

Report of the Bradford East Area Co-ordinator to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on Wednesday 7 December 2022

I

Subject:

Street Cleansing Services in the Bradford East Area

Summary statement:

This report recommends minor operational changes to the Street Cleansing Service in the Bradford East Area and shows trends of the numbers of fly tipping and cleansing cases reported to the Council.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

No specific equality and diversity issues. Decisions will need to be made in line with Equal Rights legislation. This will require Area Committees to assess the potential equality impact of any decisions they make.

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Portfolio:
Neighbourhoods and Community Safety

Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Corporate

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report recommends minor operational changes to the Street Cleansing Service in the Bradford East Area and shows trends of the numbers of fly tipping and cleansing cases reported to the Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Presently the Area has 7 ward-based clean teams that work in individual wards. After cleaning the Area's gateway routes, each clean team will move on to one of the weekly routes that ensure each street within the ward will be attended to once a week.
- 2.3 A form of prescriptive working is carried out already in some wards in the Bradford East Area. However, this will be further developed and refined with a view to all teams delivering prescriptive working with effect from April 2023. With prescriptive working, there is greater transparency around what is expected of staff and this increased understanding by staff and managers has the following advantages:
- A prescribed day of working allows programmed days of action for residents to move cars to allow more effective litter clearance, mechanical sweeping and gully cleaning;
 - More effective mechanism to performance manage teams in terms of all work undertaken;
 - More efficient use of resources targeting areas of need, eliminating down time in terms of reacting to complaints travelling from one end of a ward to another and
 - It also gives the public a clear understanding as to how often and when their area or street will be cleaned.
- 2.4 Additional staff joined the team responsible for emptying bins in the parks this year in Bradford East and this has resulted in a reduction in complaints about overflowing bins. Clean team operatives also empty roadside park bins in their wards.
- 2.5 Cleansing staff continue to support days of action, sometimes by working alongside local residents but mostly by removing the waste collected by residents.
- 2.6 The vital role provided by local residents and businesses in helping to remove waste and litter continues in the Bradford East Area. Whilst some litter picks are organised and undertaken on an adhoc basis, other groups regularly litter pick their neighbourhoods. Cleansing staff collect the bags of litter and large items.
- 2.7 The operational element of the Task Force has been receiving referrals from area teams to tackle longstanding environmental problems affecting neighbourhoods such as overgrown vegetation, weeds, detritus, fly tipping and litter.

The funding has allowed the service to undertake a wide range of work on 500 referrals to date across the 5 constituencies. The works have included supporting existing service provision but has also allowed for attention to detail work to be carried out that has not been possible within existing Street Cleansing and Parks Teams. This additionality has provided an opportunity to reclaim unused green spaces such as snickets and footpaths and has allowed work on neglected areas such as Council land, particularly around Council

buildings.

Works have been completed across all Wards within Bradford East. Some examples of these works are detailed below:

Bradford Moor

Napier Road, an un-adopted back street, had been inaccessible for a number of years due to the overgrowth of weeds and vegetation, as well as litter and waste which had built up over time. In August 2022 the Task Force cut back and removed all the waste, as well as litter picking the area. Although the Council is not responsible for clearing these streets, litter starts to blow onto Council highways which causes additional work for cleansing teams.

Residents said that they could not remember the last time they were able to walk down the back street and were delighted with the results. The completed work has given the residents at this location a fresh start and shown them how keeping up to this will make their quality of life within the neighbourhood significantly better.

Bowling and Barkerend

The Task Force played a significant role when working in partnership with Street Cleansing, Highways and Parks to improve the appearance of the Beech Grove area during the summer months of 2022. Work included the removal of waste and litter in the raised planters, cutting back overgrowth from land encroaching on the pavement at Beech Grove and removing fly tipped waste on Hinchliffe Street and land near Moor View Drive.

This collaborative work enabled a high standard of work to be undertaken, focusing on attention to detail work. The dramatic change to the area could be clearly seen and gave the area an instant uplift.

Bolton and Undercliffe

During September 2022, the Task Force was deployed to tackle the overgrowing weeds, shrubs and overhanging bushes at the snicket leading from Kings Road to Plumpton Close and Mirfield Avenue. Concerns were raised by local residents and members of public who were struggling to use the snicket and stated that they felt unsafe. The snicket was extremely overgrown and required a huge cut back. It was made much safer for users as the area was no longer out of view, but an open usable space.

Little Horton

In Little Horton the public footpath leading from Halcyon Way to Pennington Terrace was heavily littered and was attracting fly tipping. The Task Force cleared all fly tipped items, litter and detritus giving it a fresh look.

The efforts made to improving this footpath have played a role in setting the standard of cleanliness expected. Since the clean-up there have been no reports of fly tipping at this location which would suggest that this additional support and work has helped to change the behaviour of people.

Eccleshill

In Ravenscliffe Avenue a snicket was heavily overgrown with weeds and litter, practically impossible to walk through. The entire length of the snicket was gutted removing all the overgrowth and litter. Residents nearby were stunned by the transformation and commented on the difference it had made. Future maintenance of this snicket is more manageable following the removal of all the vegetation and obstructions.

Idle and Thackley

At Idle Recreation Ground a pathway that runs between the grounds and Woodlands Nursery was visited by the Task Force. The passageway was becoming too difficult to use by the public as it was blocked by vegetation and shrubbery. Following action from the Task Force, the snicket is in use again. The opening up of the area has created a clear, accessible and safe route for use by all, including the users and services who need to access the site.

