

# **Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee**

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**Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 4.30 pm**

**To be held as an online video conference**

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

## **Membership**

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Councillors Denise Fox (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Neale Gibson, Dianne Hurst, Alan Hooper, Abdul Khayum, Bryan Lodge, Mohammed Mahroof, Barbara Masters, Ben Miskell, Moya O'Rourke, Sioned-Mair Richards, Chris Rosling-Josephs, Martin Smith and Paul Turpin

## **Substitute Members**

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

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## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING**

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The Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, development and monitoring of service performance and other issues in respect of the area of Council activity relating to planning and economic development, wider environmental issues, culture, leisure, skills and training, and the quality of life in the City.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk). You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked \* on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Deborah Glen, Policy and Improvement Officer on 0114 27 35065 or [email deborah.glen@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.glen@sheffield.gov.uk)

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## **FACILITIES**

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There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

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**ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELLBEING SCRUTINY AND POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA  
23 MARCH 2021**

**Order of Business**

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- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**  
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 5 - 8)  
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 9 - 14)  
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**  
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Waste, Fly Tipping and Littering** (Pages 15 - 44)  
Presentation from the Head of Waste Management and Place Hub
- 8. Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme** (Pages 45 - 50)  
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer
- 9. Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting of the Committee will be held on a date to be arranged

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## ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

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If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)** relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period\* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

\*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
  - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
  - the landlord is your council or authority; and
  - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
  - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
  - (b) either -
    - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email [gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk).

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Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development  
Committee

Meeting held 23 February 2021

(NOTE: This meeting was held as a remote meeting in accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.)

**PRESENT:** Councillors Denise Fox (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Neale Gibson, Alan Hooper, Abdul Khayum, Bryan Lodge, Mohammed Mahroof, Barbara Masters, Ben Miskell, Sioned-Mair Richards, Martin Smith and Paul Turpin

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dianne Hurst and Chris Rosling-Josephs, with Councillor Ann Murphy attending as reserve for Councillor Rosling-Josephs.

**2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 In relation to item 7 on the agenda (Covid Business Response and Recovery Planning) (Item 6 of the minutes), Councillor Ben Miskell declared a personal interest as Cabinet Adviser for Business and Investment.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19th January 2021, were approved as a correct record.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

5.1 There were no questions raised or petitions submitted by members of the public.

**6. COVID BUSINESS RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLANNING**

6.1 The Committee received a report and presentation from the Director of City Growth, providing an update and overview of the Covid business response and recovery planning.

6.2 Present for this item were Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Business

and Investment), Edward Highfield (Director of City Growth), Richard Eyre (Interim Director, Operational Services) and Ben Morley (Head of Strategy, Commissioning and Economic Development).

- 6.3 Councillor Mazher Iqbal stressed that the Council had not yet received the full details regarding the implications of the Government's announcement, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2021, relating to the roadmap, particularly with regard to the furlough and business rate schemes, and would be able to provide an update on this when such details had been received.
- 6.4 Edward Highfield made the presentation, providing a recap of the lockdowns and local restrictions, including details of the impact of the pandemic on businesses and on the city centre, an overview of the grants scheme during the lockdowns and local restrictions, including the £30 million additional restrictions grant to the Sheffield City Region (SCR), the grants application process and communications regarding, and dissemination of, grants under the scheme. He reported on the critical interventions undertaken as part of the business support process, recovery planning, grant support going forward, plans for the re-opening of the hospitality and culture sectors, and the city centre and district centres. Mr Highfield concluded by referring to the £2 million Economic Recovery Fund and the wider economic implications of the pandemic.
- 6.5 Members of the Committee raised questions, and the following responses were provided:-
- It was accepted that recession and periods of redundancy could result in people losing skills and confidence, therefore the Council was very aware of the importance of reskilling and retraining people, particularly with regard to digital skills. The Council had recently consulted on its Education, Employment and Skills Strategy, and was working very closely, on two projects, with the SCR (Renewal Action Plan) and the Local Enterprise Partnership (Economic Strategy). The Council would work on this issue with the SCR as this was where the funding was likely to come from, with the schemes being delivered locally, and linked to a wider regional strategy. Councillor Terry Fox (Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Governance) was currently leading on a city-wide approach to deal with the digital divide, which aimed to assist adults, as well as school and college pupils, who did not have adequate IT provision. A number of workshops had already commenced, including a digital bootcamp, together with short courses on reskilling. Such courses and programmes were likely to be escalated in the next few years, given the expected increase in demand.
  - The Council was encouraging all its tenants, whether commercial or from a voluntary, community or faith sector organisation, to speak to officers if they were struggling to pay their rent, with each case being determined on its own merits. The Council had provided considerable support and advice to such individuals and organisations and, at the present time, there had been 29 deferrals and 7 suspensions in terms of rent payments. The Council was well aware of the fact that it was going to be a huge challenge once the

Business Grant Scheme ended, and it was expected that many businesses would review, and possibly change, their working practises, such as asking staff to work from home more.

- In terms of assistance for the arts, culture and entertainment sector, whilst the Council had been helping some of the bigger venues in the city to access Arts Council funding, it had also created a Freelancers' Fund to target those individuals missed by some of the national grant programmes. This had involved working with the city's universities and the Cultural Consortium, offering such individuals a commission to produce creative material. The Council had also assisted home-based businesses which, again, had not benefited from the national grant programmes.
- Whilst there was a balance to be met in terms of getting funding out to businesses as quickly as possible, and carrying out the relevant checks on such businesses, there had been a number of claims which the Council had been forced to investigate further. Whilst trying to be as helpful and flexible as possible, it was likely that the Council would identify some cases where claims had been made fraudulently, usually in respect of dormant companies. There was also a provision to claw back funding if it had been deemed to have been awarded in error.
- The Council produced a weekly economic tracker, which allowed it to track weekly indicators, such as footfall, and was able to track national data sets when released, which included unemployment rates. The unemployment rate in Sheffield was currently tracking the national average, and whilst such rate had increased, it had not increased to the extent expected, mainly due to the continuing Government furlough scheme. There was very likely going to be an increase in the unemployment rate when such scheme ended. The data regarding some of the macro impacts of the pandemic, such as business insolvencies, had not yet been produced as a result of the business rates relief and grant schemes, together with the relaxation of the insolvency rules. The Council was likely to see a spike in business insolvencies at such time when the loans were due to be serviced.
- The information reported as part of the presentation referred largely to small businesses, with the majority of people approaching the Information Officers and Business Advisors, and those attending the workshops arranged by Business Sheffield, representing small businesses, mainly due to the fact that such businesses represented a major part of the city's economy. Therefore, the vast majority of the Council's critical interventions had been with small businesses. Both the city's universities and the Chamber of Commerce had been working with the Council to provide such support. Although there had been an increase in staffing in Business Sheffield, there were still insufficient resources to deal with the level of enquiries being received, particularly as the same staff were still dealing with enquiries regarding Brexit. Whilst the large majority of grants were being made available to businesses being forced to close, with most comprising small businesses, there were other grant schemes open to businesses who were still operating and required

assistance. One such scheme included the Project Productivity Grant, where small businesses could apply for funding up to £12,500, and arrangements were in place to implement a low carbon project, where businesses could apply for grants towards implementing green initiatives. As well as the Information Officers, there was a team from the Health Protection Service and a number of City Centre Ambassadors who had visited a number of small and medium-sized businesses, offering advice on Covid-secure measures, as well as business support guidance.

- The Council, together with many other local authorities, had written to the Government in 2020, requesting financial support for businesses during the pandemic.
- In terms of future investment in the City, 13 new businesses had relocated to Sheffield in the last two years, creating almost 300 new jobs. The Council had also supported and offered advice to existing local businesses which had expanded, and was also progressing the Heart of the City 2 scheme. The Council would only be able to see a true picture of the impact of the pandemic once the various grant schemes had come to an end.
- The Council would use the £2 million Economic Recovery Fund to support local retailers, by encouraging people to shop locally, as well as helping them to create an online presence. Work would also be undertaken to encourage more people to holiday or take short breaks in the city and the surrounding area. The Council would continue to work with UNIGHT, in connection with assisting with the opening of the night-time economy.
- Business Sheffield had a level of outgoing capacity in the sense that staff would contact those individuals or businesses who had contacted the Council, asking for help or advice via email or telephone. This capacity did not extend to a cold calling 'call centre' level, and an assessment would be made as to whether this type of operation would be beneficial going forward.
- There had been a significant level of redeployment into Business Sheffield, particularly regarding staff answering telephone calls, business advisors and staff dealing with grants. There was, however, an issue of capacity in terms of the impending transition regarding the recovery and renewal phase as all staff were currently busy dealing with the relief phase. All staff in Business Sheffield had undertaken an excellent job over the last year, often working very long hours, whilst having to deal with IT and connection problems associated with working from home.
- The Local Plan was trying to encourage a wider mix of people to move to the city centre. Like many other city centres, there was a high concentration of one or two-bedroomed flats in Sheffield, and the aim of the Plan was to provide a wider offer of tenure, for people of all different age groups, which would hopefully help develop and improve the vibrancy and footfall within the city centre. The Plan also aimed to develop high quality public realm and green spaces within and around the residential accommodation. Based on

the success of the major city centre development schemes, and the extension of the Grey to Green Project, there was a confidence within the city that people would be attracted to move to the City, and that those who were born here, would be encouraged to stay.

