

Falkirk Town Centre Business  
Improvement District  
CIMS Survey Report



March 2009

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2009, **Keep Scotland Beautiful** assessed the cleanliness standard of the Business Improvement District (BID) area of Falkirk town centre. The area surveyed consisted of 36 street sites. The survey reflects the standard of cleanliness of these areas achieved at the time of the survey. The following criteria were assessed:

- ◆ Standard of cleanliness
- ◆ Sources of litter
- ◆ Types of litter
- ◆ Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs)

Below, summaries of results are provided for the BID area.

# THE BID AREA

## Standard of Cleanliness

- The overall cleanliness index achieved in the **BID** area was **65**.

## Grade of Sites and Zones

- 7% of sites were of a grade A standard. 6% of sites were of a grade B+ standard, 74% of sites a grade B standard, 9% were of a grade C standard and 4% of sites were recorded as a grade D standard.
- 87% of sites in the BID area were of an acceptable Grade A, B+ or B standard.
- 13% of sites in the BID area were of an unacceptable Grade C or D standard.

## Sources of Litter

- Pedestrian / Individual litter was the most common source of litter within the BID area, recorded in 89% of all sites surveyed.
- Business waste was found in 8% of sites.
- Construction, domestic and animal faeces were all observed equally in 1% of sites.

## Litter Types

- Smoking related litter was the most common litter type, recorded in 83% of transects.
- Drinks related litter was recorded in 33% of sites surveyed.
- Confectionery related litter was observed in 25% of sites.
- Fast Food litter was found in 20% of sites.
- Other litter types accounted for 6% of sites surveyed.

## **Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators**

- Chewing gum was the most commonly found Indicator in the BID area, recorded in 86% of transects.
- Graffiti was found in 14% of sites.
- Pavement damage was observed in 13% of sites surveyed.
- Vandalism was present in 8% of sites surveyed.
- Detritus was present in 6% of sites surveyed.
- Staining was found in 4% of all sites surveyed.
- Trade Waste and Vegetation growth were present in 4% of sites.
- Fly-posting and Weeds were recorded in 3% of transects.
- Dog Fouling and Flytipping were present in 1% of all sites surveyed.

# INTRODUCTION

**Keep Scotland Beautiful** conducted a Cleanliness Standards Survey of **the BID area in Falkirk Town Centre**, using the Keep Scotland Beautiful methodology. The cleanliness of streets was assessed in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and its attendant Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006. This survey is the first cleanliness validation to be undertaken for Falkirk BID. The sample size selected for this survey was **100% of street sites**. The survey was conducted during March 2009.

The following criteria were assessed:

- **Cleanliness grade**
- **Zone**
- **Sources of litter**
- **Types of litter**
- **Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs)** (absence/scale of presence)
- **Litter bins** (total count and number overflowing)

Additional comments were made where relevant, and supporting photographs were taken throughout the survey.

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## 1.1 Cleanliness Grades

Each area of study (transect) was graded according to the system outlined in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006, which relates to Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA).

There are four grades of cleanliness, which are defined as follows:

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

It should be noted that an additional grade has been included in this survey, B+, to provide extra management information. This grade was awarded to transects that had no more than 3 small items of litter sized below 3cm by 1cm. It must be noted however that this standard of cleanliness is not included in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006 and is just a management tool designed to help distinguish the almost litter free streets from the standard Grade B streets.

This grading system is based on research into standards of cleanliness that most people regarded as being acceptable or unacceptable. Under this system Grade C and Grade D are unacceptable and must be cleaned (in most cases to a Grade A condition) within a specified period of time (see section 1.3). Grade A is the standard which a thorough conventional sweeping/litter-picking should achieve. The overall aim, however, should be to operate a management system where acceptable standards of cleanliness (Grades A and B) are maintained at all relevant times.

## 1.2 Zones

In addition to ascertaining the grade of each transect, each street was assigned a zone category as follows:

- Zone 1** Town centres, shopping centres, major transport centres, central car parks
- Zone 2** High-density residential areas, land laid out as recreational areas, suburban car parks and transport centres, high density industrial estates
- Zone 3** Low-density residential areas, low density industrial estates
- Zone 4** All other areas, i.e. rural and semi-rural areas

A more detailed description of zones is given in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006.

The zone has an implication on the cleansing response time, as shown in the following section.