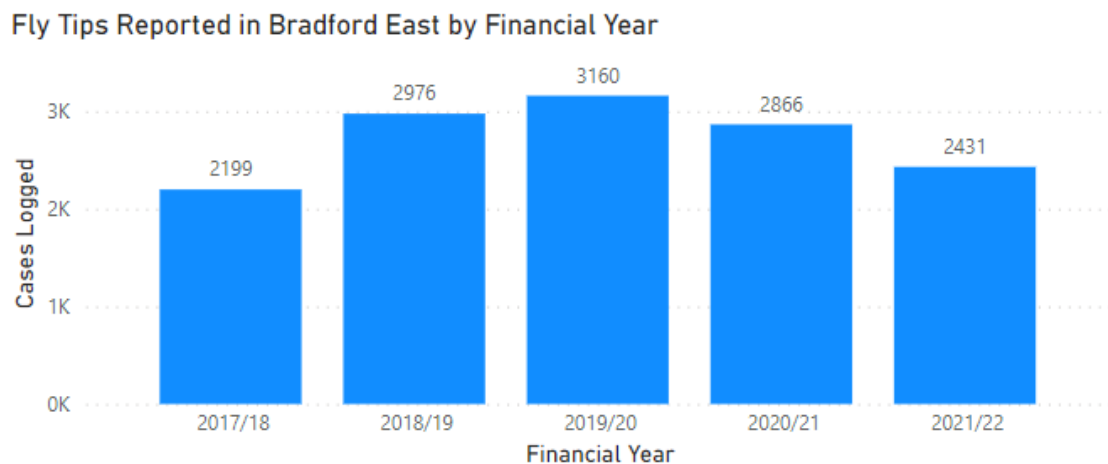
Although existing cleansing and parks teams do undertake some of this work this is not the focus of their daily roles. The ongoing work is extremely visually impactful and has tackled some larger scale jobs that would not have been possible without intervention from the Task Force.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive as the resource has allowed time to be spent making a real difference. The Task Force will end on 30th June 2023.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

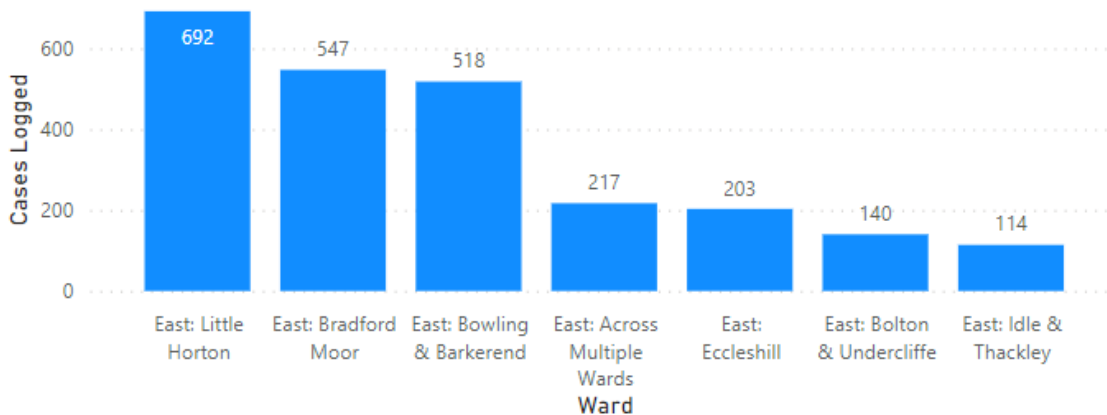
3.1 Service requests

The number of fly tips reported to the Council for Bradford East for each of the last 5 full financial years is displayed below



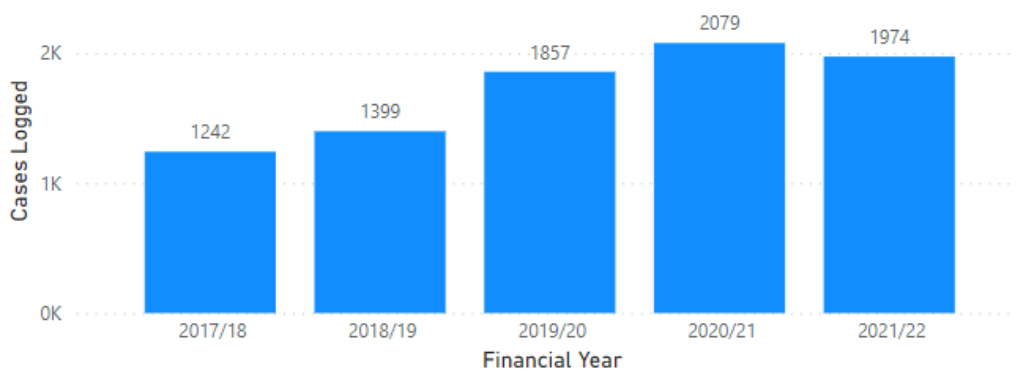
The chart below shows the ward-breakdown for reported fly tips in the 2021/22 financial year

Fly Tips Reported in Bradford East by Ward 2021/22



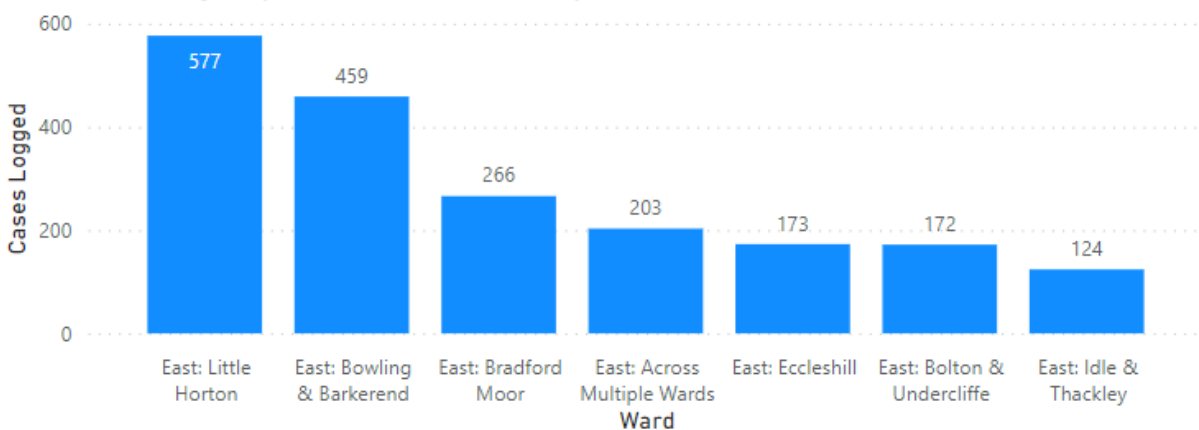
The number of street cleansing requests made to the Council for Bradford East for each of the last 5 full financial years is displayed below