- Development schemes in the city comprised the continuation of the Heart of the City 2 scheme, which included Kangaroo Works, the commencement of Eye Witness Works, the extension of the Grey to Green Project had been extended and the ongoing development of Barkers Pool down to Castlegate, financed through the Future High Street Fund.
- The arrangements in terms of assisting groups and organisations in connection with the use of outdoor spaces for entertainment had been delayed to an extent due to the lockdown. However, now that there were signs of recovery, such negotiations regarding de-risking could recommence. Members and officers had recently met with UNIGHT to discuss plans for the reopening of venues in the city centre over the coming months. Such venues were able to apply for funding from the Covid Business Recovery Fund towards relevant adaptations to enable the use of external areas as part of their operations. There were limitations for certain venues in that some venues had larger external areas than others. In terms of outdoor seating, the Council had amended its regulations by reducing the term of the application process down from 52 days to five days, at zero cost, as well as providing barriers where required, also free of charge, and offering advice in connection with the use of external heaters.
- The Council had very little authority in terms of planning and licensing powers to take action regarding the makeup of district shopping centres, specifically the over-concentration of certain outlets, such as betting shops, takeaways and charity shops. Efforts were being made, using Council, SCR and Government funding, to develop and make such centres more diverse and attractive for local residents to use. The Council was aware of the need to consult with local residents in terms of what they would like to see, or what the current issues were, in terms of their local district centres. The disparity in terms of business rates was a major barrier in terms of the future success of such centres, with small, independent businesses being at a disadvantage.
- In terms of initiatives to help businesses, a considerable amount of work had been undertaken on the development of district shopping centres and the city centre. Financial support had been available to help businesses, including the productivity grant. The £2 million Economic Recovery Fund would assist by encouraging businesses to apply for funding by presenting plans to the Council in terms of what they wanted to do in their local area. Other initiatives had included the implementation of short-term, physical measures to provide more walking and cycling areas, such as at Kelham Island. The longer-term plan, if such areas proved successful, would be to make further enhancements to make them more attractive. Holding major events, such as Tramlines in Hillsborough Park, had helped to attract businesses to district centres in such areas, thereby improving the offer for local residents.

- It was accepted that there would be a rise in unemployment, particularly among the under 25's. The Council had an extensive apprenticeship programme and, as part of the Council's procurement process, every effort was made to offer tenders to local companies, as well as asking companies tendering for jobs to take on apprentices. The Council's Housing Service had recently recruited 30 new apprentices. The Council's Employment, Education and Skills Strategy was currently being consulted on, and the Council was working closely with the technical colleges and the Sheffield College to look at what support could be given to young people in terms of their future employment opportunities.

6.6 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the information contained in the report now submitted and reported as part of the presentation now made, together with the responses to the questions raised;
- (b) thanks Councillor Mazher Iqbal, Edward Highfield, Richard Eyre and Ben Morley for attending the meeting and responding to the questions raised; and
- (c) requests (i) the Director of City Growth to submit a further update report on Covid Business Response and Recovery Planning to a future meeting, and (ii) the Policy and Improvement Officer to make arrangements for a report on the reskilling of, and opportunities for, young people, to be submitted to a future meeting.

## **7. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21**

7.1 The Committee received a report of the Policy and Improvement Officer (Deborah Glen) containing the draft Work Programme for 2020/21.

7.2 Alice Nicholson (Policy and Improvement Officer), in attendance, reported that there was one more meeting left in the 2020/21 Municipal Year, and the main item would be Waste, Flytipping and Littering. Further to comments raised by Councillor Ben Miskell, Ms Nicholson stated that she would (a) request relevant officers to include performance data on fly-tipping and bin collections, if possible, and (b) arrange for representatives of Sheffield Litter Pickers Group to be invited to the meeting.

7.3 RESOLVED: That the Committee notes and approves the draft Work Programme for 2020/21.

## **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday 23rd March 2021, at 4:30 pm.

# Economic & Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny (March 2021)

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Gillian Charters, Head of Waste Management & Place Hub  
Interim Head of Highway Maintenance

# Presentation Today...

- Litter monitoring and litter bins
  - Methodology for monitoring and trends through Covid-19 lockdown(s)
- Litter Bin Reports
  - Demand trend for full bins & new bin sensors for auto-reporting
- Fly tipping & Graffiti
  - Analysis of trends and reports through lockdown(s)
- Waste and Recycling
  - Black bin (residual waste) trends through lockdown(s)
  - Blue and brown analysis
  - Impact at Household Waste Recycling Centres
  - Other service impacts (green, garden waste bin & bulky waste collections)



# KEY DATES 2020

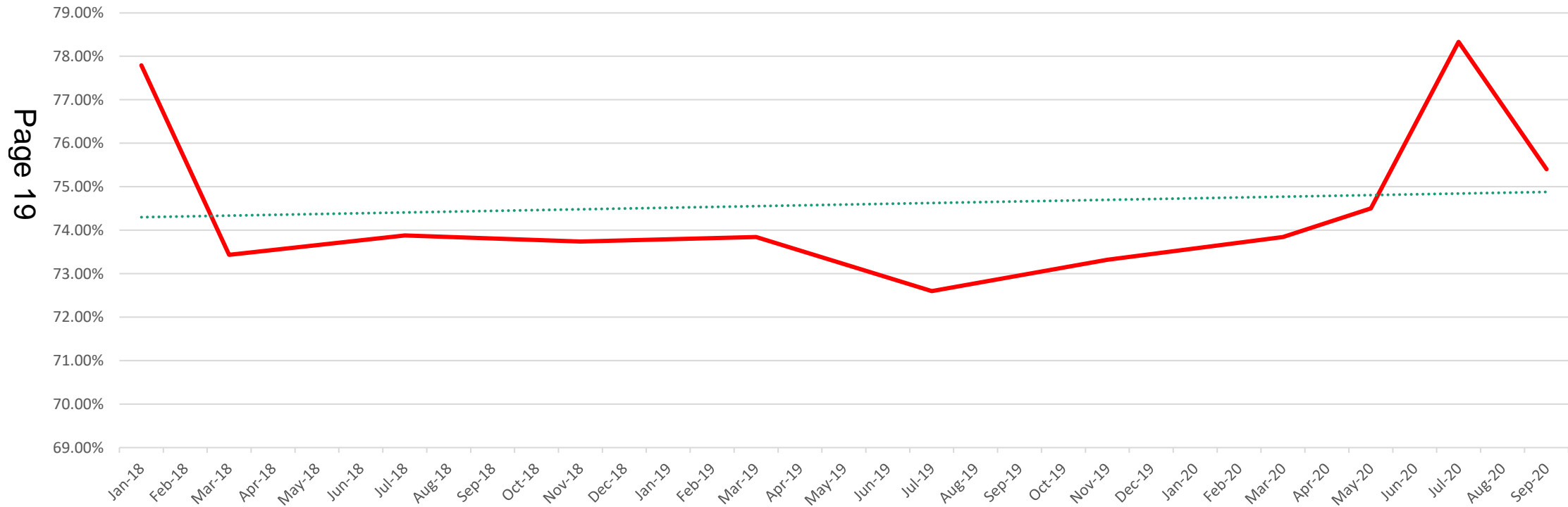
- 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – “Stay at home” instruction
- 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Schools Close
- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Pubs Close
- **23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 – First full national lockdown announced on TV**
- 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – First lockdown “eases” – now allowed to sunbathe in parks and exercise more than once per day
- 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Garden Centres Reopen (notable date maybe because of garden waste etc)
- 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Groups of up to 6 allowed to meet outdoors – this is the start of the summer litter peaks in parks etc
- 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 – Kids Return to School
- 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 – High Street Non Essential Retail reopens
- 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – Lockdown finally eased and pubs open
- 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – Face coverings become mandatory in shops etc
- 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020 – Eat out to Help out starts
- 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 – 10pm curfew for pubs
- 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – Tier system launches
- **31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 – Lockdown 2 commences**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 – Lockdown 2 ends, re-resume tier system
- **4<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – present – Lockdown 3 commences**