## 1.3 Cleanliness Standards

The Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006 defines maximum response times required when a litter problem is reported within or to a Local Authority. For example, when a Grade D in Zone 1 is reported to the relevant officer in a Local Authority, that Council has 1 hour to respond and to return the Grade D to a Grade A. This is illustrated in Figure 1.

These maximum response times will only ensure minimum standards as defined by The Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse (Scotland) 2006.

Figure 1: Cleanliness Standards Table (Extract)

Category Zone	Description	CLEANLINESS STANDARD			
		A	B	C	D
1	TOWN CENTRES	← 6hrs			
		← 3hrs			
		← 1hr			
2	HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL	← 12hrs			
		← 6hrs			
		← 3hrs			
3	LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL	← 2 weeks			
		← 12hrs			
		← 6hrs			
4	AREAS NOT FALLING INTO ZONES 1-3	← 2 weeks			
		← 1 week			
		← 60hrs			

## 1.4 Cleanliness Index

The method of measurement of litter used in this survey is the Cleanliness Index Measurement, developed by Keep Scotland Beautiful and used widely by Local Authorities throughout Scotland to monitor their performance and set themselves targets for improving services. The Cleanliness Index (CI) provides an indication of the standards of cleanliness experienced in an area. Total counts of Grades A, B, C, D sites achieved throughout the survey are used to calculate a CI between 0 and 100. An area with a CI of 0 would consist of all heavily littered (grade D) sites, whereas an index of 100 would represent an area completely free of litter or refuse (all grade A sites).

## Figure 2: Cleanliness Index Calculation

Points are awarded as follows for each cleanliness grade: A=3 B+=2.5 B=2 C=1 D=0

Calculate the actual points scored:

(Count of Grade A) x3 +(Count of Grade B+) x2.5 (Count of Grade B) x2 + (Count of Grade C) x1+ (Count of Grade D) x 0

Calculate the maximum score possible (i.e. if all transects were Grade A):

(Total count of transects surveyed) x3

**Cleanliness Index** =  $\frac{\text{Actual Score}}{\text{Maximum Score}} \times 100$

## 1.5 Sources of Litter

During the survey each transect containing litter had the sources of litter identified as follows:

- **Pedestrian / individual** - e.g. drinks cans, sweet wrappers, fast food packaging, lottery tickets, cigarette ends, matches. Also includes litter dropped by motorists.
- **Business waste** - any waste that has come directly from a business, e.g. headed paper, envelopes, advertising flyers. This category also includes elastic bands dropped by the postman.
- **Domestic waste** - any waste that has escaped from domestic refuse, e.g. household packaging.
- **Construction waste** - any waste that has been left over from construction work, e.g. builders' rubble, sandbags, cones.
- **Animal faeces** - any type of animal faeces including dog, horse and pigeon fouling etc.
- **Other** - any other litter which does not fit into the above categories, e.g. vehicle parts.

## 1.6 Types of Litter

Keep Scotland Beautiful surveys carried out throughout Scotland have shown that, of the above litter sources, pedestrian/individual is the most commonly found. The materials found are frequently those associated with eating, drinking and smoking. The five most commonly found types of litter are:

- **Smoking related litter** - cigarette ends, matches, matchboxes, cigarette packaging
- **Drinks related litter** - including cans, bottles, cups, straws and lids
- **Sweet wrappers** - includes chewing gum wrappers and crisp packets
- **Fast food packaging** - fish & chip wrappers, polystyrene cartons, plastic cutlery, etc.
- **Other** – i.e. newspaper, plastic bags and tissues. This category has been added to highlight other types of individual/pedestrian litter which do not fall into the four categories above.

Throughout the survey the presence of these five types of litter within transects was recorded.

## 1.7 Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators

In addition to the cleanliness of streets, absence or presence of the following Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs) will play an important part in forming an image of a place in the minds of residents, business people, visitors and investors:

- **Dog Fouling** - the only AEQI surveyed that must be considered alongside other litter and refuse when determining the cleanliness grade.
- **Vandalism** - defined as wilful and senseless damage of property which adversely affects the quality of life and the environment, e.g. damaged street furniture.
- **Graffiti** - defined as unauthorised drawing or writing on surrounding buildings or street furniture such as benches, lampposts, litter bins, etc.
- **Weeds** - the presence of weeds in the transect may indicate poor / infrequent sweeping and can trap litter.