Street Cleansing Requests in Bradford East by Financial Year



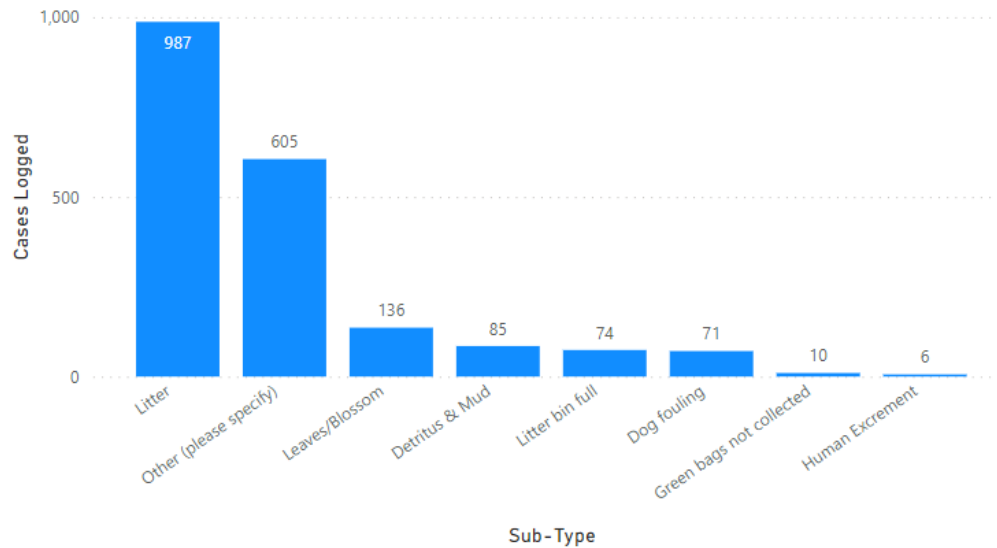
The chart below shows the ward-breakdown for street cleansing requests in the 2021/22 financial year

Street Cleansing Requests in Bradford East by Ward 2021/22



Street cleansing requests are broken down in to the most common sub-types as displayed below

Street Cleansing Requests in Bradford East by Sub-Type 2021/22



To provide some perspective on the annual totals by ward, the number of reports made for Street Cleansing and Fly Tipping per week by ward is shown in the table below.

Public reports per week per Ward			
Ward	Street Cleansing Requests	Fly Tips Reported	Total
Across Ward Boundaries	4	4	8
Bolton & Undercliffe	3	3	6
Bowling & Barkerend	9	10	19
Bradford Moor	5	11	16
Eccleshill	3	4	7
Idle & Thackley	2	2	5
Little Horton	11	13	24

See Appendix 1 for a more detailed ward-breakdown of all the data contained in the previous charts.

3.3 Resources

Bradford MDC operate a devolved street cleansing service, and resources are distributed across the five Areas based on a combination of road length, historical experience and littering levels. The table below shows how many clean-team hours are spent per week per kilometre of adopted highway by Area.

Area	Hours	Kms	Hrs p/linear km p/week
West	867.5	305.5	2.8

East	833.5	341.5	2.4
South	752.5	348.7	2.2
Shipley	631.5	413.5	1.5
Keighley	711.0	483.5	1.5

Each Area then decides how best to allocate its available resources across its 6 constituent wards. The table below shows how many clean-team hours are spent per week per kilometre of adopted highway by ward.

Ward	Population	Adopted Meters	Staff hrs p/wk	Hrs p/linear km p/week
Bradford Moor	21,358	44,185	171	3.9
Little Horton	23,338	57,053	185.5	3.3
Bowling & Barkerend	22,379	82,023	208	2.5
Bolton & Undercliffe	17,122	53,989	111	2.1
Eccleshill	19,602	51,901	79	1.5
Idle & Thackley	16,846	52,356	79	1.5

3.4 Combatting Fly Tipping

Fly tipping is an important ongoing issue being addressed by DEFRA, House of Commons Committees, Local Authorities, trade-groups and relevant charities and NGOs.

The Council is a participating member of APSE and Keep Britain Tidy as well as other benchmarking groups where local authorities can share best practice and discuss potential solutions. Where ideas or techniques are discovered we endeavour to trial or adopt them within the district with the aim of finding any practical solutions to reducing the level of fly tipping.

Each year in late November / early December, DEFRA publish an annual report and data for the entire country which allows some understanding of where Bradford as a district sit in relation to all other local authorities. This report is important as with issues such as fly tipping where there is no clear solution, the perspective gained from shared data allows the Council to identify any authorities that have similar levels of deprivation that have shown improvement in their levels of fly tipping and offer potential successful insights in the fight against the problem.

A combined report by Street Cleansing and Environmental Enforcement is taken to a Scrutiny Committee each year to keep the Council up to date on the problem of fly tipping and how the Council attempts to address it.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Resources are allocated to an Area from base budget by levels of litter, numbers of service requests and experience of the cleansing and parks manager and other officers within the service. Ward allocation is devolved to each Area Coordinator and Parks and Cleansing Manager.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

5.1 None specific.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

6.1 None

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1.1 Local teams have the potential to create more sustainable solutions to local issues.

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

7.2.1 No specific issues

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

7.3.1 No specific issues

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

7.4.1 There are no Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

7.5 TRADE UNION

7.5.1 Trade unions are regularly consulted at levels 1, 2 and 3 with regards to Street Cleansing operations and staffing issues.

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

7.6.1 The information in this report is relevant to all Wards in Bradford East

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

7.7.1 None

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

7.8.1 None specific

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

7.9.1 None

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 There are no not for publication documents.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 None

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 **That the Bradford East Area Committee note the report.**

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Bradford East Street Cleansing and Fly Tipping Cases reported to the contact centre.