# Litter Monitoring Methodology

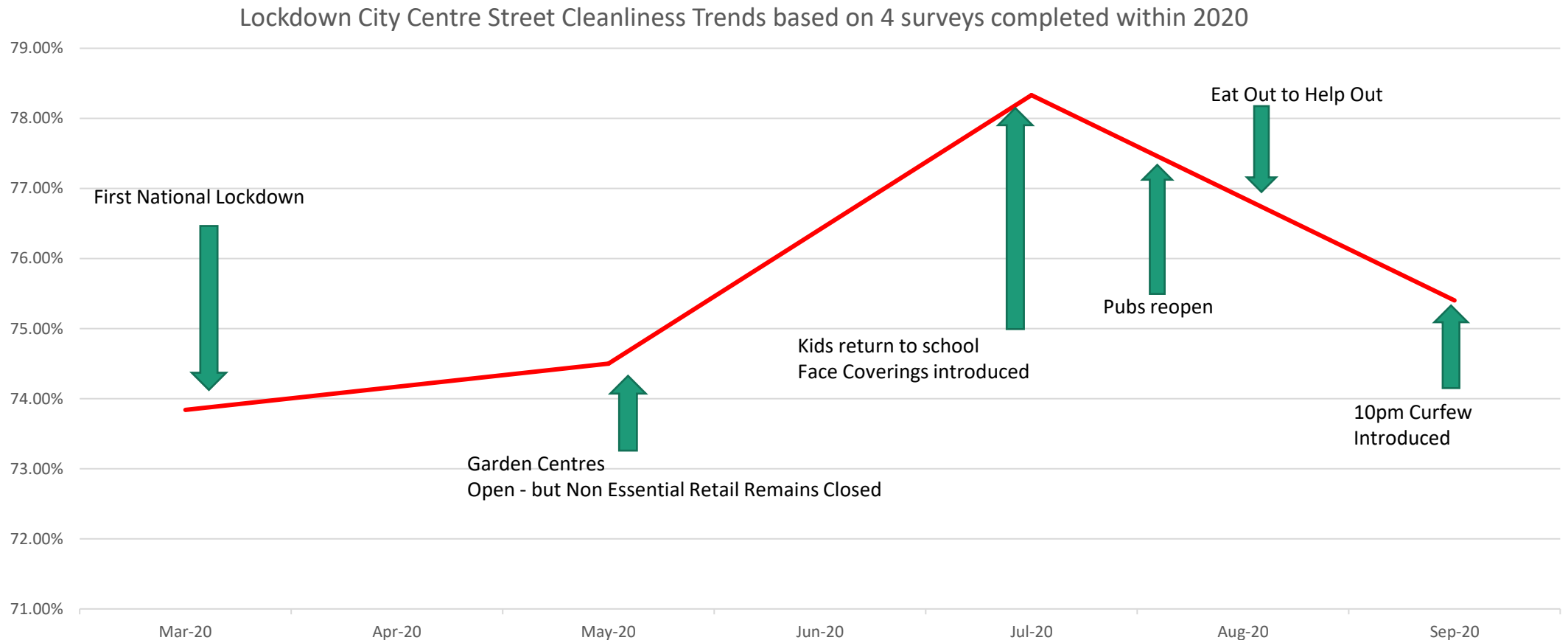
- SCC Client Team routinely monitored street cleansing using a modified version of the NI 195 methodology since 2012.
- Every street is broken down into 50 metre sections (transects).
- Litter accumulations are counted and graded
- This then all compiled into a summary Cleansing Index Score (high = good) and NI 195 Below Acceptable Standard report (low = good)
- Inspections are undertaken multiple times across the whole city centre over the course of a month to capture trends at various times of day, across all days of the week.
- In a typical year this benchmarking is completed 4 times.
- This DEFRA approved process is delivered by fully trained staff and allows us to:
  - Evaluate the efficacy of street cleansing regimes
  - Identify any localised issues (and whether they occur at specific times)
  - Confirm that the contractual input frequencies are being met by Amey
  - Monitor the quality of cleanse undertaken by the operatives
  - Benchmark ourselves with other authorities

# Baseline City Centre Street Cleanliness Trends 2018 to Present

Cleansing Index Score (Higher = Improvement in litter levels)



# City Centre Litter - Lockdown Breakdown



# City Centre Litter Lockdown Trends



Standards were at or around our expected baseline as Lockdown 1 was announced, following a general trend of gradual improvement.



Non Essential Retail and Bars being closed saw an immediate uplift in city centre cleanliness standards as footfall fell and businesses were not producing litter items for consumers to drop

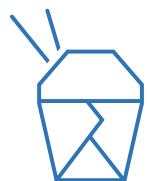
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With less general litter and a number of staff shielding, we shifted the focus onto tasks such as sanitising street furniture and laying out social distancing markings in key city centre retail areas



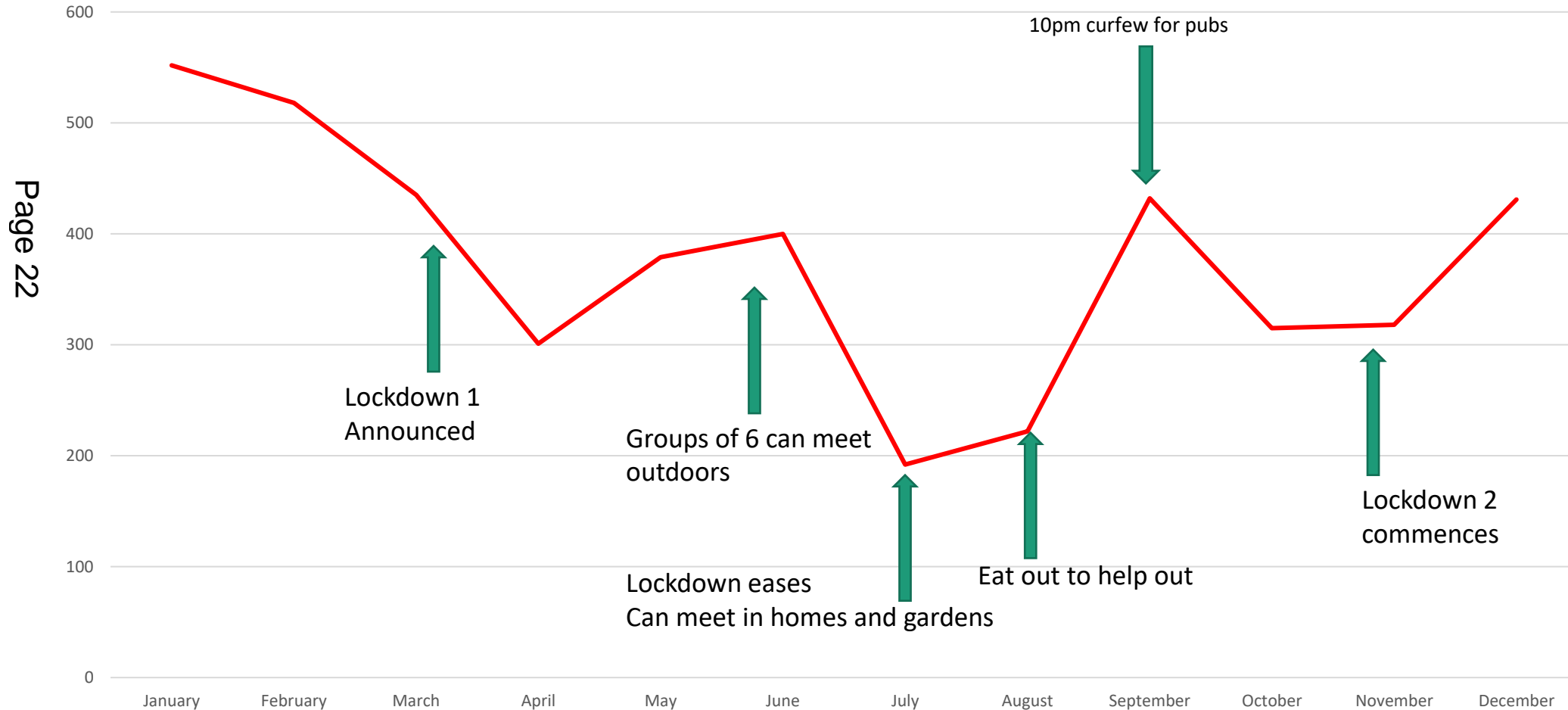
Non-Essential retail remained closed until July, so this combined with the kids returning to school and the “work from home” message being relaxed – putting people back in offices meant that city centre standards continued to stay strong through the early summer months – over a 4% improvement.



Non-Essential retail reopening, followed by Eat Out to Help Out and then the 10pm curfew all led to greater congregation and social drinking / takeaway eating outdoors – leading to a sharp drop in cleanliness standards in September, prior to the Tier system being implemented.