- **Detritus** - any natural debris causing visual defacement of an area and which may trap or conceal litter, typically mud, grit, twigs, leaves and blossom.
- **Chewing Gum** - defined as the presence of discarded chewing gum that causes poor visual amenity on pavements and roads.
- **Fly-posting** - defined as stickers or posters placed in unauthorised places and not on billboards. Unauthorised places refer to buildings, bus shelters, fence posts, etc. within the transect.
- **Flytipping** - the presence of dumped waste (from domestic, commercial or construction sources) is also recorded.
- **Staining** - defined as discolouration of the footway or road surface.
- **Pavement damaged** - any broken or damaged footway or poor road surface.
- **Trade waste placed out for collection** - waste that has been placed out for collection by commercial premises.
- **Vegetation growth** - the presence of any form of vegetation growth from any adjacent buildings.

The presence of each of the above within transects was recorded throughout the survey.

## 1.8 Litter Bins

The number of litter bins within each transect was noted during the survey. If a litter bin within a transect was overflowing, this was also recorded. Overflowing litter bins are defined as litter bins, used by the public, which are full to capacity and litter has escaped onto the surrounding area. The transect is graded according to the litter from the bin which has fallen within the transect.

## 1.9 Comments and Photographs

Comments were made on the survey form to gain an insight into the specific problems being observed, for example if a large amount of chewing gum was seen, to describe what kind of business waste was found, or if an abandoned vehicle was encountered – and also to note good practice, such as a privately sponsored litter bin.

Photographs were taken where this would support survey findings, for example of Grade C and D sites, when AEQIs were present, if accumulations of litter were present adjacent to the transect and so on.

# RESULTS

## 2.1 Cleanliness Indices

The cleanliness index of the BID area in Falkirk Town Centre was 65. This demonstrates a reduced standard of cleanliness. This result is 2 index points below the minimum acceptable standard of cleanliness, that of 67.

## 2.2 Grades of Sites

Figure 3 below displays the percentage breakdown of each grade achieved in the Falkirk Town Centre BID area.

**Figure 3. Distribution of Grades found in the BID area**

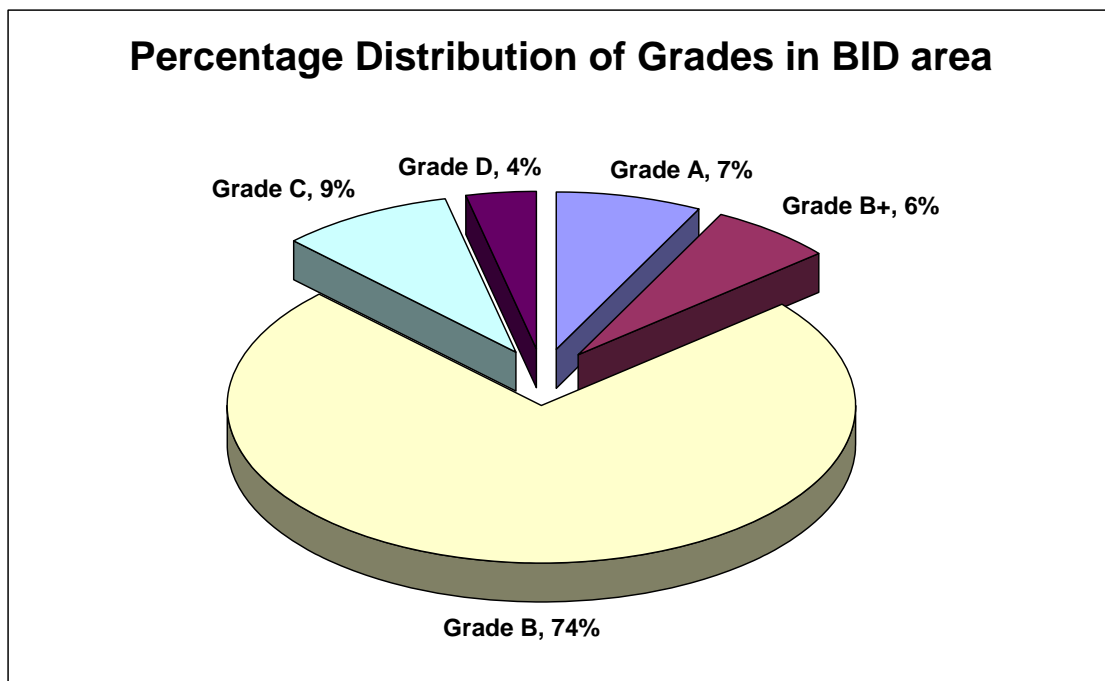


Figure 3 above highlights that 7% of sites were found to be litter free and achieved grade A standard. Six percent of sites were recorded as grade B+ standard and 74% of sites were observed as grade B standard. Thirteen percent of sites were of an unacceptable

standard of cleanliness, with 9% of sites observed as grade C and 4% recorded as grade D.

