



# Conwy County Borough Council

How Clean Are Your Streets?  
2017-18

Local Environmental Audit and Management System (LEAMS) Report



cadwch keep  
gymru'n wales  
daclus tidy



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## Introduction

The Keep Wales Tidy LEAMS survey for 2017-18 was undertaken on the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2017. As with last year the survey comprises of a single 6% survey sample. Details of the methodology can be seen on our website:

<https://www.keepwalestidy.cymru/surveys>

This report only contains data from the surveys undertaken by Keep Wales Tidy. It is not a report on the street scene indicator – highways (reference STS/005b) under the Environment and Transport – Street Scene Service/Policy area. The Street Scene Performance Indicator (PI) of highways was introduced by the Welsh Government (WG) in February 2007. The PI for 2017-18 will be calculated from the six bi-monthly 2% surveys undertaken by Conwy County Borough Council and the results of this 6% survey, undertaken by Keep Wales Tidy. All surveys use the same LEAMS methodology.

Further information on Keep Wales Tidy projects, programmes and policy can be found on our website: [www.keepwalestidy.cymru](http://www.keepwalestidy.cymru)

## Key Findings

- The current Cleanliness Indicator for Conwy is 72.2, the highest figure recorded for the county since 2008-09. Over 30% of streets were awarded A or B+ grades.
- Smoking-related litter was recorded on less than 70% of streets in Conwy for the first time.
- 97% of streets were graded B or above, which is above the current all Wales figure but below Conwy's figure from last year.
- Business litter, which consists primarily of Post Office bands and cable ties, was recorded on 23.3% of streets, a record level for Conwy.

## Part 1: Summary of Results

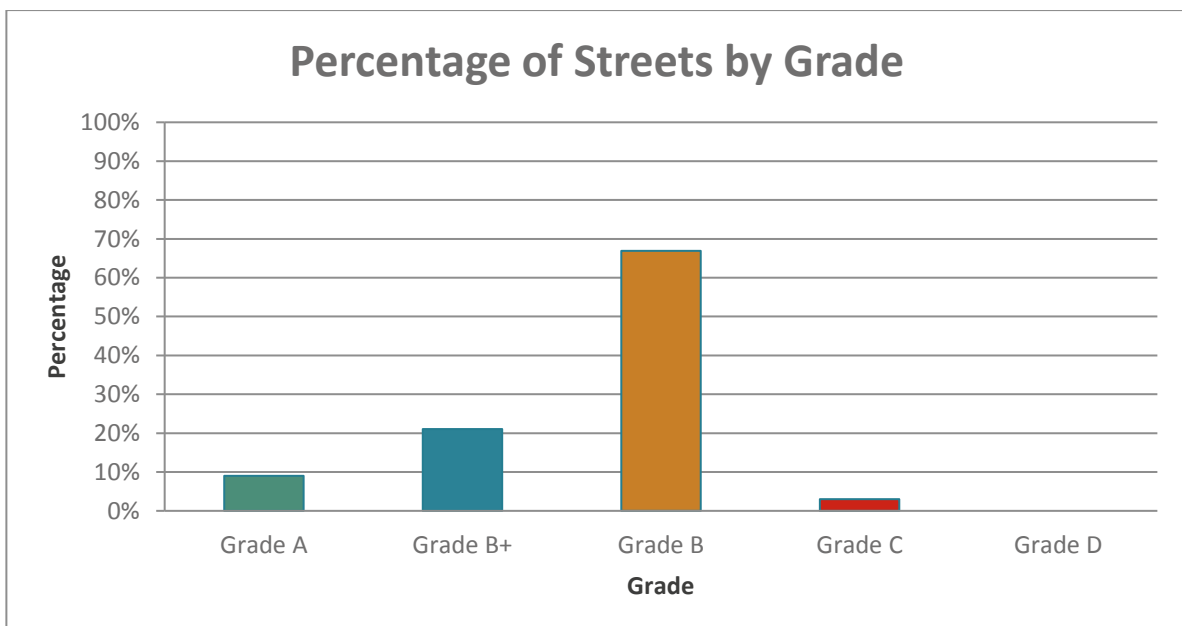
The Cleanliness Indicator (CI) achieved by Conwy from the survey is **72.2**. This is above both the CI of 69.3 recorded across Wales in 2016-17, and the CI of 71.4 recorded for Conwy in the corresponding survey last year. Of the 133 streets visited during this survey, **97%** were grade B or above. This is above the current all Wales figure of 95.5%, but below Conwy's figure of 97.7% recorded in 2016-17.

The following table and figure show the number and percentage of streets achieving each grade during this survey.

Table 1: Number and Distribution of Grades

Grade	Grade A	Grade B+	Grade B	Grade C	Grade D
Count of Streets	12	28	89	4	0
Percentage of Streets	9.0%	21.1%	66.9%	3.0%	0.0%

Figure 1: Distribution of Grades Achieved



The B grade is the most common grade awarded. This is followed by the B+ grade recorded on 21.1% of streets and the A grade recorded on 9% of streets. The C grade accounted of 3% of streets while no D grades were observed.

Conwy achieved the following scores in each of the zones in the survey (see also Figure 2).

