

**APPENDIX 1: CURRENT & ENHANCED GRAFFITI REMOVAL POLICY:**

**1.0 Current Graffiti Policy:**

- 1.1 The Council will arrange for the removal of graffiti from Relevant Land. Graffiti clearance will be prioritised based on its severity and removed at a time agreed by the Council.
- 1.2 We will remove or obliterate for no charge, graffiti (up to 1 sq m) from external residential surfaces where the graffiti is visible from the street or other public space, is no higher than 2 m from the ground, and is accessible without specialist equipment. We will aim to respond to new reports of graffiti within 5 working days.
- 1.3 We will remove or obliterate graffiti from Small Businesses for a charge to cover just the cost of materials, and any special access required.
- 1.4 We will remove or obliterate graffiti from Housing Association accommodation for a charge to cover just the cost of materials, and any specialist lifting, or access equipment required.
- 1.5 We will work with large companies and organisations, and Duty bodies (Statutory Undertakers - mainly Utility companies, transport undertakings such as Network Rail, and defined educational establishments such as Schools and Colleges), as appropriate to remove and/or prevent graffiti, for a charge.
- 1.6 Whether we select removal or obliteration will depend on the type of surface that the graffiti is on:
  - For brick, stonework, metal and glass, we will use appropriate chemicals and/or washing with water (including hot water under pressure) to remove the graffiti.
  - For painted surfaces, we will use the closest match from one of a small range of standard paint colours to obliterate the graffiti. This will not include covering the entire surface.
  - For wooden fences, we will use one of a small number of standard paint colours to cover the graffiti, on the panels affected only.
- 1.7 Limits. Circumstances when the council will not remove graffiti:
  - Remove graffiti that is etched or inscribed into any surface;
  - Remove graffiti for no charge where it is inaccessible from the ground.
  - Remove graffiti for no charge where it is not visible from the street or a public place;
  - Remove graffiti where access is prohibited (e.g. railway trackside) or we cannot get consent to cross private land.
  - Match colours of paint surfaces (although we will offer a choice from the standard sets we employ);

- Remove for no charge graffiti where there are multiple repeat attacks, and the victim doesn't agree to preventative treatment (we will work with victims to come up with solutions);
- Provide for no charge any specialist protective treatment for surfaces suffering from repeat attacks (although we will work with victims to come up with solutions).
- Normally remove graffiti without receiving an indemnity from the owner (or occupier).

2. **Enhanced Graffiti Removal Policy (short term)**

- 2.1 It is proposed that the £75,000 CIL allocation will be used, but not limited to the following:
- 2.2 Carry out the enhanced graffiti removal from the sites listed in Appendix 2 that would not normally be included within the free removal policy.
- 2.3 It is proposed to double the size of the free removal service from the current 1 m<sup>2</sup> to 2 m<sup>2</sup> for a maximum of 502 occasions or 2 years.
- 2.4 Additional sites can be added with the cost being subtracted from the 502 free 2m<sup>2</sup> tags allocation).