**Figure 4. Street site grades found in the BID area**

<b>Street Site</b>	<b>Cleanliness Grade</b>
<i>Vicar Street</i>	B
<i>Garrison Place (part)</i>	B
<i>Garrison Place (part)</i>	B
<i>Hope Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Hope Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Glebe Street</i>	C
<i>Glebe Street</i>	B
<i>Glebe Street</i>	B
<i>Glebe Street</i>	B
<i>Melville Street</i>	B
<i>Melville Street</i>	C
<i>Vicar Street</i>	B
<i>Vicar Street</i>	B
<i>Vicar Street</i>	B
<i>Newmarket Street (lower)</i>	B
<i>Newmarket Street (lower)</i>	B
<i>West Bridge Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Chapel Lane (part)</i>	B
<i>Cockburn Street (part)</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	A
<i>High Street</i>	A
<i>Lint Riggs</i>	A
<i>Lint Riggs</i>	A
<i>Newmarket Street (upper)</i>	B
<i>Newmarket Street (upper)</i>	B
<i>Newmarket Street</i>	C
<i>Newmarket Street</i>	B
<i>Kirk Wynd</i>	B
<i>Kirk Wynd</i>	B
<i>Manse Place</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	A
<i>High Street</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	B
<i>Baxters Wynd (part)</i>	B
<i>Bean Row (part)</i>	B+
<i>King's Court</i>	D
<i>Cow Wynd (part)</i>	B
<i>Cow Wynd (part)</i>	B
<i>Booth Place (part)</i>	A
<i>Cow Wynd (part)</i>	B

<i>Cow Wynd (part)</i>	B
<i>St Crispin's Place (part)</i>	B
<i>St Crispin's Place (part)</i>	B
<i>Williamson Street</i>	B
<i>Williamson Street</i>	B
<i>Mission Lane</i>	B
<i>Melrose Place</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	B+
<i>Tolbooth Street</i>	B+
<i>Wooer Street</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	B
<i>High Street</i>	B
<i>East Bridge Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Callendar Riggs</i>	B
<i>Callendar Riggs</i>	B
<i>Meadow St(pt) Inc. Bus Station</i>	C
<i>Meadow St(pt) Inc. Bus Station</i>	D
<i>Meadow St(pt) Inc. Bus Station</i>	B
<i>Meadow St(pt)</i>	D
<i>Callendar Riggs</i>	B
<i>Callendar Riggs</i>	B
<i>Kerse Lane (part)</i>	B
<i>Kerse Lane (part)</i>	B
<i>Kerse Lane (part)</i>	B
<i>Kerse Lane (part)</i>	B
<i>Orchard Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Manor Street</i>	B+
<i>Manor Street</i>	C
<i>Bank Street</i>	C
<i>Bank Street</i>	C
<i>Princes Street</i>	B
<i>Princes Street</i>	B
<i>Park Street</i>	B
<i>Park Street</i>	B+
<i>Weir Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Weir Street (part)</i>	B
<i>Park Street</i>	B
<i>Park Street</i>	B

Particular problem areas such as Meadow St and the Bus Station and King's Court were in relative isolation to the grading for other areas, but were recorded on the survey date as being grade D areas.

The collective area of New Market (Lower), Glebe and Melville Street were graded as being C standard. As were Manor and Bank Street, separate from Meadow Street, all of

which were also recorded as being of a grade C standard. All other sites were found to be of a grade A, B+ or B standard.