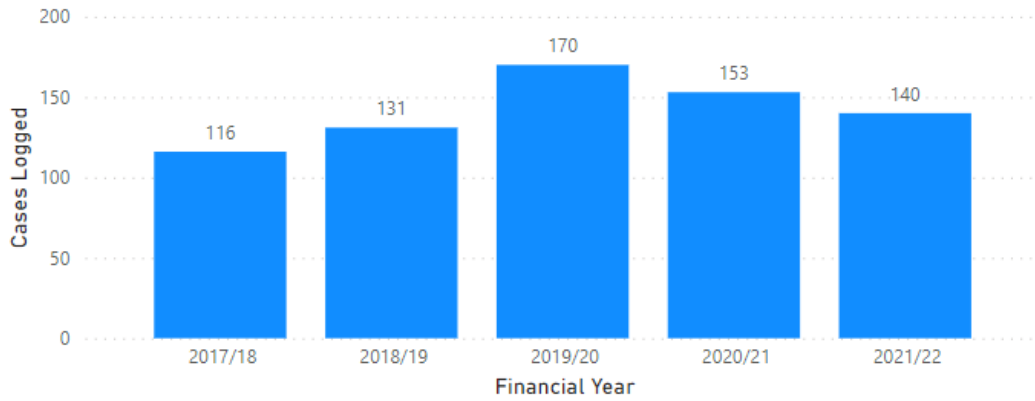
12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 Street Cleansing – Bradford East Area Committee 24th February 2022.

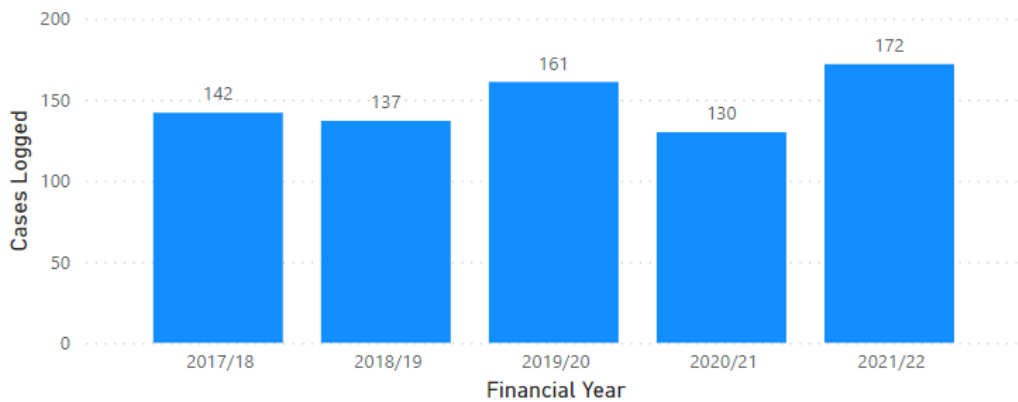
Appendix 1

Bolton & Undercliffe

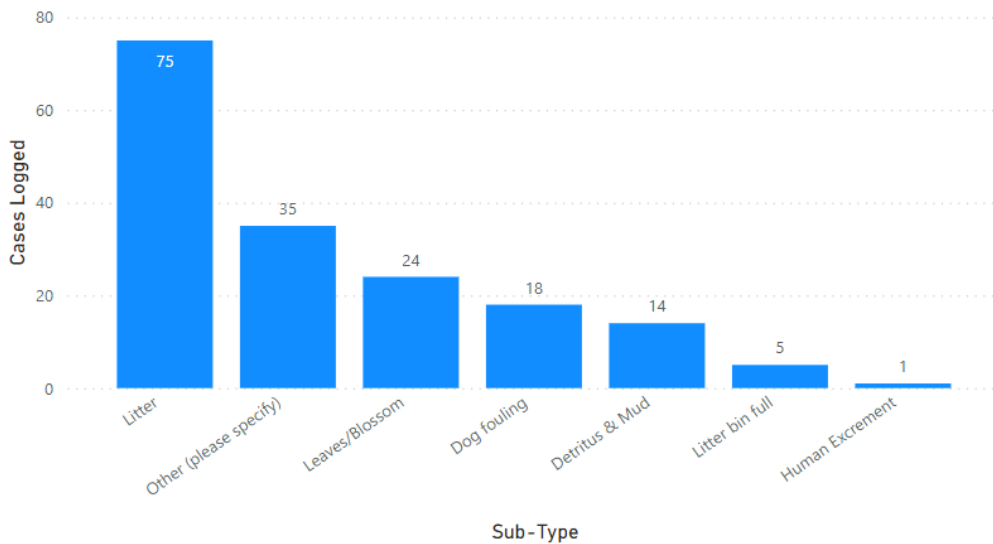
Fly Tips Reported in Bolton & Undercliffe by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests in Bolton & Undercliffe by Financial Year