Zone 1: **69.0**

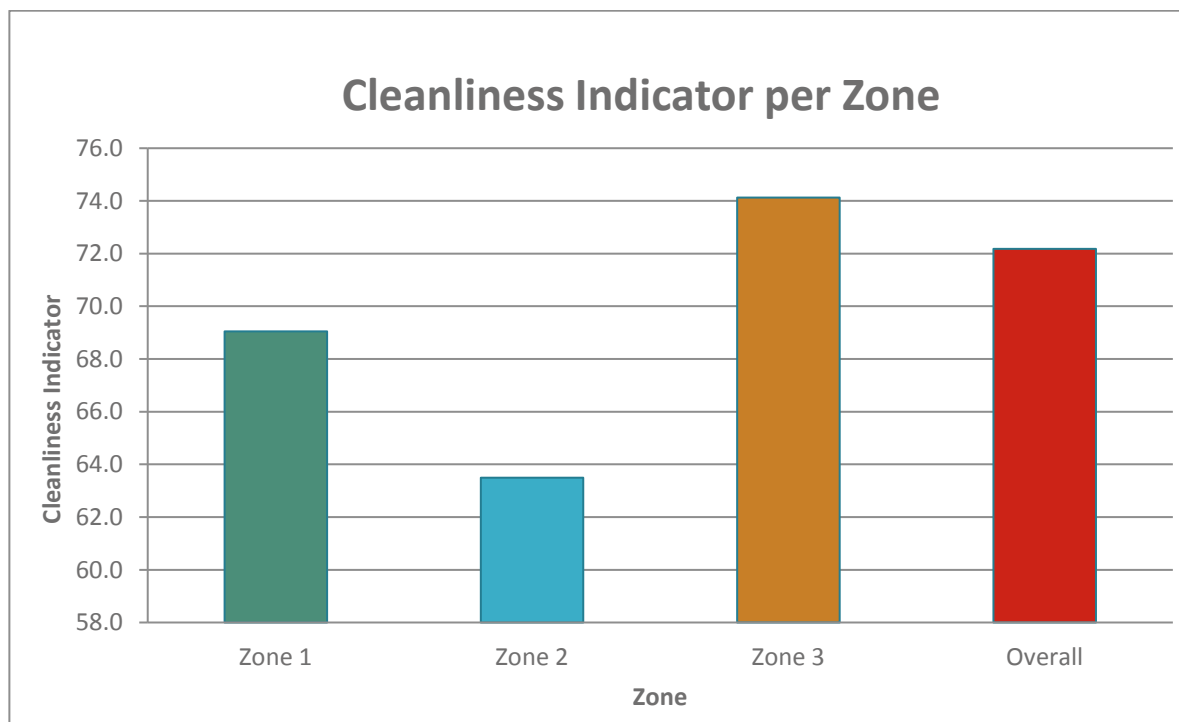
Zone 2: **63.5**

Zone 3: **74.1**

The CI for zones 1 and 3 are above the corresponding scores at an all Wales level, while Zone 2 is below the All Wales average.

The average scores by zone, across Wales for 2016-17 were: Zone 1 – 66.1, Zone 2 - 65.9 and Zone 3 - 71.6.

Figure 2: Cleanliness Indicator by Zone



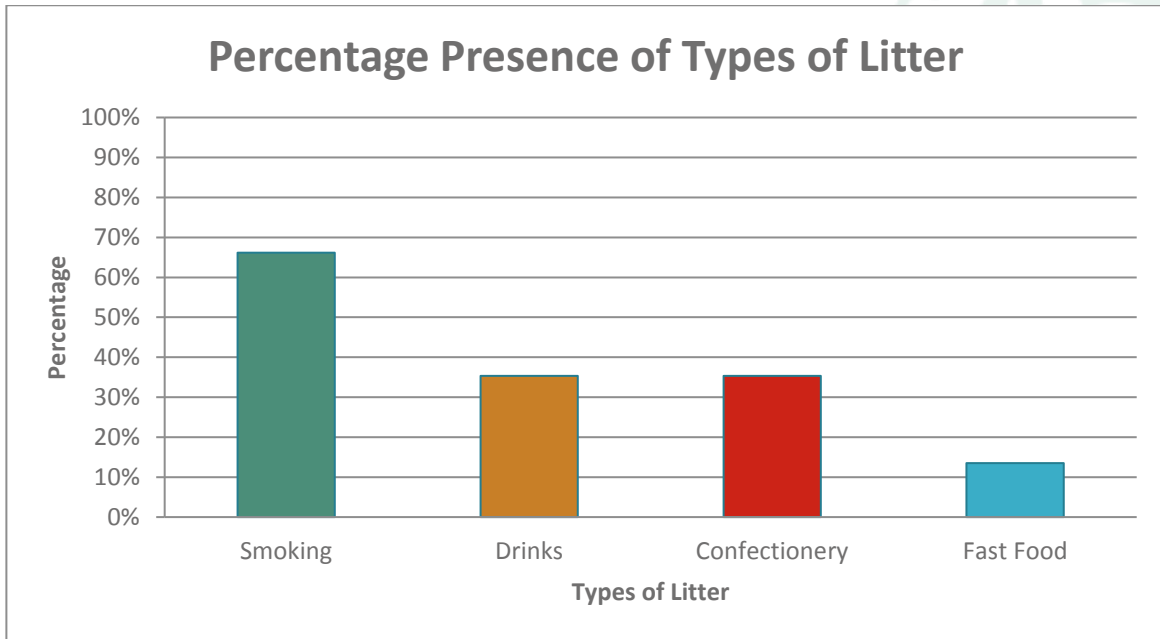
Each zone contained primarily B grades but Zone 3 has the highest CI as the zone had all the survey's 12 A grade streets as well as 25 of the survey's 28 B+ grades but also 1 C grade street. Zone 1 had the second highest CI as it was a small sample which contained 1 B+ grade. Zone 2 scored lowest. Although it had 2 B+ grades, it also contained 3 C grade streets.