## 2.3 Sources of Litter

This section considers the different sources of litter identified in the sites surveyed within the BID area and were assessed for their absence or presence:

**Figure 5. Distribution of litter sources within the BID area**

<i>Sources of litter</i>	<i>Count of Sites/Total number of sites surveyed</i>	<i>Percentage of sites</i>
Pedestrian	71/80	89%
Business	6/80	8%
Domestic	1/80	1%
Construction	1/80	1%
Animal Faeces	1/80	1%
Other	0/80	0%

Figure 4 illustrates the most common source of litter found in the BID in Falkirk Town Centre was pedestrian, recorded in 71 of 80 sites surveyed (89%). Business waste was the next most commonly recorded indicator, found in 6 out of 80 sites (6%). Animal faeces, Construction and Domestic Waste were observed in 1% of sites, all found in 1 instance out 80 (1%). Other sources were not present in any of the sites surveyed.

## 2.4 Litter Types

This section considers the comparison of litter found in the sites surveyed within the BID area of Falkirk Town Centre.

**Figure 6. Distribution of litter types within BID area**

<i>Types of litter</i>	<i>Count of Sites/Total number of sites surveyed</i>	<i>Percentage of sites</i>
Smoking related	66/80	83%
Drinks related	26/80	33%
Confectionery related	20/80	25%
Fast food related	16/80	20%
Other	5/80	6%

Figure 6 highlights that smoking related litter was observed in 66 out of 80 sites (83%) and was the most commonly found type of litter in the BID area. Drinks related litter was recorded in 33% of sites. Confectionery related litter was found in 25% of sites. Fast food packaging was present in 20% of sites. Other types of litter, which includes newspapers, tissues and plastic bags, made up 6% of litter types found in the sites surveyed.

## **2.5 Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs)**

This section summarises various factors affecting the quality of the environment within the surveyed sites in Falkirk BID area. The presence or absence of each of the AEQIs was recorded for each of the sites surveyed. Figure 7 below shows the presence of each Adverse Environmental Quality Indicator. The scale of presence employed was as follows:

- 1 - No Presence
- 2 - Small Presence
- 3 - Significant Presence
- 4 - Severe Presence