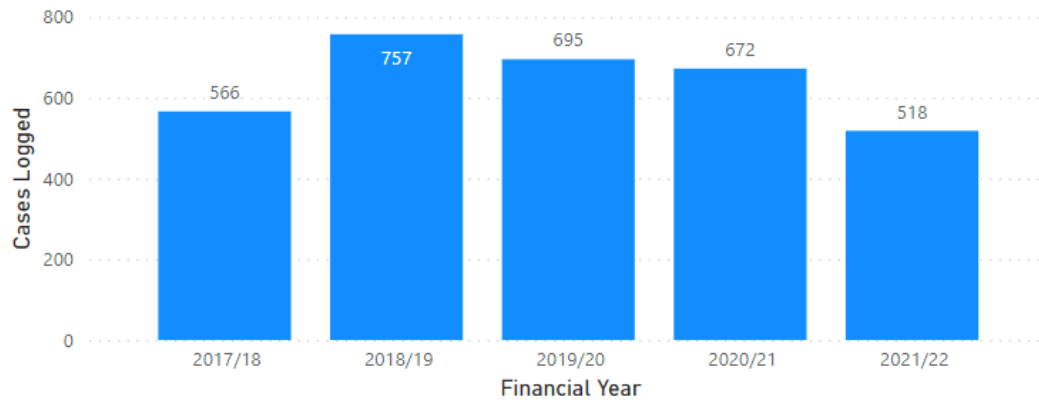


Street Cleansing Requests in Bolton & Undercliffe by Sub-Type 2021/22

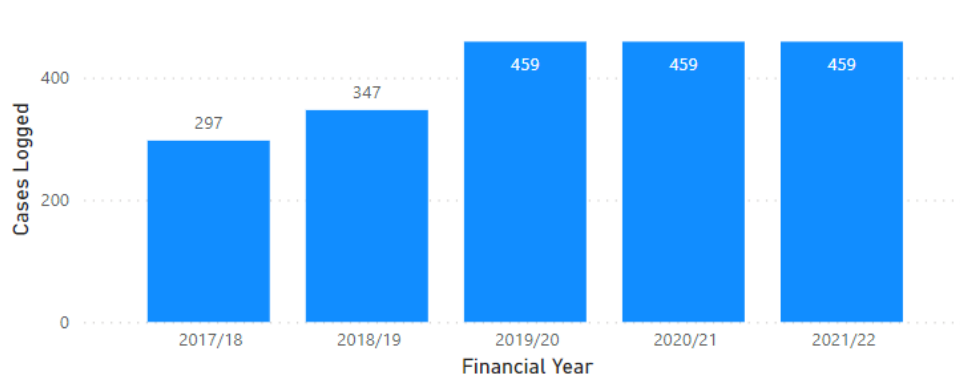


Bowling & Barkerend

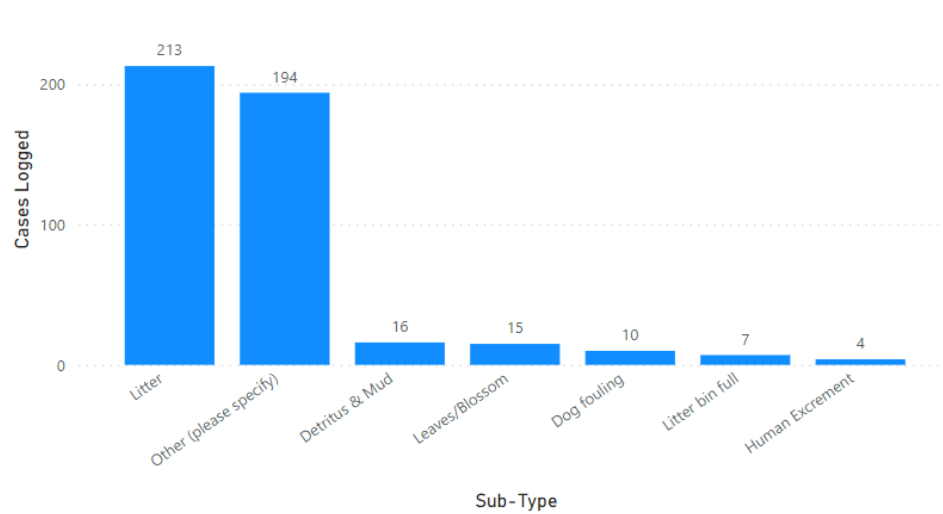
Fly Tips Reported in Bowling & Barkerend by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests in Bowling & Barkerend by Financial Year