Keep Wales Tidy continues to record streets by intensity of use zones, following the guidance as set out in the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse and Associated Guidance 2007 (COPLAR). The CI figures by intensity of use for Conwy are as follows:

High: **65.6**                  Medium: **71.2**                  Low: **90.9**

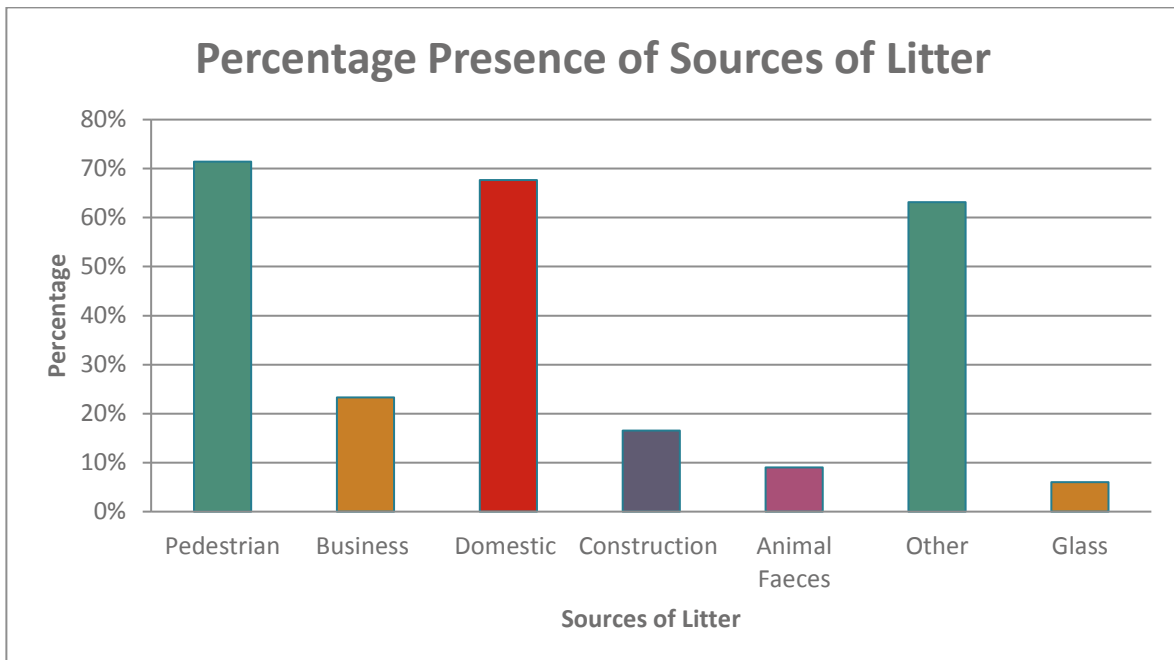
Figures 3, 4 and 5 below summarise the types and sources of litter as well as the Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs) found on the streets of Conwy.

Figure 3: Types of Litter



The most common litter issue facing Conwy is the presence of smoking-related litter (predominantly cigarette ends). This litter was encountered on 66.2% of the streets surveyed. Confectionery and drinks litter were both found on 35.3%, while fast food litter was recorded on 13.5% of streets.

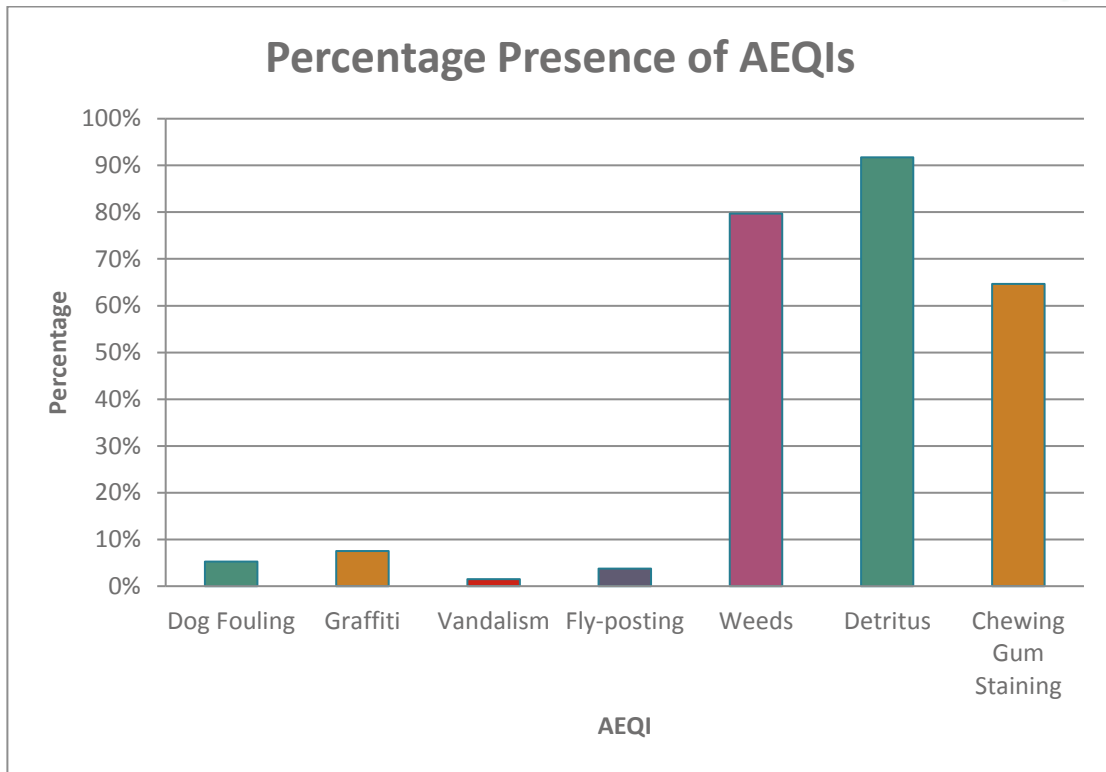
Figure 4: Sources of Litter



As you would expect, litter from a pedestrian source was the most prevalent litter source, found on 71.4% of streets. Domestic and other (unidentifiable) sources were also widespread, found on 67.7% and 63.2% of streets, respectively. Business, construction and glass were present as follows: 23.3%,

16.5% and 6%. Animal faeces was recorded on 9% of streets. Over half of this was dog fouling, but 5 streets contained sheep dung, manure or other farm animal faeces.