# Lockdown Breakdown of City Litter Issues

2020 Litter Citywide

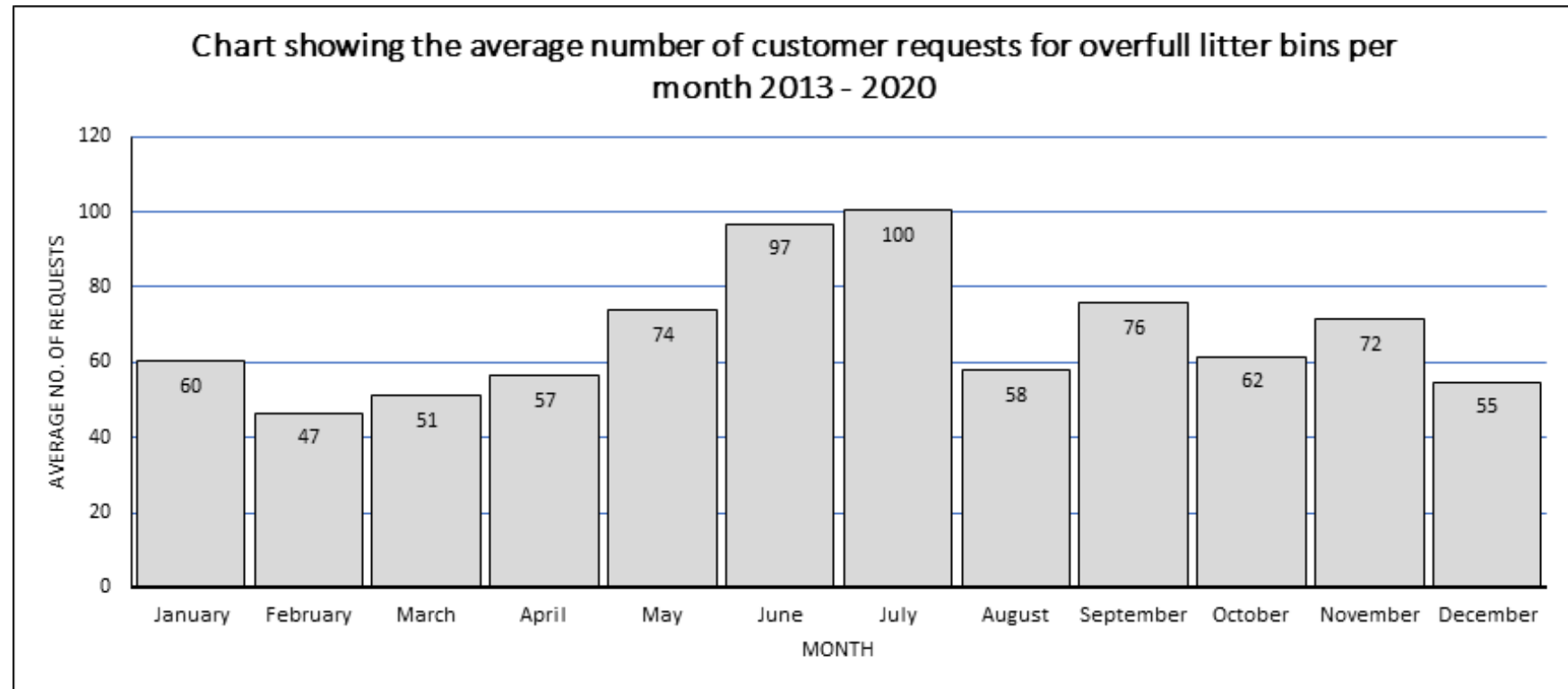


# Historical Trend of Overfull Litter Bins

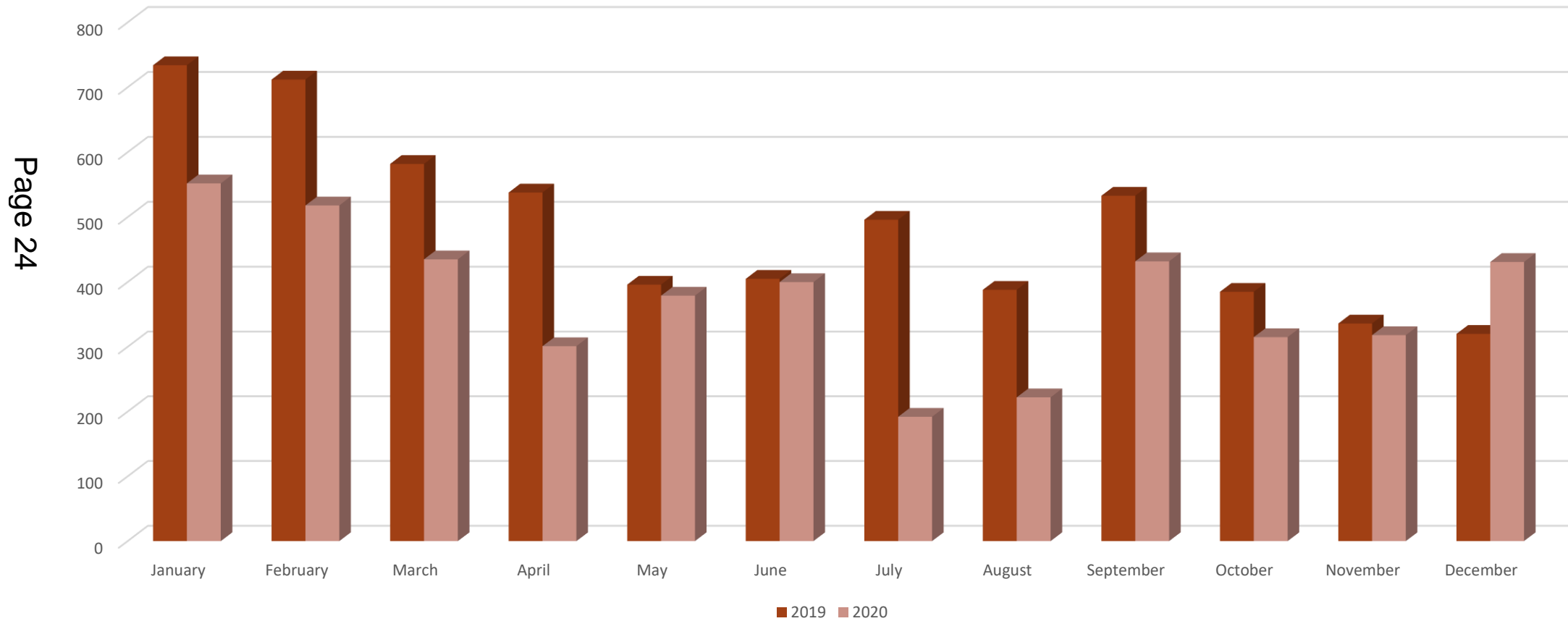
The monthly historical data for overfull bins shows that a “summer spike” is typical – for normal years in June and July

For 2020 we saw this peak come early as the “rule of 6” was implemented – **with over 4 times the average number of jobs in the following month**

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This then tapers off significantly as the first lockdown was eased and people were able to socialise at home – And requests were still running at still **double the typical monthly average**



# Litter Complaints (2019 & 2020)





# Litter Lockdown Trends



A general trend of **less reports** of litter every month throughout 2020 – **around 77%** of what we would expect in a typical year



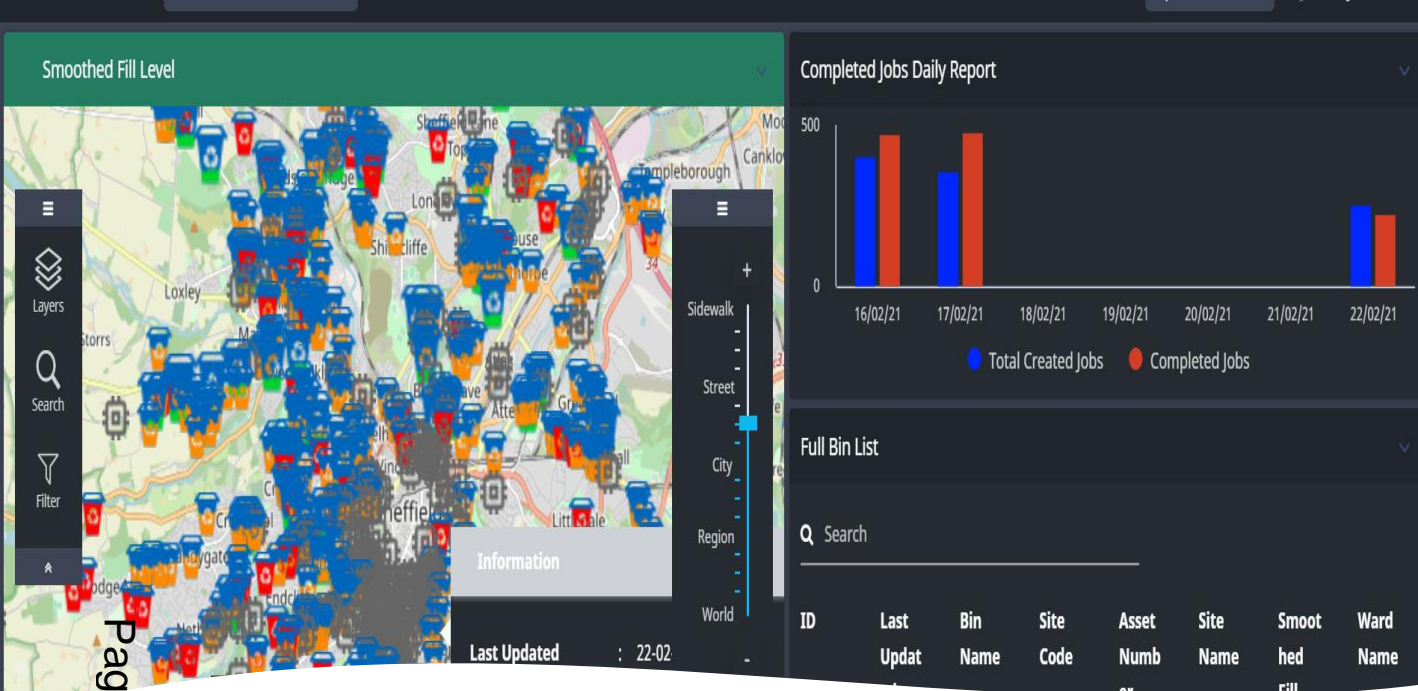
Litter Reports during the height of lockdown 1 were only at **around 55% of usual levels** – suggesting broad compliance with the lockdown led to an overall improvement in street litter levels as people stayed at home.



