

Dear CEC Councillors

My name is Melissa and I am one of the NES (Neighbourhood Environmental Services) Officers for the City.

I am writing to give you an overview and update of a new project that the Waste & Cleansing service are delivering.

The project is called '**Pride in our City**' and will see us providing an enhanced cleansing service across the City on a ward by ward basis.

We have dedicated teams, supported by our core cleansing service, who are carrying out various tasks including:

- Removal of dog fouling
- Removal of dumped items
- Removal of graffiti
- Removal chewing gum
- Litter picking and sweeping
- Clearing gullies of all litter and debris, and scraping any weed growth from them
- Scraping the topside of the kerb and in between individual kerbs to remove weed growth
- Removing all weeds from the backline (outside perimeter walls of houses which run along with the pavement)
- Bagging and removing all weeds and debris once scraped away
- Clearing around any communal bin areas
- Graffiti/sticker removal and street washing being coordinated through the process

We'll also be working with our colleagues in other services to identify further Environmental Improvements that can be made i.e. roads defects, changes to services, reviews of services, educational opportunities.

Our teams will be guided by statistics held on our systems which show where our hotspot areas are, however, we will also be engaging with the community groups, **community councils** and Elected Members prior to going into the next ward to get comments and feedback from the people that know their area the best.

At the moment we are working in ward 12 (Leith Walk), and have completed 3 weeks of actions so far. We are also responding to suggestions and comments that are received to the service, to try and capture as much of the concerns as we can. We already have suggestions of target areas coming in for ward 13 (Leith) and have these collated for when the time comes.

As the previous Community Council term ended on 27 March 2025, and the new office bearer contacts are not available as of yet, we haven't been able to link up with them. However, as soon as the new details are made available we will contact each one prior to going into a new ward. Once we have finished in a ward, a report will be circulated which will include data on what we've done and where, and also what other Environmental Improvements have been identified and scheduled. By the end of April we'll have cleaned over 80% of ward 12.