Figure 5: Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs)



Detritus is the most prevalent of the AEQIs recorded in Conwy, recorded on 91.7% of streets, followed by weeds and chewing gum staining, observed on 79.7% and 64.7% of streets, respectively. Graffiti, fly-posting and vandalism were present as follows: 7.5%, 3.8% and 1.5%. Dog fouling was seen on 5.3% of streets.

Figure 6: Severity of Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators

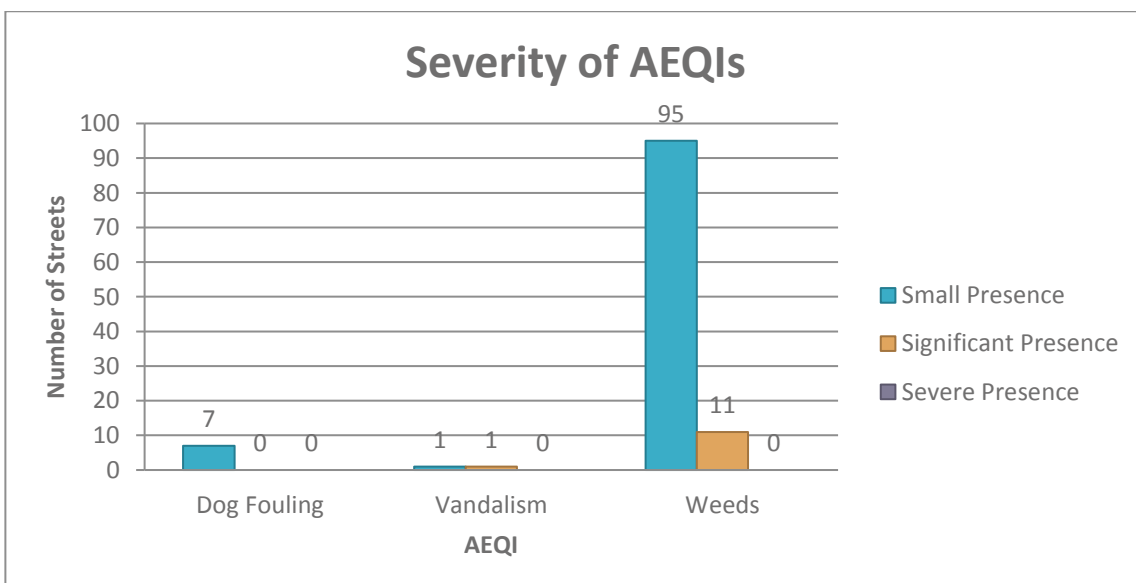


Figure 6, above, shows that of the 7 streets where dog fouling was present, a ‘small presence’ was recorded on each street. Any presence of dog fouling is regrettable, as it means that the street in question can score no higher than a B grade.

Most instances of weeds were small in presence, however there was a significant presence on 11 streets. Vandalism was recorded on 2 streets, both of which were cigarette burns on bus stops. One instance was a small presence, while there was significant presence on Old Mill Road in Dwygyfylchi, Penmaenmawr.

Figure 7: Percentage Presence of Grades for Detritus, Graffiti, Fly-posting and Chewing Gum