As per our experience with full litter bins – levels of litter items on the street reduced dramatically in July – coinciding with the relaxation of lockdown 1 and running at only **38%** of our usual expectations for litter at that time of year as people transitioned to socialising and BBQ's with friends in private gardens.



The introduction of Eat Out To Help Out in August meant that people were actively “dining in” in hospitality settings rather than takeaways to capitalise on the discounts offered – meaning litter levels were running at **around 65%** of our typical expectations for that time of year



# Overfull Litter Bin Reports

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During 2020 we were the first UK local authority to install a smart bins network - with over 2000 litter bin sensors



Any litter bins which are more than 70% full now automatically “self report” directly into the systems with no need for human interaction – all coordinated via our CityOS platform (image above)



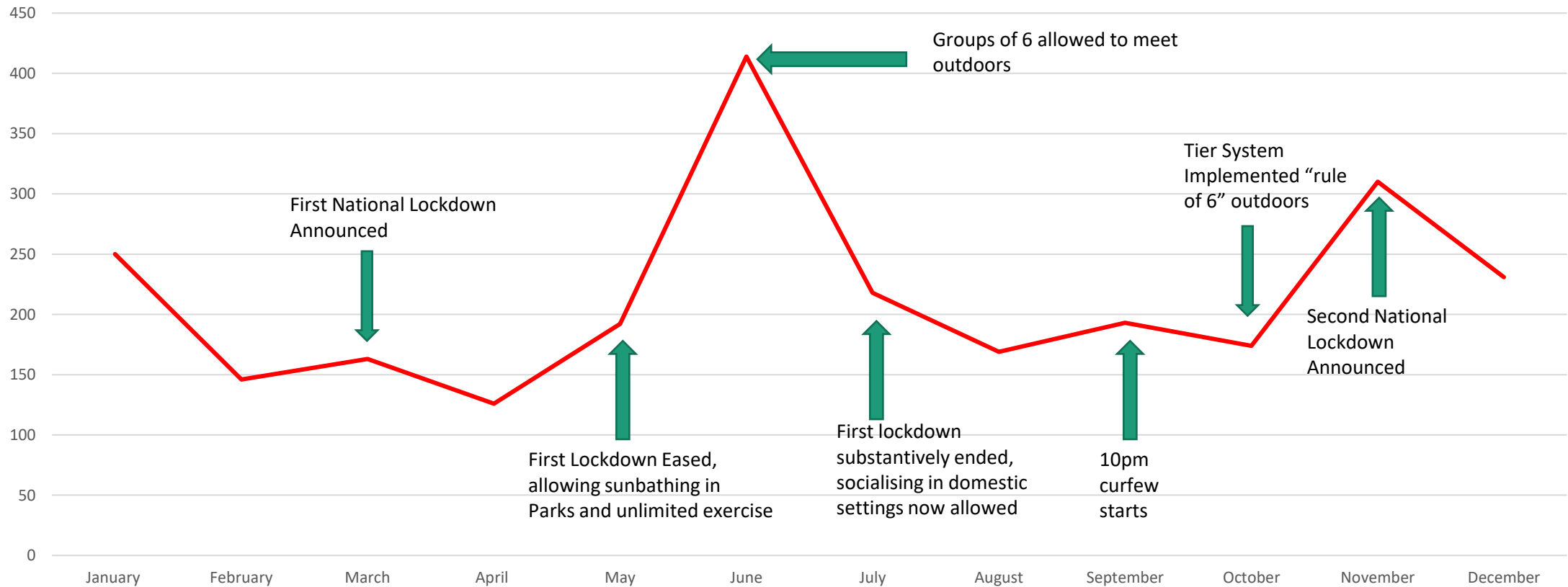
As a result of this system we have been able to devise optimised routes for bin emptying, and trend analyse when bins are likely to become full – and endeavour to get there before they actually do.



We switched to a night shift model for this task – with overnight emptying to ensure bins were empty for the next day rather than chasing around during the day when they were more likely to be used and overflow.

# Lockdown Breakdown of Overfull Bin Reports

Lockdown Breakdown of Overfull Bin Reports (City Wide)



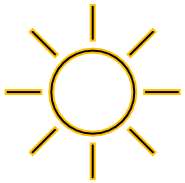
# Litter Bin Lockdown Trends



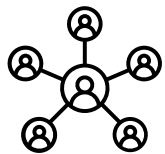
2020 was a unique challenge for highway litter bins – with more litter bin emptying undertaken than in any other year – almost **double the 2019 figure**



Large reduction in bin fill levels during the first national lockdown (**25% down** compared to the weeks before lockdown)



As concessions were made in May allowing sunbathing in parks, fill levels increased (**up 30%** year on year)

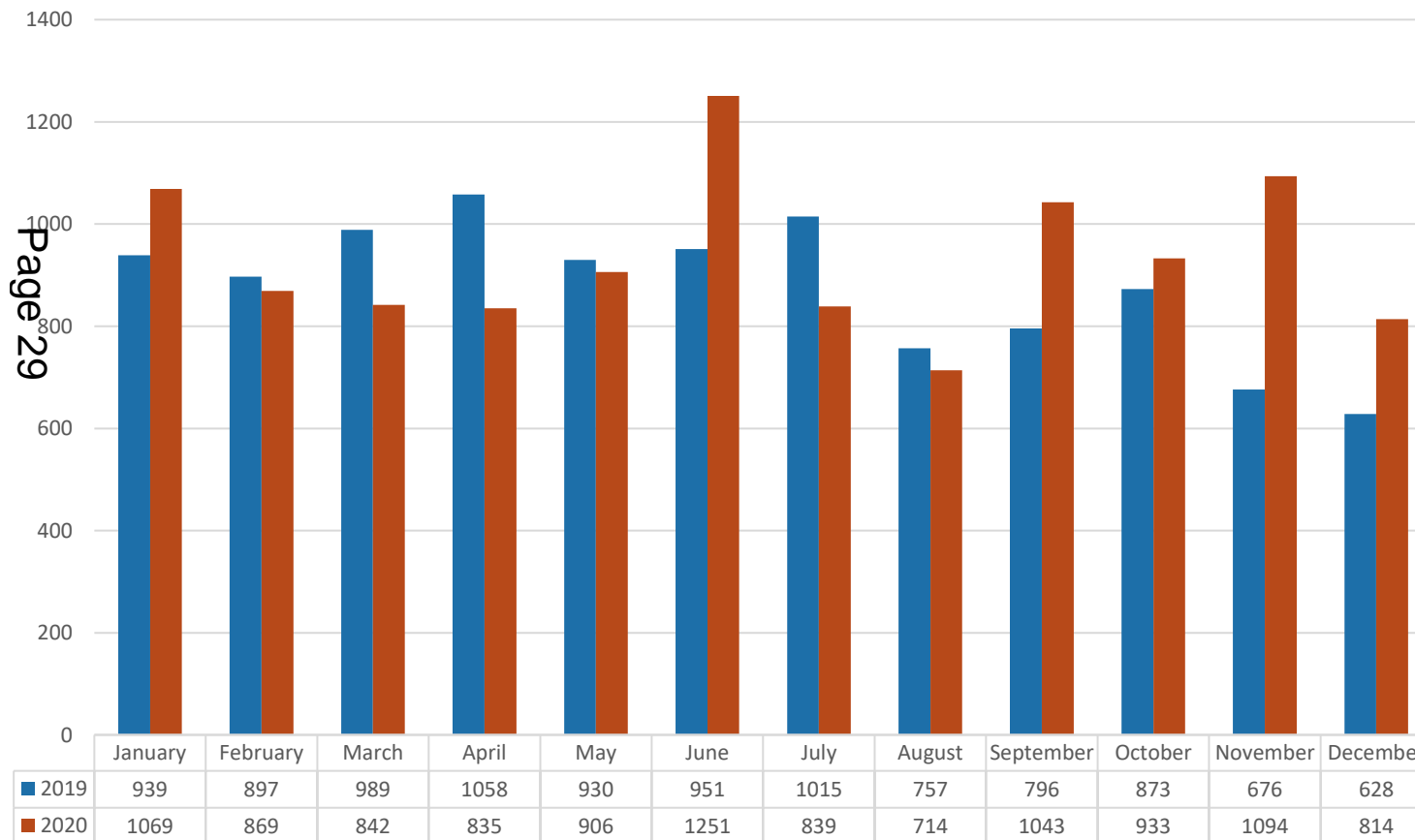


The “rule of 6” allowing outdoor socialising lead to a huge surge in outdoor socialising. Companies such as Uber Eats and Deliveroo were delivering takeaway food and alcohol to public open spaces, meaning a vast increase in the use of highway bins – **4 times the average for this time of year**



As Lockdown 1 was relaxed in July there is a large reduction in bin fill levels as people switch to socialising at each others’ homes and gardens again rather than in public spaces – bin fill levels **halved compared to June** and returned to normal baseline expectations for this time of year