Figure 7. Percentage Presence of AEQIs in the BID area

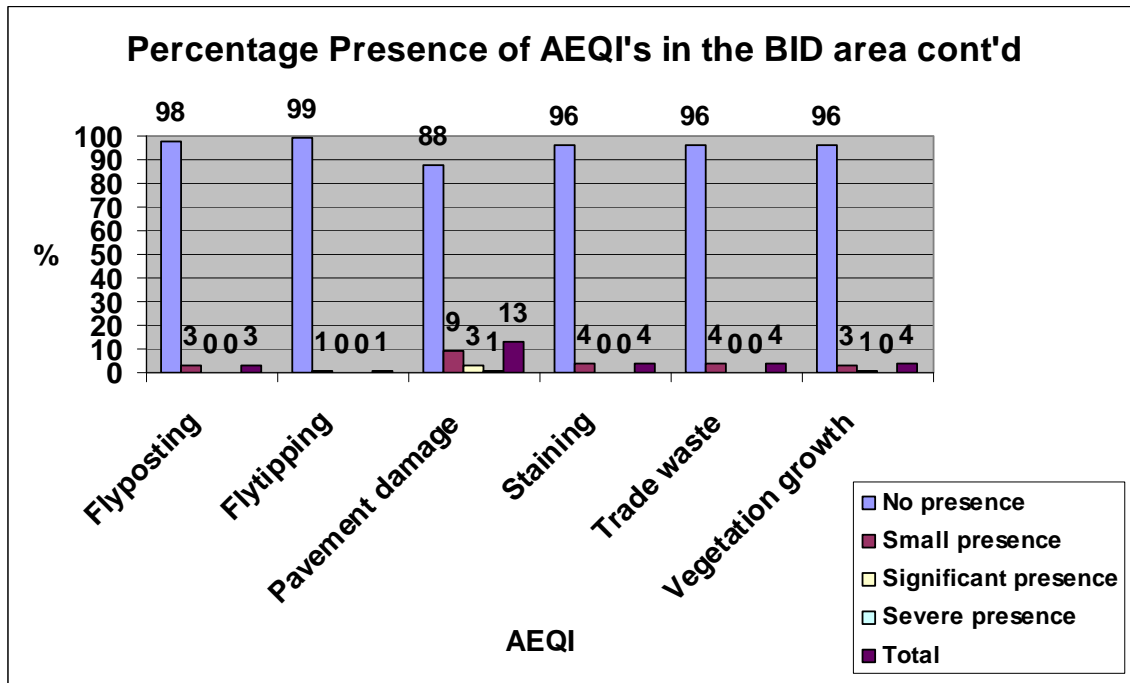
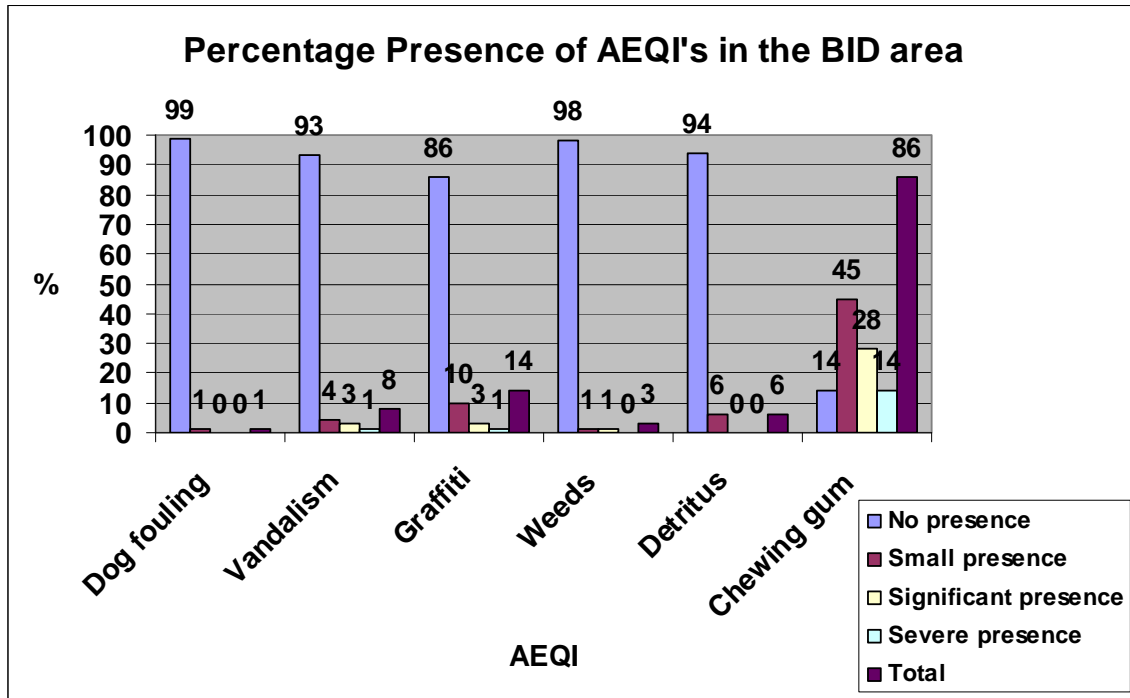


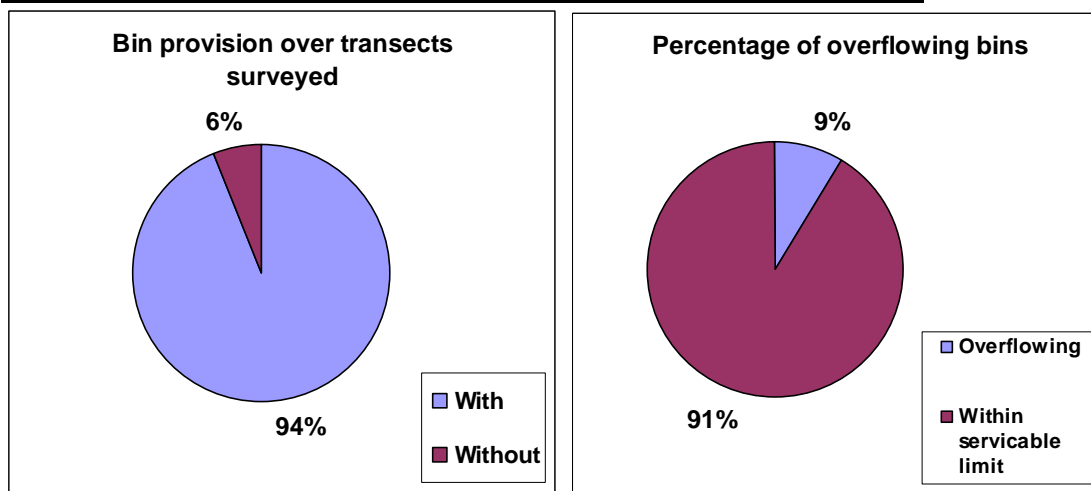
Figure 7 shows Chewing gum was the most common adverse environmental quality indicator in the BID area in Falkirk Town Centre, recorded in 86% of sites. The next most common indicators were graffiti and pavement damage recorded in 14% and 13% of

sites respectively. Vandalism was present in 8% of sites surveyed. Trade waste placed for collection, staining and vegetation growth were all observed in 4% of sites. Flyposting and weeds were both found in 3% of sites surveyed.

