

Clean Streets

What is Bristol City Council's Approach to Graffiti?

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Slide 1



Background

- Graffiti incidents reported to BWC are up:
 - April 15 – March 16 - 2,863
 - April 16 – March 17 - 2,496
 - April 17 – March 18 - 3,738
- Local Environmental Quality survey (LEQ) showed graffiti increased since 2015
- Tagging removal is expensive & time consuming.
- Significant problem for the city
- Broken window syndrome



Position statement

- Statement on graffiti forms part of the Waste Disposal and Streetscene Policy adopted 2018

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/33395/Waste+Disposal+and+Street+Scene+Services+Policy+Statements>

'All graffiti is criminal damage unless the owner of the property has given permission.if the building is listed they are committing a criminal offence under S59 Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990.

Where a public mural/street art is planned and permission from the owner is granted, the council will encourage a local consultation to be held to minimise any issues or challenges that may arise.'

- BCC, BWC, Police and other partners need to ensure that this message is articulated clearly – Bristol is seen as permissive to graffiti and tagging and this perception needs to change.

Tackling Graffiti

Tackling Graffiti is part of the Clean Streets plan.

Joint approach- BCC, Bristol Waste Company (BWC) Police and local communities are working together to reduce the incidents of graffiti:

- improved messaging
- increase removal
- better enforcement



Joint approach - messaging

- Campaign messages with BWC that graffiti is illegal and will be penalised- similar to litter campaigns. Needs to be clear and robust.
- Encourage reporting
- Publicise the cost to the city



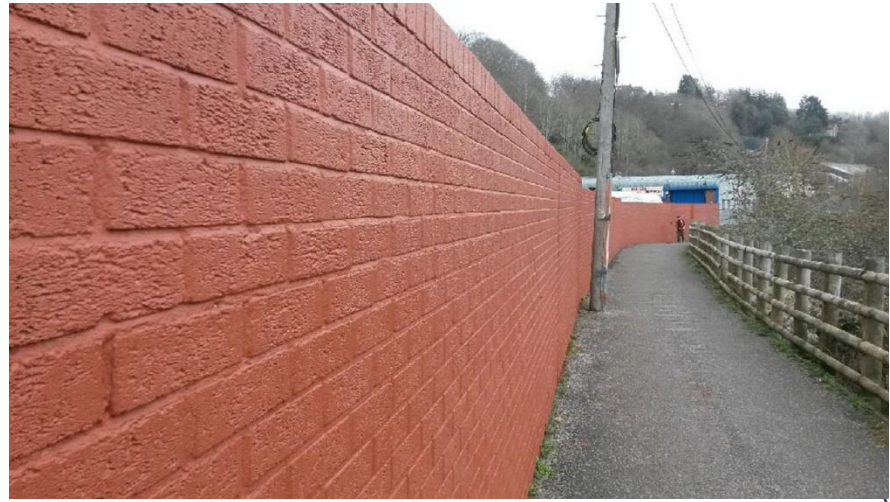
Joint approach – graffiti removal

- BWC have trialled a targeted blitz approach working with a local community to fully remove graffiti tagging in one defined area of Bristol and maintain the cleansing of that area.
- BWC and the City Centre Business Improvement District will put more resources into graffiti removal in the central area (excluding the Bearpit).
- BWC will be working to improve their graffiti removal capability which means more vehicles and equipment to work at height and better chemicals.
- HOWEVER – in order to remove all illegal graffiti and clean up the city, significant more resource is needed.



Joint approach – graffiti removal

- Make paint and equipment available to local community groups to address neighbourhood graffiti tagging issues (BWC).
- Train citizens in graffiti removal and provide products
- Make paint available to Community Payback which can be used for graffiti removal(BCC).



Joint approach- enforcement

- Supporting community groups to share tagging intelligence e.g. Reportable smart phone app
- Proposal to increase penalty for graffiti FPN to maximum of £150 will be considered by Cabinet in May
- Fixed Penalty Notice's issued by 3GS

<https://news.bristol.gov.uk/news/graffiti-taggers-issued-fixed-penalty- notices>

- Use Community Protection Notices (CPNs) or S 215 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 powers for owners of buildings where graffiti is causing a detrimental effect on the neighbourhood.

Joint approach- enforcement

- Police have committed more resources to target main culprits
- Senior police officer participates in the Graffiti Action Group (BCC/BWC/citizens)
- Shared intelligence leading to prosecutions e.g. use of CCTV:

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/graffiti-found-near-cenotaph-remembrance-2210871>

Bristol City Council's approach to graffiti

- Comment and feed back