# Flytipping Reports (2019 & 2020)



2021 started off with higher than usual fly tipping numbers in January

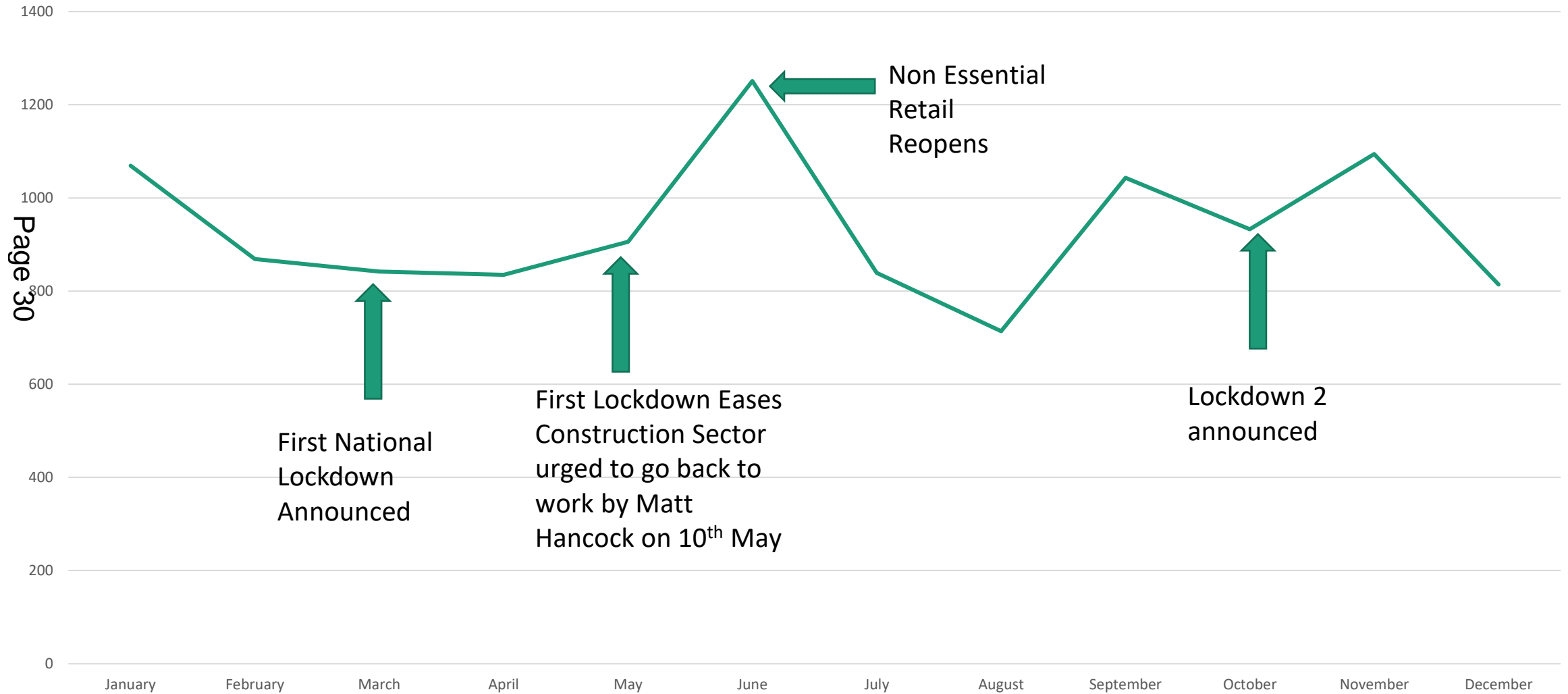
Following the “stay home” instruction issued on the 16<sup>th</sup> March – a **17.5% reduction** in instances occurred

April showed sustained reductions year on year of almost **27%** whilst the first lockdown was in place

Things equalise in May as construction sector are urged back to work mid Month – returning fly tipping to our yearly average levels for this time of year

The tide begins to turn in June as numbers escalate rapidly

# Lockdown Breakdown of Flytipping



# Positive Impact of HWRC's remaining open in lockdown 1

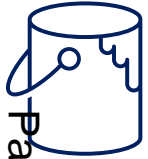
- A key success marker for the Council in Lockdown 1 was keeping Sheffield's Household Waste Recycling Centres open.
- During the first lockdown this allowed us to demonstrate a reduction in fly tipping numbers – over a **20% reduction year on year**.
- Waste tonnage removed by Fly Tipping Teams also **reduced by 66%** for the first month of Lockdown 1.
- Clearly given that tonnage had reduced by 66%, whilst instances had reduced by 20%, then the lack of heavier waste items was a contributing factor – likely linked to a lack of heavy construction waste such as brick rubble etc.
- Almost every other UK Local Authority who did not retain their HWRC's open reported experiencing dramatic increases in fly tipping instances over the same time period.



# Lockdown Overall Fly Tipping Data Trends



Sudden reduction in fly tipping instances as lockdown 1 announced – numbers down approx. 20% year on year



Over 300 empty fence paint containers collected during first lockdown

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Upturn in fly tipping instances in May when the construction sector was encouraged back to work. Tonnage of waste removed by street cleansing teams almost tripled from the month prior. Instances of fly tipping over 25% higher than the same period last year.



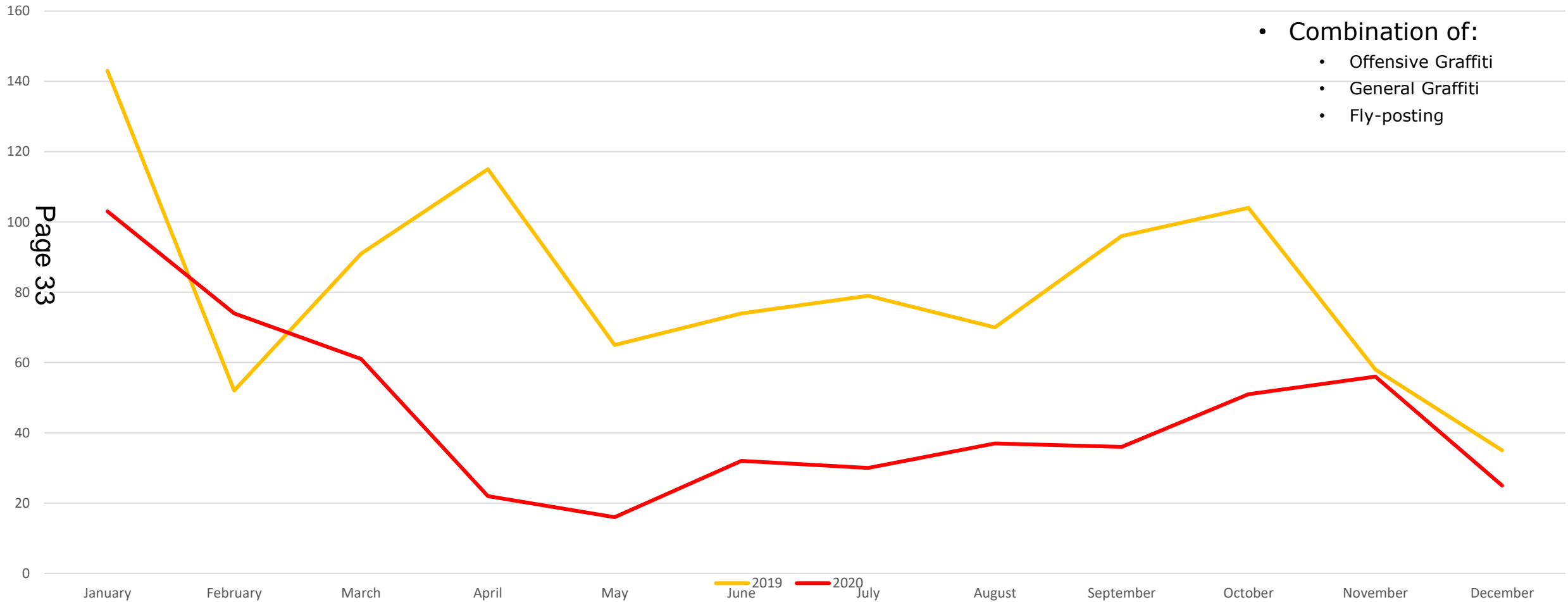
Despite a drop in general fly tipping – numbers of dumped tyres recovered and disposed of by street cleansing teams exceeded 1000 in the month for June as people began using vehicles more frequently.