## 2.6 Litter Bins

**Figure 8. Number of litter bins present in each site.**

	<i>Count of sites</i>	<i>Percentage of sites</i>
Total no. of litter bins	75/80	94%



Seventy-Five litter bins were present out of the 80 sites surveyed, which accounts for 94% coverage. Seven bins were found to be overflowing, in Manor Street (2), Newmarket Street, Williamson Street, Melrose Place, Bank Street and Park Street.

# Conclusion

The Falkirk BID area achieved an index of **65** during the March 2009 CIMS survey. Seven percent of sites were found to be grade A standard and 6% were grade B+ standard. The majority of sites were a grade B standard (74%). Unfortunately 9% of sites were a grade C standard and 4% grade D standard.

It was observed that 87% of sites in the BID area were of an acceptable A, B+ or B standard whilst 13% of transects were found to be of an unacceptable grade C or D standard.

The main indicator that adversely affected the local environmental quality in the BID area during the survey was Chewing Gum found in 86% of sites. This was followed by Graffiti which was observed in 14% of sites closely followed by Pavement Damage, recorded in 13% of transects. Vandalism recorded an 8% presence, predominantly found on walls at the bus station, waiting areas and perspex bus shelters. Staining of pavements and walls and trade waste placed out for collection on pavement or areas on view were apparent in 4% of sites. Fly posting and Weeds were both present in 3% of transects surveyed.

The most common litter type observed was cigarette ends (83%). The majority of the litter recorded (89%) had been dropped by members of the public. The next most commonly found litter type was Drinks related litter, including plastic bottle, aluminium cans, paper cups for take out hot drinks and occasional broken glass from identifiable beverage bottles. This litter type was present in 33% of sites surveyed. This was followed by confectionery related litter, observed in 25% of sites surveyed. Business waste featured in 8% of sites surveyed. Of the 75 litter bins counted and observed, 7% were found to be overflowing.

# Recommendations

The recommendations below have been made according to the findings of the March 2009 survey of the Falkirk BID area by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

## **Street Sweeping and Litter patrols**

A number of areas contained a build up of smaller items of litter such as cigarette ends, drinks and confectionery litter (sweet wrappers, crisp packets etc). These findings indicate there is a need for more regular, targeted litter picking in order to deal with regular high volume litter areas and particular hot spots.

These findings would indicate that cleansing patterns would benefit from an additional manual or mechanical resource, as litter picking can often miss these smaller litter items and does not remove detritus which can, in turn, encourage weed growth if left over a period of time.

## **Smoking related litter**

Smoking related litter was the most prevalent litter type found within the BID area, with 83% of sites affected by this type of litter.

The smoking ban in public places may exacerbate the smoking related litter problem, and there are an unavoidable number of public houses and public waiting areas encompassed within the BID area. Due to the consistently high levels of smoking related litter dropped by pedestrians and other individuals in the BID area, it is recommended that a campaign is devised to encourage smokers to become more responsible about the way in which they dispose of smoking related litter – particularly cigarette butts and boxes. There proved to be a recurrent problem with cigarette butts in the series of raised beds dotted along its length. The convenient height of the beds and lack of suitable ashtray bins have resulted in smokers who frequent the area opting to drop their unwanted filters in these street furniture features. This is an unfortunate habit which has created an eyesore as well as degrading areas specifically introduced for “floral enhancement”. This could be counteracted by the implementation of alternatives for smokers to dispose of their unwanted cigarette “butts”. For example, encouraging the

use of personal ashtrays when formal disposable bins are not available, and ensure these are easily available to the public. This could be done through campaigns tailored to this purpose.

It is also important that consideration is given to appropriately placed and designed cigarette disposal bins and utilise campaign promotional materials (posters etc) to convey the message to smokers, along with encouraging businesses and other bodies to increase the provision of disposal facilities for both employees and customers.