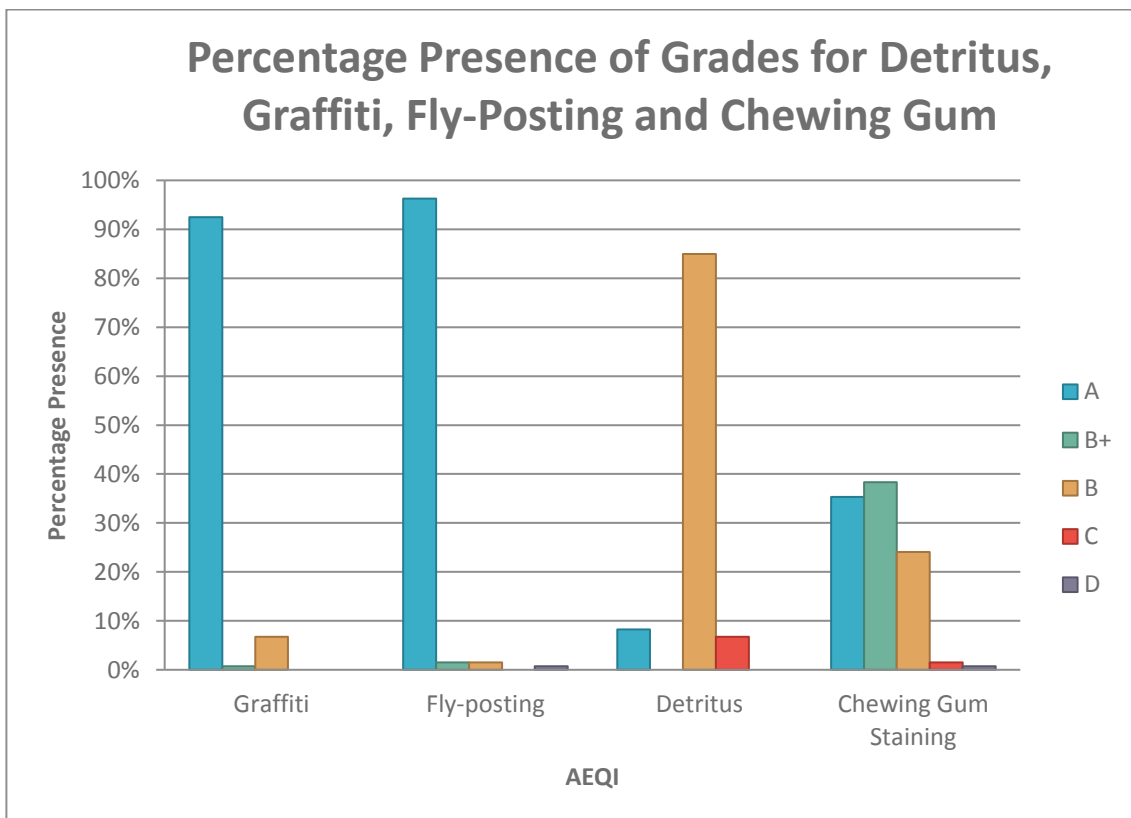


Figure 7 shows that on most streets where detritus was present, it was a B grade, which relates to being ‘predominantly free’ in COPLAR. A small number of streets (6.8%) recorded widespread detritus (C grade). All instances of graffiti recorded during this survey were minor or very minor in extent. Most instances of fly-posting were also minor or very minor, however, it was extensive on 1 street (Madoc Street, Llandudno).

Where chewing gum staining was recorded, it was mainly only a small amount. However, 2 streets (1.5%) had an accumulation of gum and were therefore awarded C grades, while the issue was extensive (D grade) on 1 street (Ffordd Las, Llandudno).

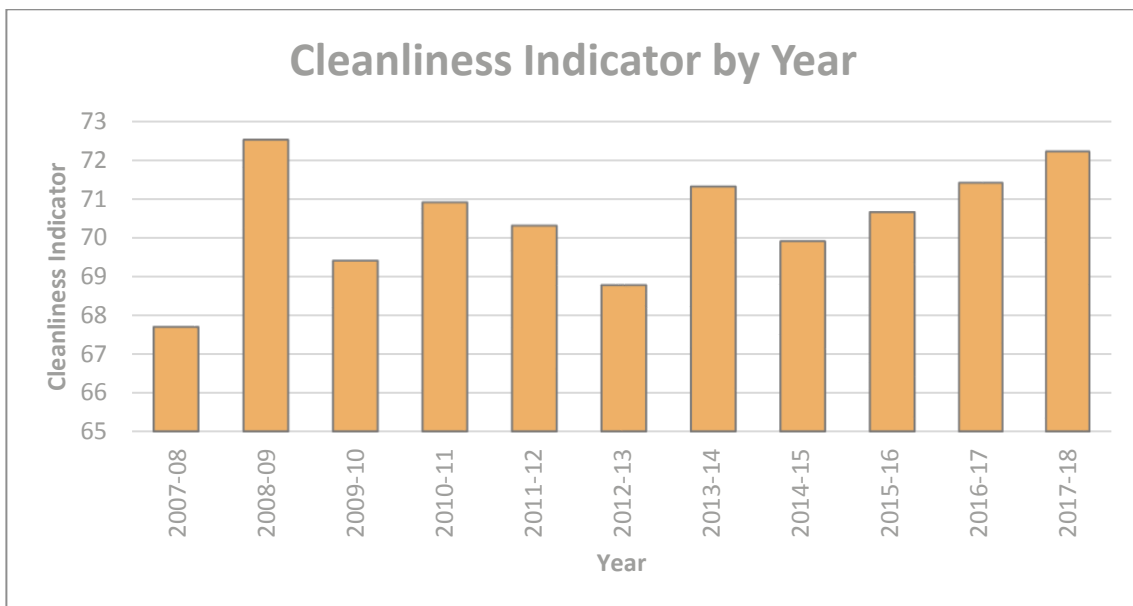


## Part 2: Comparisons

This survey is the 11<sup>th</sup> survey to have taken place in Conwy. The comparison section will look at the trends for the CI, percentage of streets awarded a B grade and above, all types and sources of litter as well as AEQIs since the first survey was undertaken in 2007-08.

We hope that trends and issues shown in this section will be noted and responded to by the local authority. Figure 8 shows how the CI has changed in the last 11 years.

Figure 8: Cleanliness Indicator by Year



It is pleasing to see that Conwy's CI has increased year-on-year for the past 3 years. The current figure is the second highest figure recorded, just behind the 2008-09 peak.

