleansing of street signs and street lights	No requirement as a Highways issue/SKDC Facilities issue	Where the signage can be reached, we will power wash the sign. We will not repair / replace directional signs. Where the sign is on an arterial road, the Highways Authority will be informed. If an SKDC name plate, to be reported to the Council's Facilities Department
Cleansing of benches and bins	No requirement or advice	We will power wash the benches and bins – inspecting both for evidence of decay or damage and reporting as appropriate
Damaged bins	No requirement or advice	As part of our cleansing routine, bins found to be damaged, corroded or at the end of their natural life will be replaced within 7 days
Overgrowing hedges, affecting footpaths	No requirement as a highways or hedge owner issue	If a minor issue, we will seek permission to cut back the hedge. If not forthcoming we will note the hedge locations and inform LCC highways of the obstruction

Higher Street Standard

Reports of dangerous issues i.e. needles and broken glass	No specific advice or guidance	To be dealt with within two hours (during working hours) or the next working day if reported out of hours
Fly tipping	No specific advice or guidance	Remove within three days, unless hazardous waste. All fly tips will be checked for evidence of who tipped or who it belonged to
Fly posting	No specific advice or guidance	Remove within three working days
Litter and detritus	Refer to Standard Grades A – D	Grade A at a quicker pace than the national standard
Weekend cleansing	Would fall within Grade A requirements	Operate a Zone 1 cleansing of streets between 7.30 am – 12noon

Zone 2/3/4	Litter /Street Cleaning National Standard	SKDC Standard
Weed spraying/ removal	No requirement or advice	Three weeks prior to the 'specialist' team attending, will spray and follow up with weed ripping for maximum impact
Chewing gum	No requirement to use specialist equipment to clean up residues	Will power wash specific areas twice per annum, generally prior to special events
Graffiti	No requirement just advice	Offensive graffiti (as defined in the Glossary of Terms) to be removed or required to be removed within 48 working hours of report to SKDC If not the local authority's responsibility, a report to the appropriate business/body
Graffiti advice	No requirement, just advice	Will offer private / business properties a removal service for a fee
Overgrowing trees obscuring street signs	No requirement as a Highways issue	Where the sign is in a residential street and where work can be done, the offending branches will be removed. Where it is difficult, dangerous or special equipment is required, LCC Highways will be requested to carry out the works

Cleansing of street signs and street lighting	No requirement as a highways issue/SKDC Facilities issue	Where the signage can be reached we will power wash the sign. We will not repair / replace directional signs. Where the sign is on an arterial road, the Highways Authority will be informed. If an SKDC name plate, to be reported to the Council's Facilities Department
Cleansing of benches and bins	No requirement or advice	We will power wash the benches and bins – inspecting both for evidence of decay or damage and reporting as appropriate.
Damaged bins	No requirement or advice	As part of our cleansing routine, bins found to be damaged, corroded or at the end of their natural life will be replaced within seven days
Overgrowing hedges, affecting footpaths	No requirement as a Highways or hedge owner issue	If a minor issue we will seek permission to cut back the hedge. If not forthcoming, we will note the hedge locations and inform LCC highways of the obstruction
Litter and detritus	Refer to Standard Grades A – D	Maintain at Grade B with the desire to achieve Grade A
Reports of dangerous issues i.e. needles and broken glass	No specific advice or guidance	Zones 2/3: To be dealt with within two hours (during working hours) or the next working day if reported out of hours Zone 4: To be dealt with within four hours (during working hours) or the next working day if reported out of hours
Fly tipping	No specific advice or guidance	Remove within three days, unless hazardous waste – all fly tips will be checked for evidence of who tipped or who it belonged to
Fly posting	No specific advice or guidance	Remove within three working days

Litter Bins

Our litter bins are placed where littering is seen to be an issue. Whilst our litter bins can be used to dispose of bagged dog waste, we do not provide dog waste bins or litter bins for dog walkers. Parishes that provide their own litter or dog waste bins are responsible for emptying them.

Any requests for new litter bins are considered following careful monitoring of the proposed new site, to ensure that there is a need. Litter bins are emptied on a frequency that reflects its usage.

If a litter bin is found to be damaged or unsightly, please let us know by contacting us on 01476 406080 or visit www.southkesteven.gov.uk.

Volunteers

Businesses associated with the Big Clean will collect litter within 50 metres of their boundaries. A sticker will indicate a business's support.

To continue the success of the Big Clean and maintain our new higher standard of cleansing, volunteers by way of groups, individuals and companies will continue to

play an important role. Input from community volunteers will be sought to supplement the Council's service offer. We will continue to provide agreed disposal sacks and pick up points for waste collection, high visibility vests, gloves and litter picking sticks.

To register your interest as a volunteer please contact us on 01476 406080 or visit www.southkesteven.gov.uk

Legal Requirements

Section 89(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on certain bodies to ensure that their land (or land for which they are responsible) is, so far as is practicable, kept clear of litter and refuse.

The Government published a Code of Practice in which it describes the methods and actions that are required to be followed by the litter authority and other responsible bodies to comply with the Act. This allows for the zoning of areas, according to usage, and the standards required maintaining those zones.

Glossary of Terms

Litter - includes materials, often associated with smoking, eating and drinking, that are improperly discarded and left by members of the public; or are spilt during business operations as well as waste management operations.

Under Section 98(5A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, certain discarded smoking-related materials (cigarette ends, etc.) and discarded chewing gum and the remains of other products designed for chewing, are specifically stated to be items of litter.

Littering - carelessly discarded materials as defined above.

Refuse – to be regarded as having its ordinary meaning of waste or rubbish, including household and commercial waste, and can include fly-tipped waste. Dog faeces are to be treated as if they were refuse when on public land. Dog fouling is a separate offence from littering.

Detritus - comprises small, broken down particles of synthetic and natural materials, arriving at the site through the same displacement effects associated with mechanical, human, animal and natural actions, most of which also determine the distribution of litter. Detritus includes dust, mud, soil, grit, gravel, stones, rotted leaf and vegetable residues, and fragments of twigs, glass,

plastic and other finely divided materials.

Offensive graffiti – where graffiti is racially offensive (and hostile to religious groups), sexually offensive, homophobic, depicts a sexual or violent act or is defamatory.

Fly tipping - the illegal disposal of controlled waste is commonly known as fly-tipping. There is no specific definition of fly-tipping other than in the offences set out in Section 33 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. This includes the deposit or disposal of controlled waste without a waste management licence, or its disposal in a manner likely to cause pollution of the environment or harm to human health.

Larger village - formally known as Local Service Centres, the assessment of larger villages took into consideration the provision of: primary school, food shop, public transport, village hall, post office, public house, open space, play space, doctor, police / fire, secondary school and other businesses.

The larger villages are: Ancaster, Barkston, Baston, Barrowby, Billingborough, Caythorpe, Colsterworth, Corby Glen, Great Gonerby, Harlaxton, Langtoft, Long Bennington, Morton, South Witham and Thurlby

Enforcement – Enforcement action will be taken, where it is appropriate to do so, by the Enforcement Team. Any action taken will be as per our Enforcement Policy.

Contact links

Cleansing of street signs - South Kesteven District Council, Facilities Department or email
c.baker@southkesteven.gov.uk

LCC Highways - Lincolnshire County Council.
County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1YL.
Telephone: 01522-552222. Fax: 01522-516137. Minicom: 01522-552055.
Email: customer_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk

**South Kesteven District Council – Bins,
Street Care and Recycling**
www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8038

Big Clean
<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=12438>

02445RT 2.18