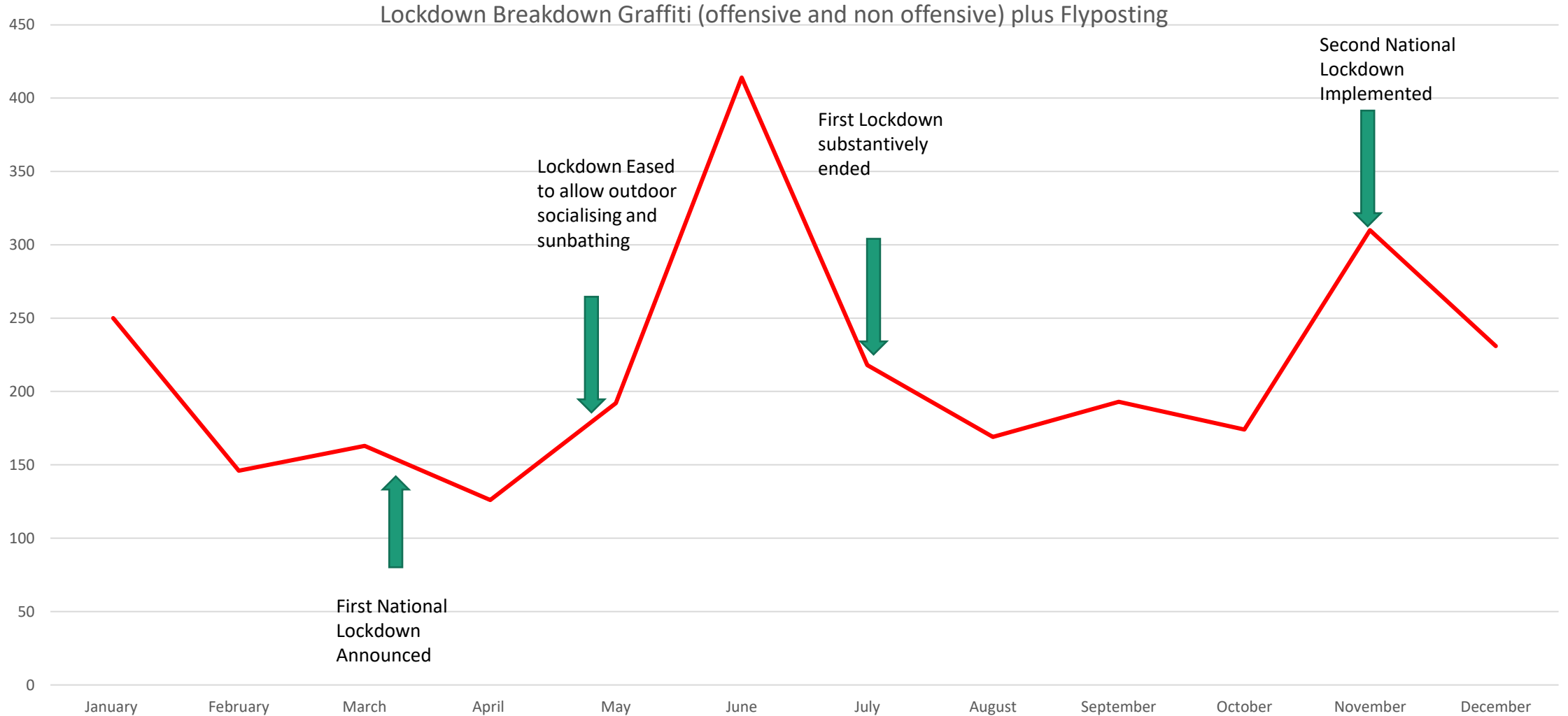
A further spike in fly tipping instances was noted in lockdown 2. Notably the construction industry was not prevented from working during this time.



# Graffiti and Fly-posting Reports 2019 - 2020



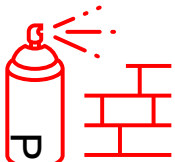
# Lockdown Breakdown for Graffiti



# Lockdown Graffiti Data Trends

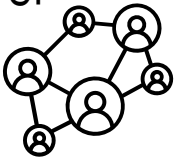


Notable reductions coinciding with each national lockdown  
January 2021 data suggests this trend continuing into lockdown 3



Increases in graffiti were recorded at each “easing” of lockdown regulations  
Statistics show that instances typically doubled in the first month after each lockdown was eased

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Coordinated flyposting / stickering action by right wing groups such as the “Hundred Handers” was very prevalent during lockdown 1 with material being cascaded to local cells digitally and required coordinated action with police and hate crime leads in the council  
Localised extremist, persistent and highly offensive right wing content in the John Street / Bramall Lane area during lockdown 2 (not linked to football hooliganism).

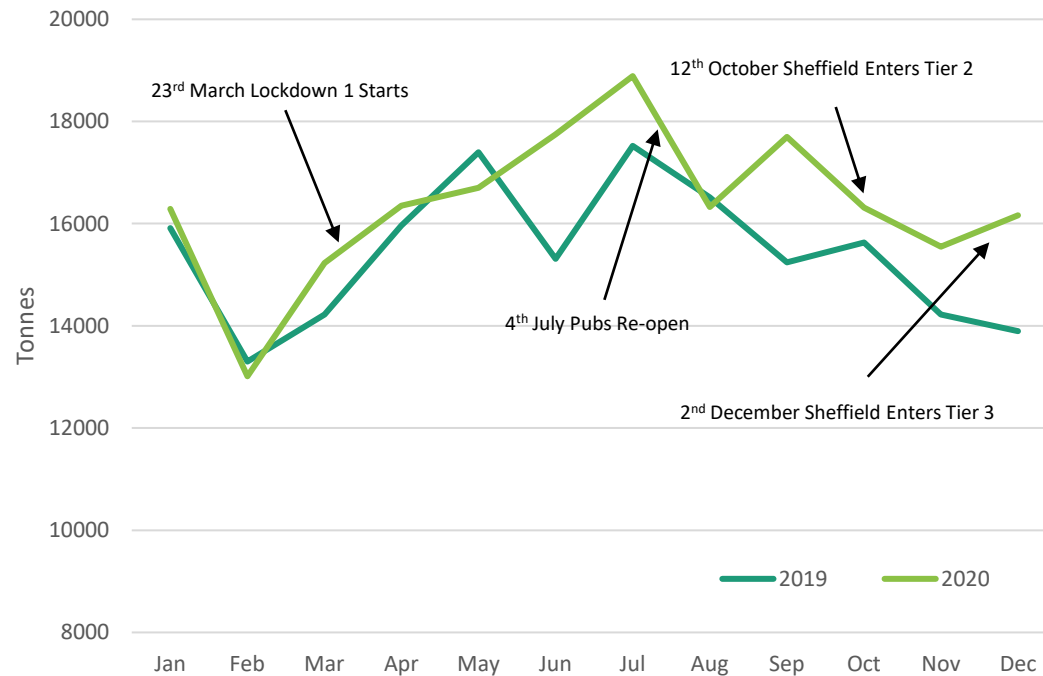


Amey Contract responsible for removal from **highway assets** – i.e. bins, lamp posts, highway walls etc – not privately owned premises. We have maintained a 1 day MAX timescale for removal of offensive material and 5 Business Days MAX for removal of non offensive material throughout the year.

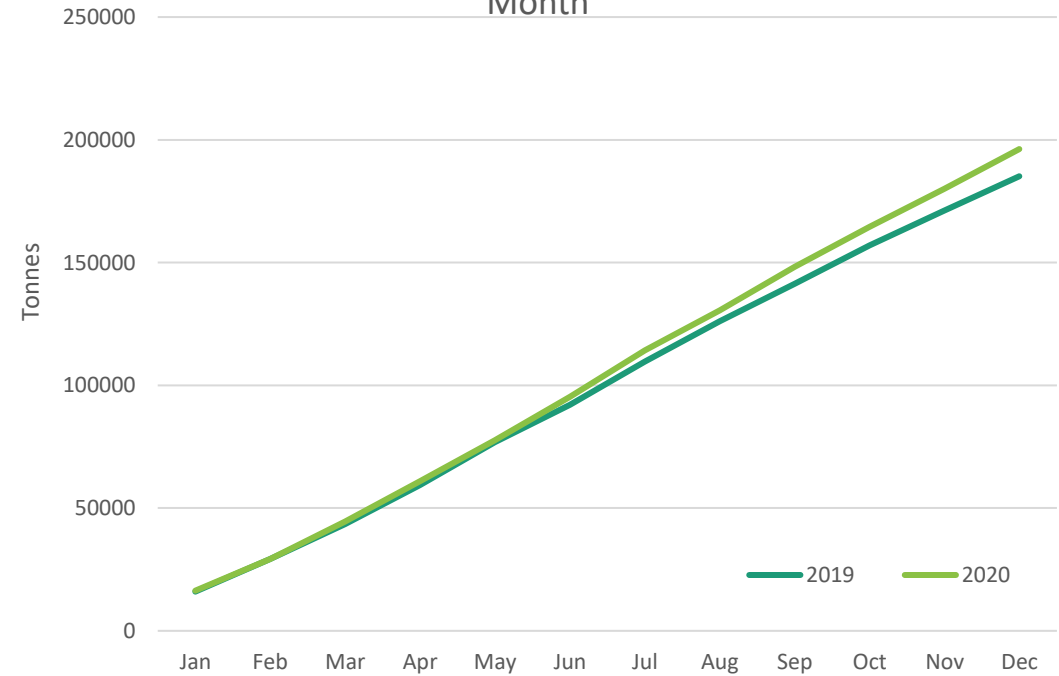
# All Waste

- **2020 has seen the amount of domestic waste and recycling processed through all domestic services increase by around 11,000 tonnes or 6% on 2019**