Figure 9: Comparison of CI by Zone and Year

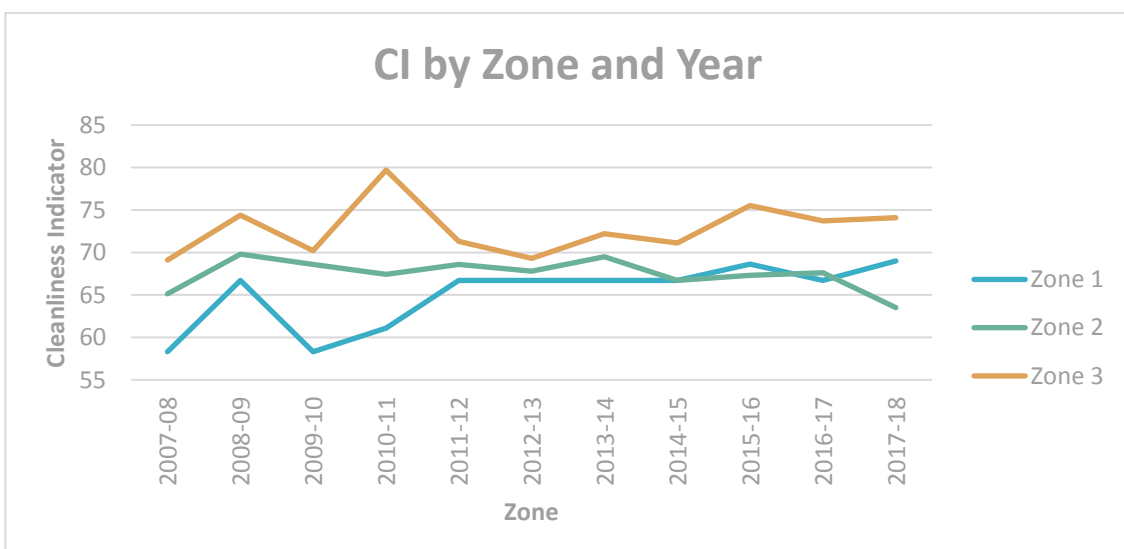
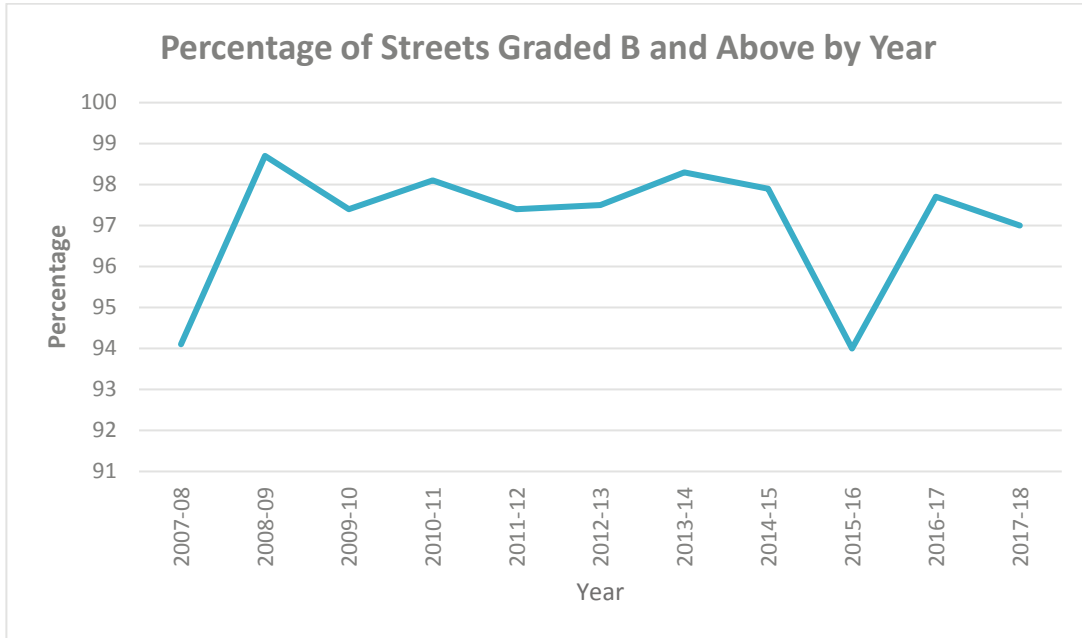


Figure 9 looks at the CI trends by zone since the first survey in 2007-08. Zone 3 has consistently outperformed the other zones and its CI has increased slightly this year. The CI of Zone 1 has also increased this year and is currently at its highest level yet. Unfortunately, the CI of Zone 2 has decreased this year and is currently at its lowest level recorded to date.

Figure 10 Percentage of Streets Awarded a B Grade and Above by Year



Streets achieving B grades and above are considered to have an acceptable level of cleanliness. It is pleasing to see that with the exception of the baseline year and 2015-16, at least 97% of streets have graded B and above each year.

Figure 11: Comparison of Grades by Year

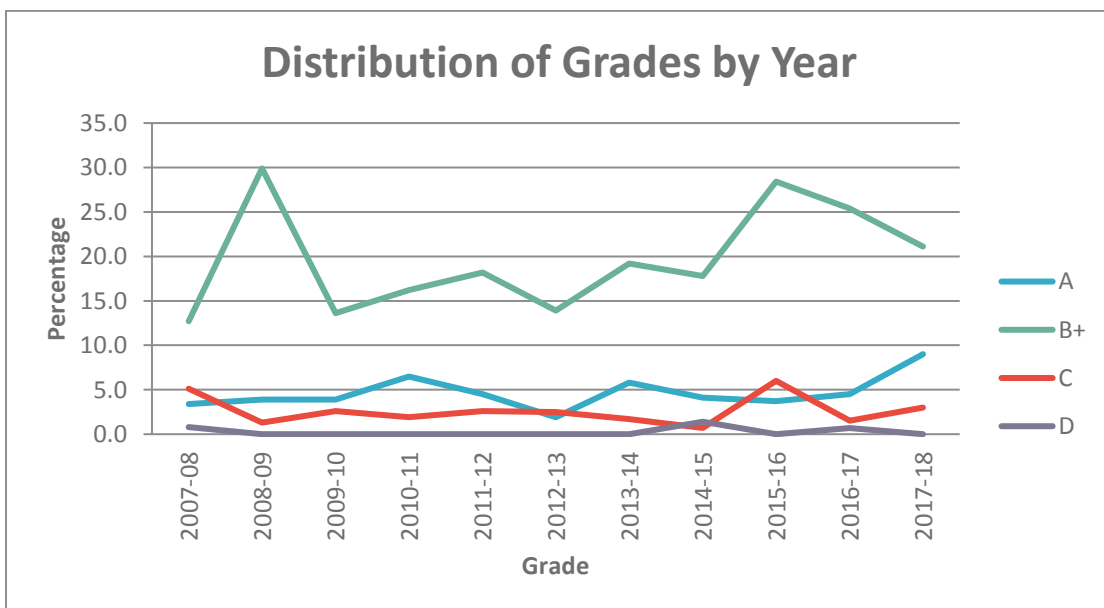


Figure 11 looks at the distribution of A, B+, C and D grade streets by year. B grades have consistently formed the highest proportion of grades awarded each year and have therefore been omitted from this graph. Since surveys began, B+ grades have been the most common of these 4 grades, and after seeing an overall increase between 2009-10 and 2015-16, the level has since declined. The presence of A grades has increased this year and at 9% is currently at its highest level since surveys began. The percentage of C grade streets has also increased this year, although it remains lower than that seen during the baseline survey. Like most survey years, no D grade streets have been recorded in Conwy this year.

