

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Environment Committee							
MEETING DATE AND TIME	2 nd October 2025 7.00 pm			LOCATION		Town Hall		
REPORT FROM	Chief Officer							
AGENDA ITEM	9							
REPORT TITLE	Streetscape Services							
Update	<u>Fly Tipping</u> As well as noting the quantity of fly tips per month and annually, we are now calculating the cost for each specific fly tip over the course of a year. Below you will note the number of fly tips we have dealt with over the last year (2024), in comparison to previous years:							
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Jan	4	4	4	16	30	20	17
	Feb	10	2	10	11	25	7	5
	Mar	4	0	32	24	14	8	7
	Apr	10	12	19	10	19	24	14
	May	5	40	22	11	11	24	20
	June	4	22	2	8	26	20	21
	July	8	21	0	13	9	19	23
	Aug	5	18	10	26	19	18 -140	22 -129
	Sept	6	6	14	23	13	9	
	Oct	5	3	10	8	21	17	
	Nov	4	4	17	25	4	6	
	Dec	5	4	10	30	15	22	
	Total	70	136	150	205	206	194	129
Total Cost	£2324.16	£5380.52	£2481.45	£12,300.87	£ 15,360.76	£ 13,077.18	£10004.10	
	See Appendix A for percentage graphs for each parish area.							
	<u>Staffing</u>							
	1. <u>Members of the Streetscape team in work</u>							
	All staff are currently working; however, 1 operative is due for a knee replacement							
	<u>Weed spraying update – CEC Highways / CTC trial.</u> We have been advised that Cheshire East Council highway services have stopped weed spraying and clearance. Whilst this is not a surprise, it puts the emphasis on us to find a solution and to clear our streets of weeds. Since the arrival of Doug Christie 3 weeks ago, amongst other activities, he has been focusing on this matter and looking to provide options for the committee/ council to approve.							

	<p>There will be costs associated with this activity, which we have no budget for and something we need to have in place for 2026/27.</p> <p>In terms of activity, we have contacted NOMIX, who previously provided information on weed-spraying attachments which may suit our Streetsweeper.</p> <p>We are looking to establish what the options and costs are, and it is the intention to trial the equipment and contact / visit a council that is using this type of equipment to understand first-hand the operating costs and effectiveness.</p> <p>There will also be a need to research alternative methods to manage this problem and the associated costs, benefits and environmental impact of those methods.</p> <p><u>Mini Sweeper</u> - used mainly in the town centre, around 12 hours per week over the summer, we have changed working patterns for the Autumn and increased the sweeper usage to full-time sweeping in the working week, so now the sweeper can spread out into the estates and help combat the Autumn leaf fall.</p> <p><u>Fleet Electrification</u> - We have held meetings with our current provider, West Wallesey, as well as an alternative provider, Dawsons, to obtain quotes for electric vans and other vehicles. Additional quotes will also be requested, and we expect to have this information available shortly.</p> <p><u>Vehicle Graphics</u> - When the Streetscape service was first brought under the Town Council, all vehicles carried the Council's insignia. However, as vans have been replaced, this practice has not continued. To ensure residents are aware of the valuable work we are carrying out, we will look to reintroduce this branding where feasible.</p> <p><u>Henshaw Hall Estate</u> - It is worth noting that volunteers have done an exceptional job in clearing paths of weeds and rubbish on the Henshaw Hall Estate, and that over 300 bags have been collected by the Streetscape team.</p> <p><u>Avon Close</u> – It has been agreed that residents may maintain a small area of land within their Close, with guidance and support from us.</p> <p><u>Congleton Park Bowling Green</u> – The bowling green has experienced a challenging summer, affected both by the hot weather and by anti-social behaviour, with youths using the green for inappropriate purposes. Although the asset belongs to CEC, we are responsible for its maintenance, and repair works are scheduled to take place.</p>
Financial Considerations	Concerns over the financial impact of fly-tipping, as well as a probable increase in highway weed control on the streetscape budget lines. Ensuring that external contracts are cost-beneficial to the council.
Environmental Considerations	Consideration to be given to areas to be weed-sprayed and the specific type of chemicals used.
Equality Considerations	Where we undertake new, existing projects or activities, we will need to engage all sectors of the community, and we will look to ensure full inclusivity.
Decision Requested	To receive the report.