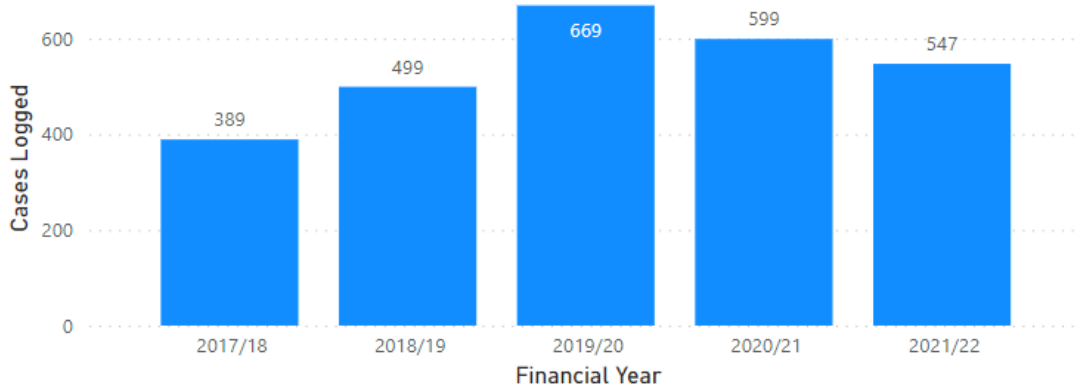


Street Cleansing Requests in Bowling & Barkerend by Sub-Type 2021/22

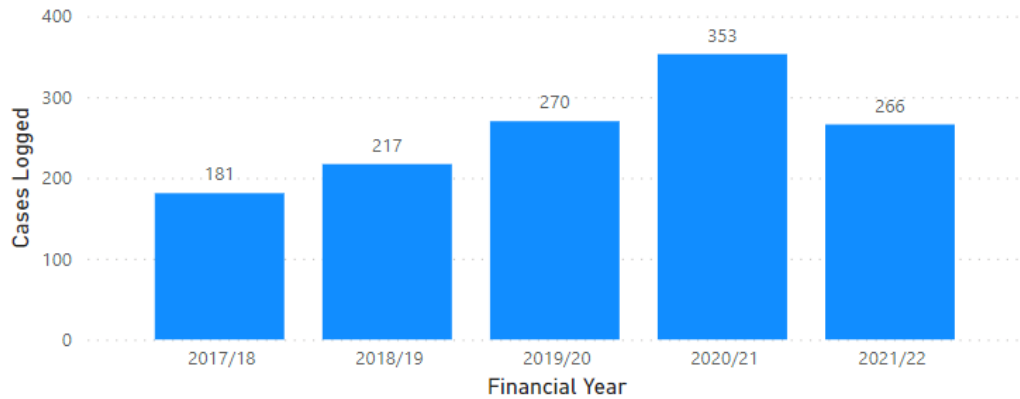


Bradford Moor

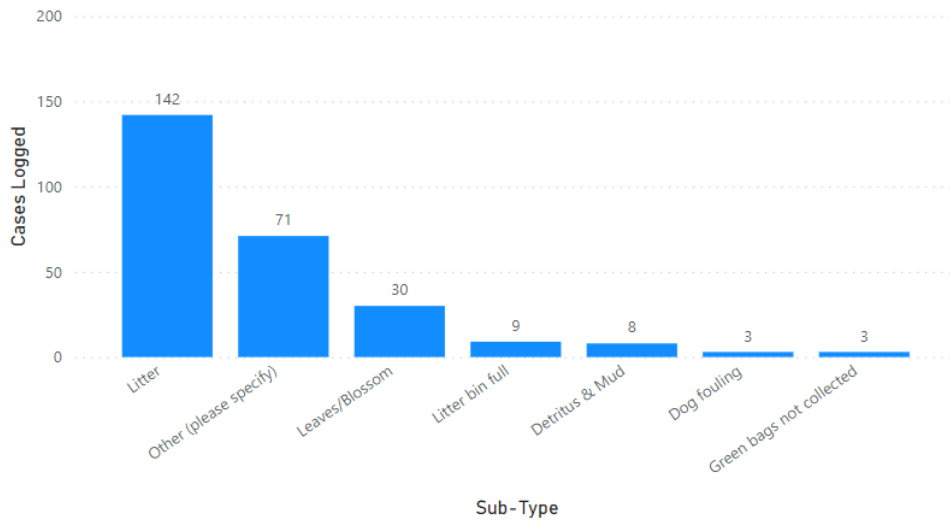
Fly Tips Reported in Bradford Moor by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests in Bradford Moor by Financial Year

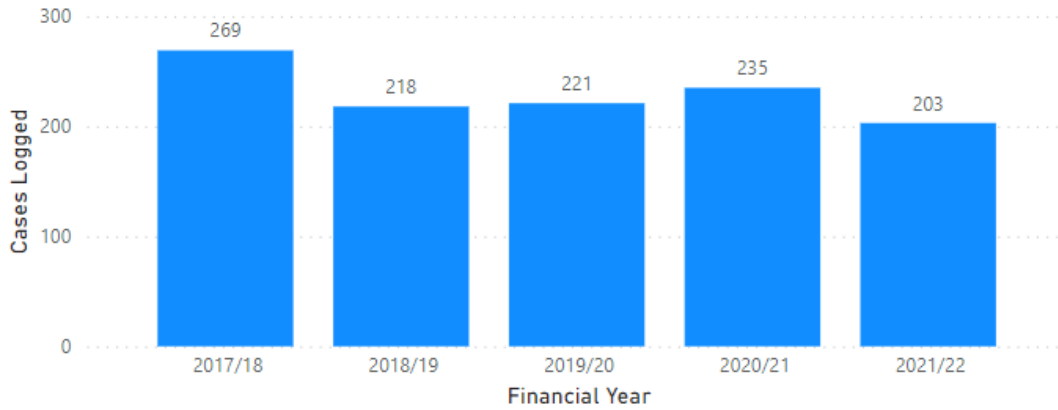


Street Cleansing Requests in Bradford Moor by Sub-Type 2021/22

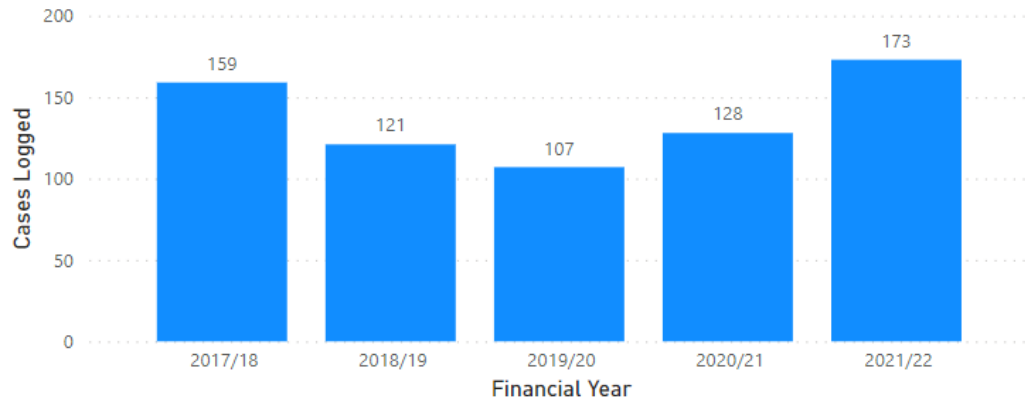


Eccleshill

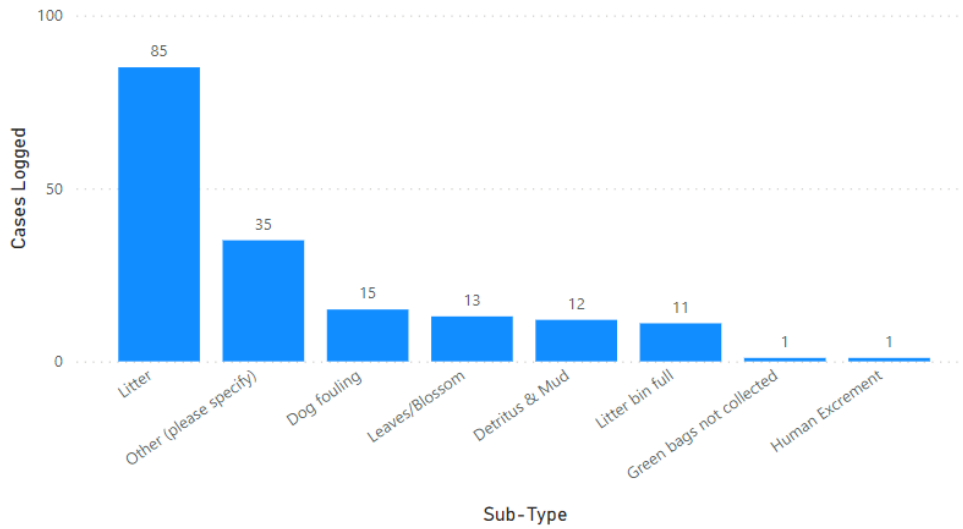
Fly Tips Reported in Eccleshill by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests in Eccleshill by Financial Year