Outwith the problem of smoking related litter there are opportunities for improvements to floral enhancement spaces in the BID area in line with business plan objective 2, a stand alone action objective in the *Clean and Attractive* section. Such improvements could in the longer term have potential involvement in the Beautiful Scotland competition.

### **Chewing gum**

Chewing gum was the most commonly found adverse environmental quality indicator found in the BID area (86%). Chewing gum which has adhered to hard surface areas is not assessed for the purpose of cleansing statistics however does have a significant visual impact on the public's perception of the cleanliness of a street. It is important that consideration is given for an additional resource for chewing gum removal/prevention in the BID area. This will reduce the visual impact of discarded chewing gum and will correspond to the Actions outlined in Objective 2 of the BID business plan, *Taking Pride in Falkirk* section, outlining Clean and Attractive objectives and resulting benefits. Facilitating a gum cleaning programme would benefit a sizeable proportion of businesses as indicated by this survey and work towards encouraging customer loyalty and civic pride.

Secondly encouraging the use of a personal gum pouch when formal chewing gum disposable bins are not available, and ensure these are easily available to the public.

## **Pavement damage**

Thirteen percent of sites in the BID area had pavements that were considered to be damaged or in need of replacement. Consideration should be given to replacing the poor surfaces or having an inspection regime once maintenance or utility work has been carried out. This will ensure the surface is maintained to an appropriate standard. Again this will correspond to the Actions outlined in Objective 2 of the BID business plan in a similar manner to the floral enhancement programme but on a more fundamental level. The overall aesthetic perception of a street area can be adversely affected by broken paving, not to mention the potential for injury to pedestrians. Significant clusters of broken and damaged paving slabs and block paving were observed during the survey, in particular, Newmarket Street, Manor Street, Vicar Street and High Street.

## **Litter Bins**

With regards to litter bins the condition and position was generally good, with the exception of a few, due to their location could benefit from additional consideration. For example, bins with ashtray provision near smoking hotspots as well as, larger volume bins or increased frequency of emptying for those with fast food vending or establishments nearby. In several instances during this survey, sites were observed where prevention of litter wind traps could drastically reduce recurrent litter hotspots, perhaps by partitioning off crevices and spaces behind low walls and outbuildings. Sites where wind traps and litter hotspots were observed include, Glebe Street, King's Court, Melrose Place, Meadow Street, Princes Street and Bank Street.

## **Graffiti**

Graffiti was recorded in 14% of sites in the BID area during the March 2009 survey. Incidences are not generally widespread and are focused in relatively few hotspots, such as Meadow Street Bus Station. However, where graffiti does occur it is highly visible and has a great impact on the public in their perception of the area. Protective coatings can be used in locations that are vulnerable to graffiti. Most authorities with a graffiti problem adopt a combination of deterrent, protective and removal methods. Due to the fact that neither deterrent nor protective materials or devices will entirely defeat determined graffiti artists, the main remedy is prompt removal. Similarly to chewing gum, relating to the BID's business plan *Objective 2*, a concentrated removal program would benefit a

sizeable proportion of businesses and work towards encouraging customer loyalty and civic pride.

### **Trade Waste Collection**

The percentage presence of trade waste placed for collection throughout the BID area was found to be reasonably low at 4%, however business waste was observed in 8% of sites overall, therefore there is room for improvement with regards to enforcement procedures involved in the containment and disposal of trade waste. The use of licensing powers and combined trade waste removal service may be suitable as well as revising the advice provided to business on storage and presentation of trade waste.

Consideration of the implementation of the Tidy Business Standards programme would be a useful tool to encourage local business, within the BID area, to improve their standard of waste management. For example this would stimulate trade waste agreements, improvement duty of care and potentially lead to awardees of the scheme initiating further projects and press coverage.

The Tidy Business Standards programme is promoted to small and medium sized businesses. The programme aims to encourage businesses to improve their standard of refuse management. It outlines best practice in the containment, storage and collection of waste as required by the Duty of Care regulations. In conjunction with this, businesses are encouraged to take more care of the area surrounding their shops, as well as look at viable opportunities to reduce the amount of waste they produce. Tidy Business Standards basically encourages businesses to comply with relevant environmental legislation through providing them with the correct information and giving them recognition for good practice. The scheme also provides ongoing advice on how they can improve their waste management practices.