Figure 12: Comparison of Litter Types by Year

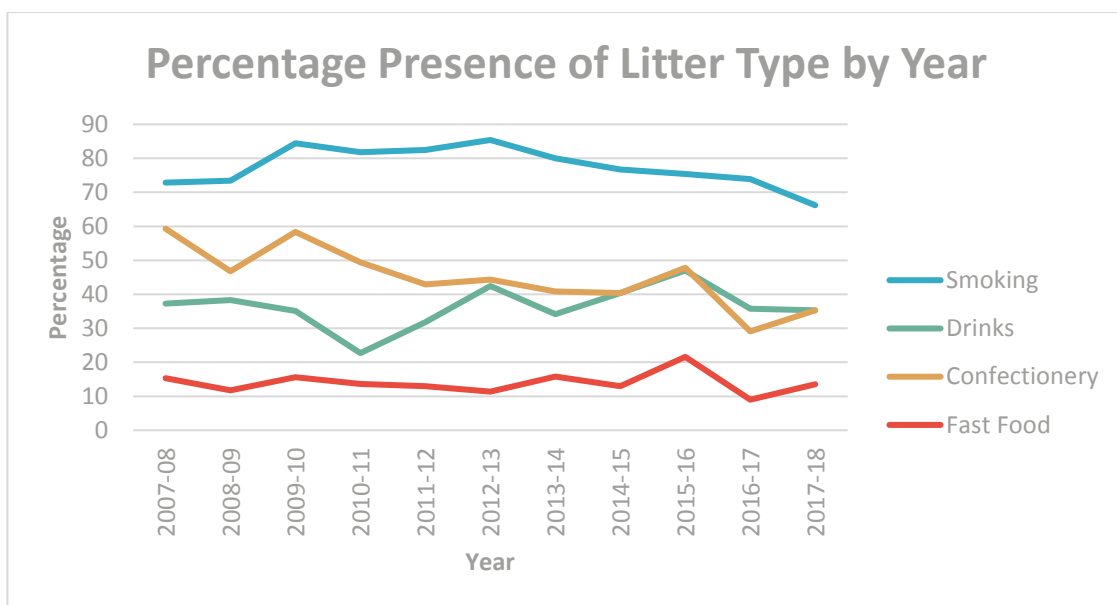
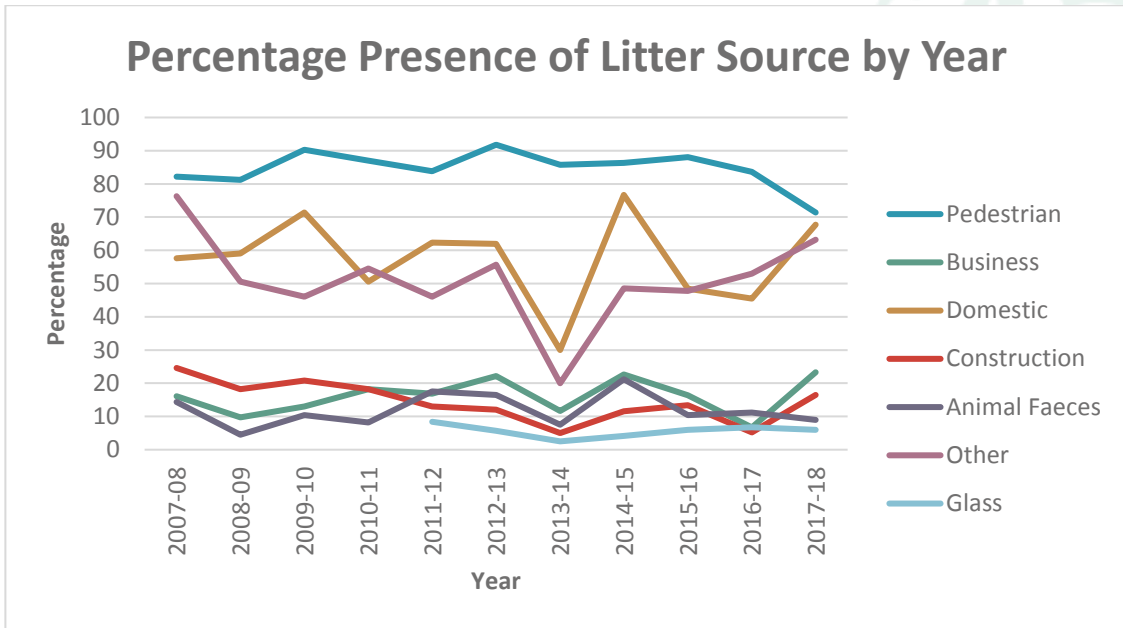