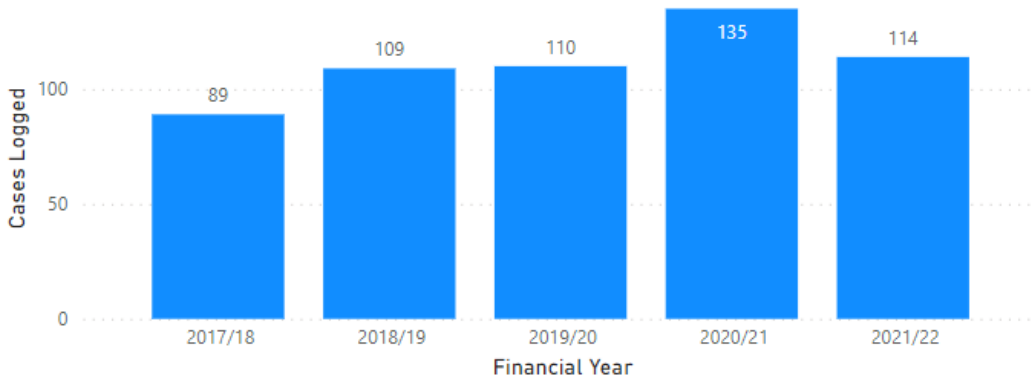


Street Cleansing Requests in Eccleshill by Sub-Type 2021/22

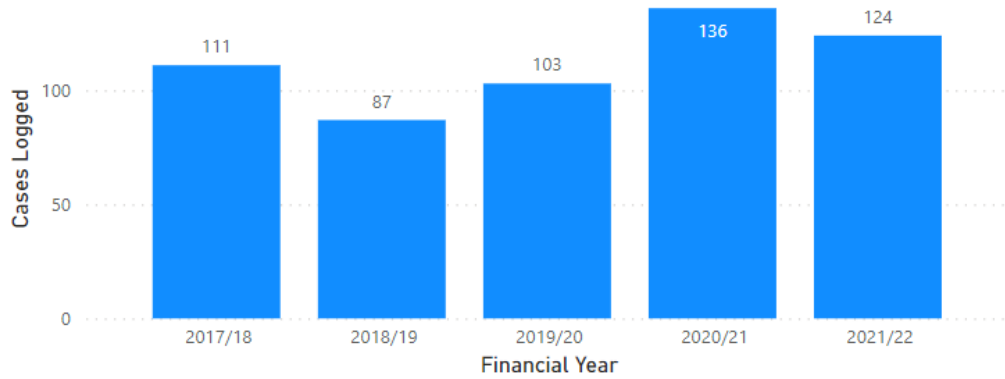


Idle & Thackley

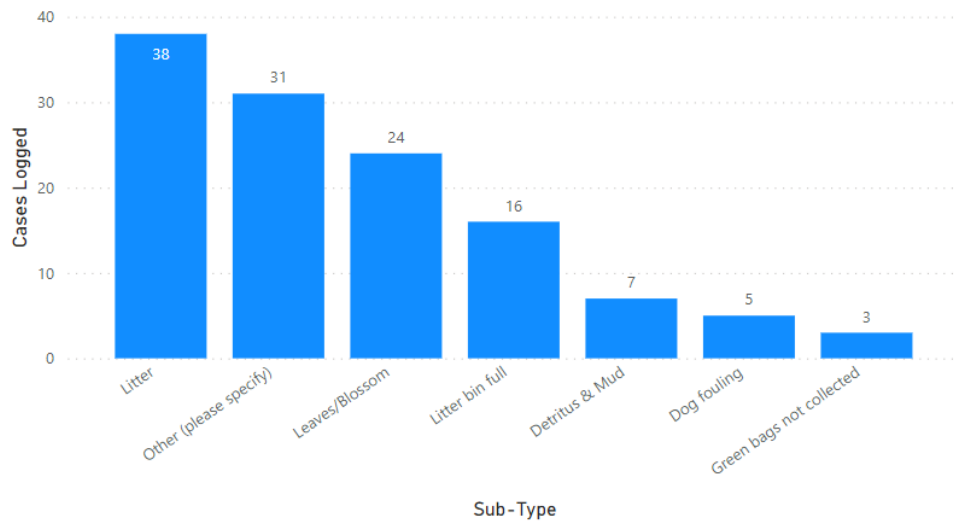
Fly Tips Reported in Idle & Thackley by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests in Idle & Thackley by Financial Year

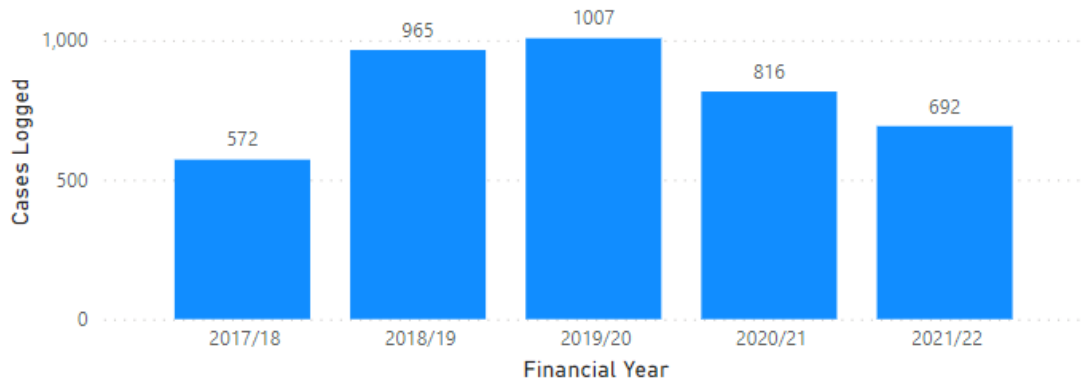


Street Cleansing Requests in Idle & Thackley by Sub-Type 2021/22

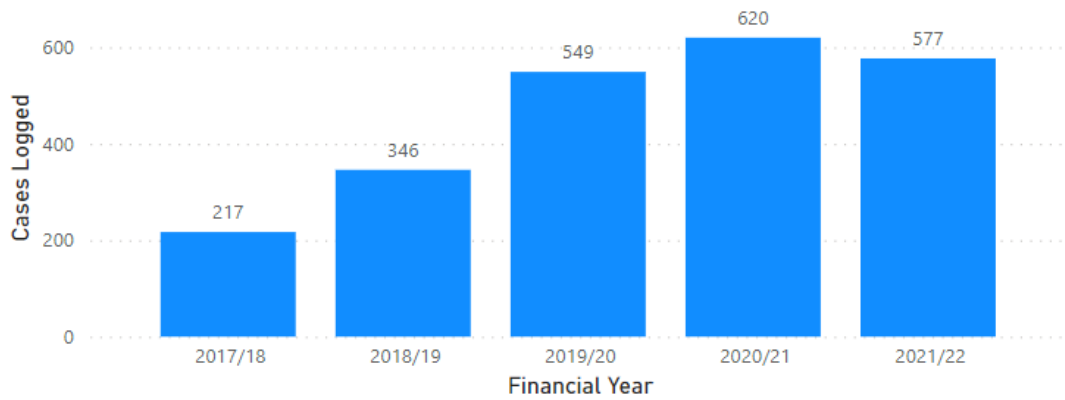


Little Horton

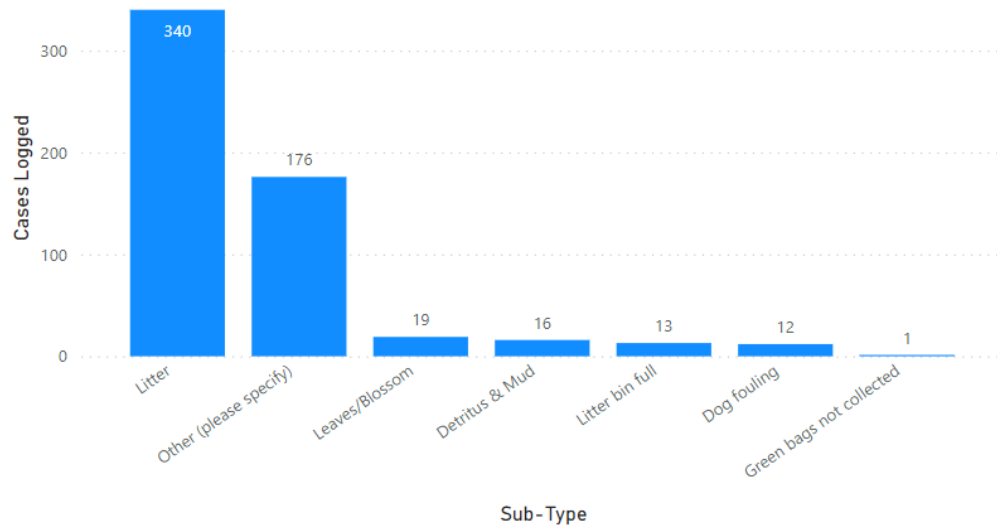
Fly Tips Reported in Little Horton by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests in Little Horton by Financial Year

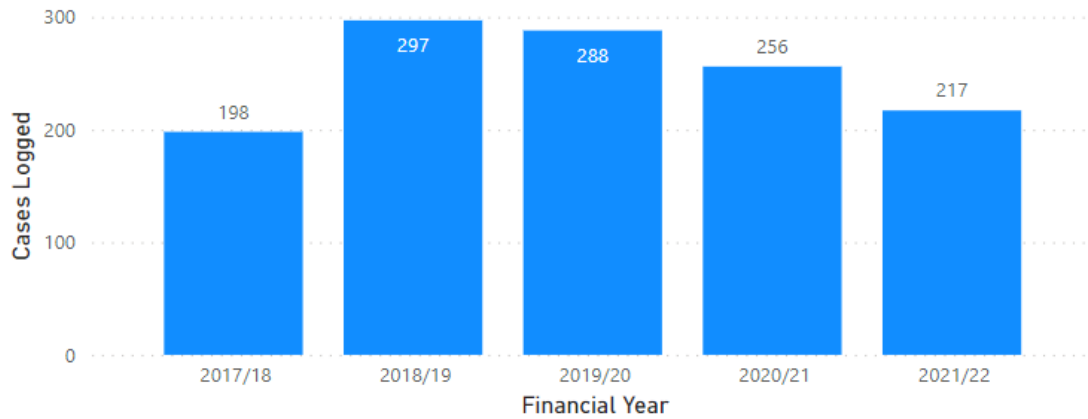


Street Cleansing Requests in Little Horton by Sub-Type 2021/22

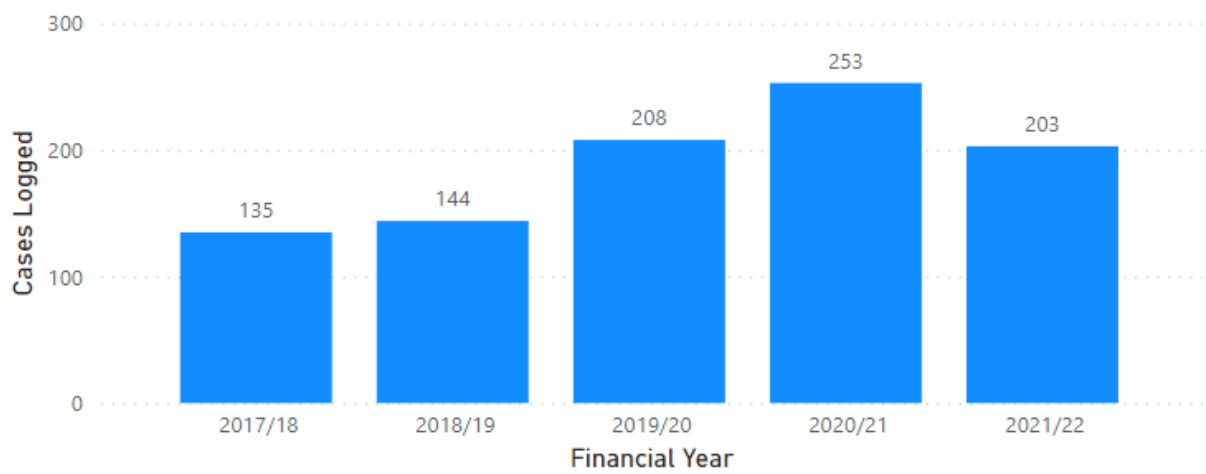


Across Multiple Wards

Fly Tips Reported Across Ward Boundaries by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests Across Ward Boundaries by Financial Year



Street Cleansing Requests Across Ward Boundaries by Sub-Type 2021/22