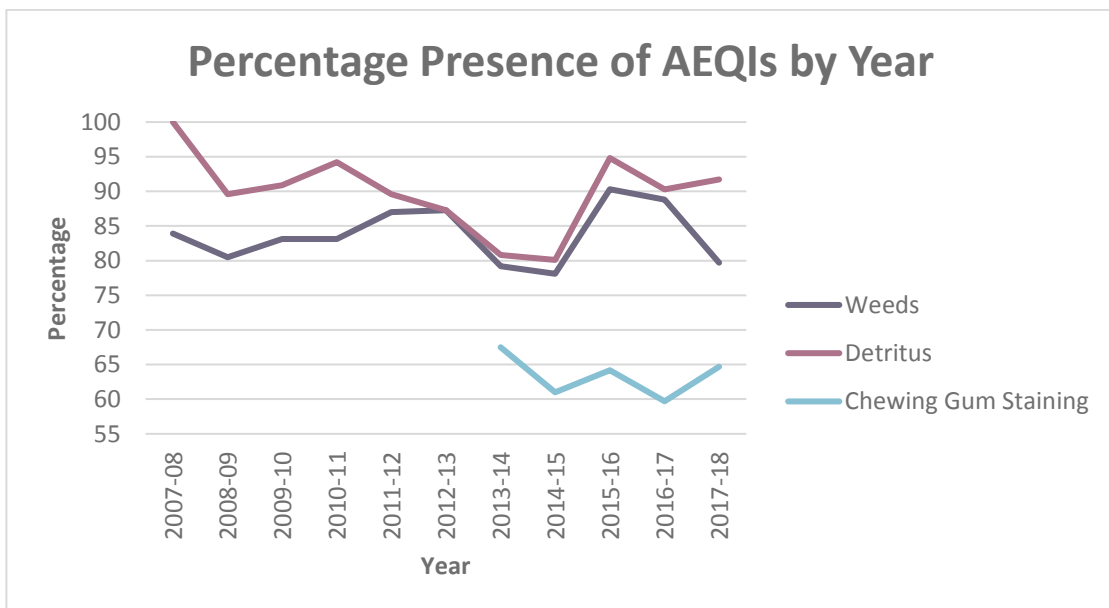
Figure 12 looks at the types of litter recorded in Conwy since 2007-08. Smoking-related litter has remained the most prevalent of all litter types across the years, but has seen a year-on-year decrease since its 2012-13 peak, dipping below 70% for the first time this year. Both confectionery and drinks litter have fluctuated over the years, however both are currently lower than their baseline figures. With the exception of a small peak in 2015-16, fast food litter has seen relatively little change since 2007-08.

Figure 13: Comparison of Litter Sources by Year



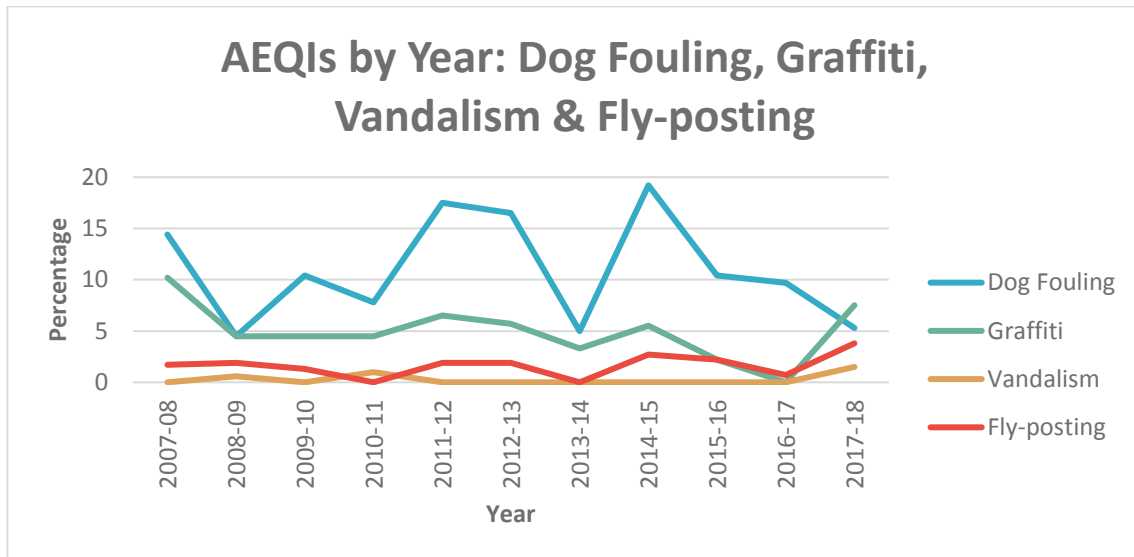
As you would expect, pedestrian litter has consistently remained the most prevalent of all litter sources, although it has dropped to 71.4% this year, the lowest figure recorded to date. Both domestic and other litter have seen significant fluctuations since the baseline survey, and both have seen increases this year, particularly domestic litter. Business and construction litter have also increased this year, with business (which primarily consists of Post Office bands and cable ties) currently at an all time high. On the other hand, animal faeces has decreased slightly this year and glass, yet to rise above 10%, has remained at a similar level to that recorded last year.

Figures 14: Comparison of AEQIs by Year: Weeds, Detritus, Chewing Gum Staining



Figures 14 and 15 look at the AEQIs across the county. The level of detritus and weeds have followed a similar pattern for much of the 11 years. While both are currently at lower levels than that seen during the baseline survey, this year detritus has seen a slight increase, with weeds seeing a significant decrease. Chewing gum staining has increased this year, although it also remains below its baseline (in 2013-14).

Figure 15: AEQIs by Year: Dog Fouling, Graffiti, Vandalism and Fly-posting



It is pleasing to see that dog fouling has continued to decrease this year, currently at its lowest level since 2013-14. Graffiti, on the other hand has increased this year to its second highest level. Both vandalism and fly-posting have also increased this year. Although both issues have remained under 5% since surveys began, they are currently at their highest levels recorded to date.

Keep Wales Tidy is always keen to hear of initiatives you are running locally to improve LEQ. If you have any good practice examples from Conwy, then please send them to [leq@keepwalestidy.cymru](mailto:leq@keepwalestidy.cymru).



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