All Domestic Waste Tonnage by Month



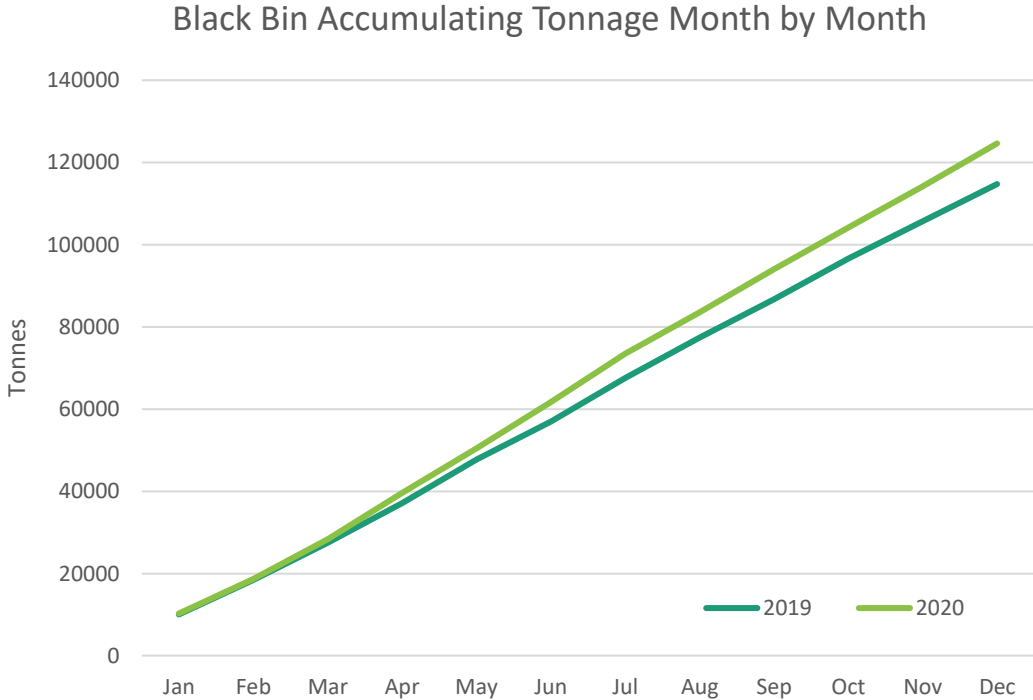
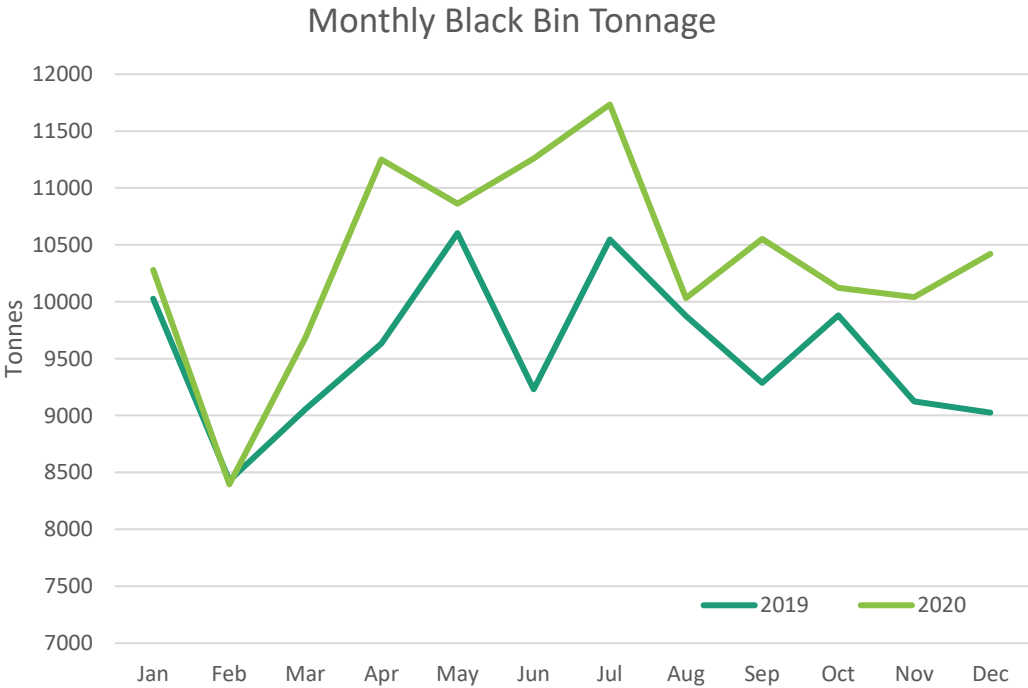
All Domestic Waste Accumulating Tonnage Month by Month



# Black Bins

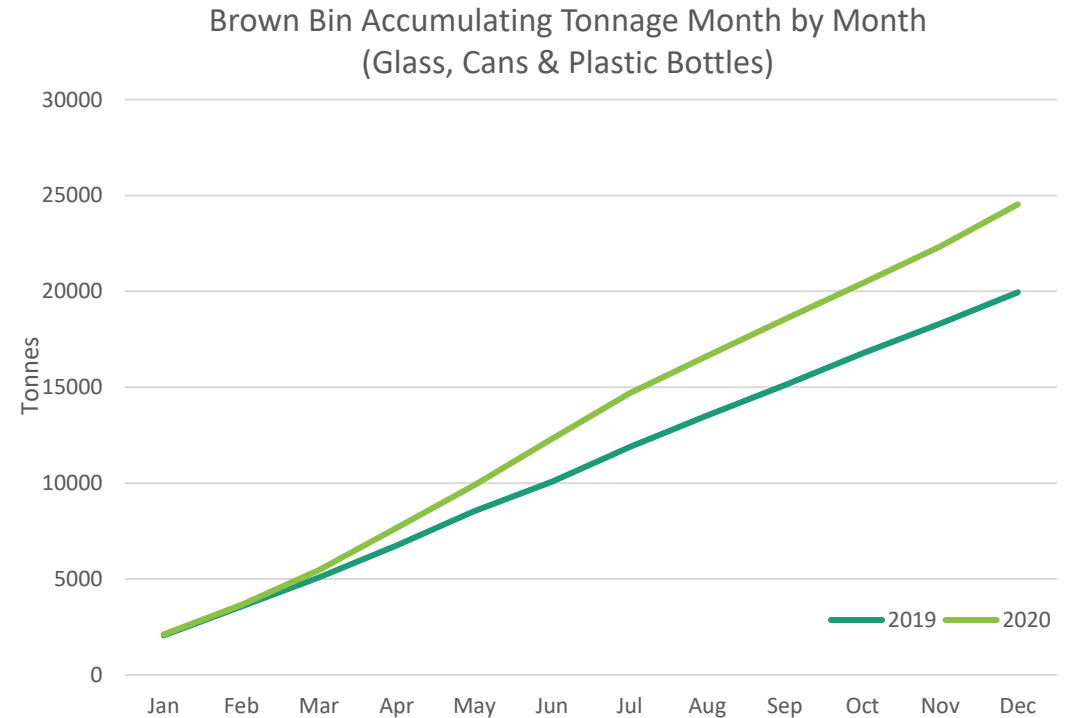
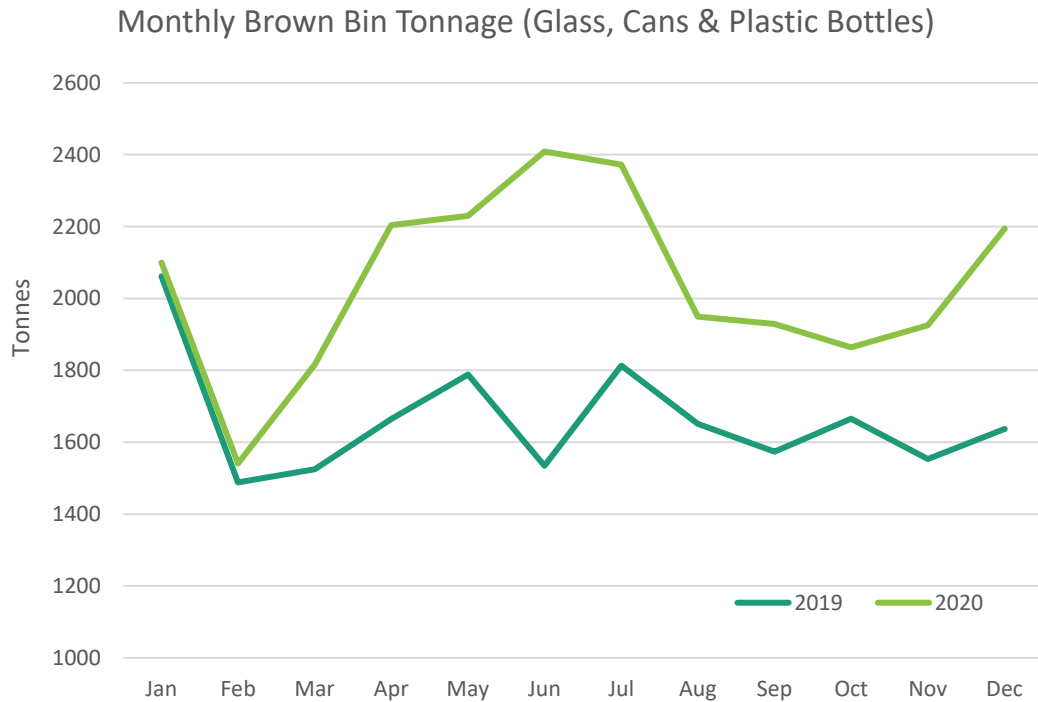
- **No covid related disruptions to collections in 2020**
- **Black bin waste increases significantly in lockdowns**
- **11000 tonnes more collected in 2020 than in 2019 (8% increase)**

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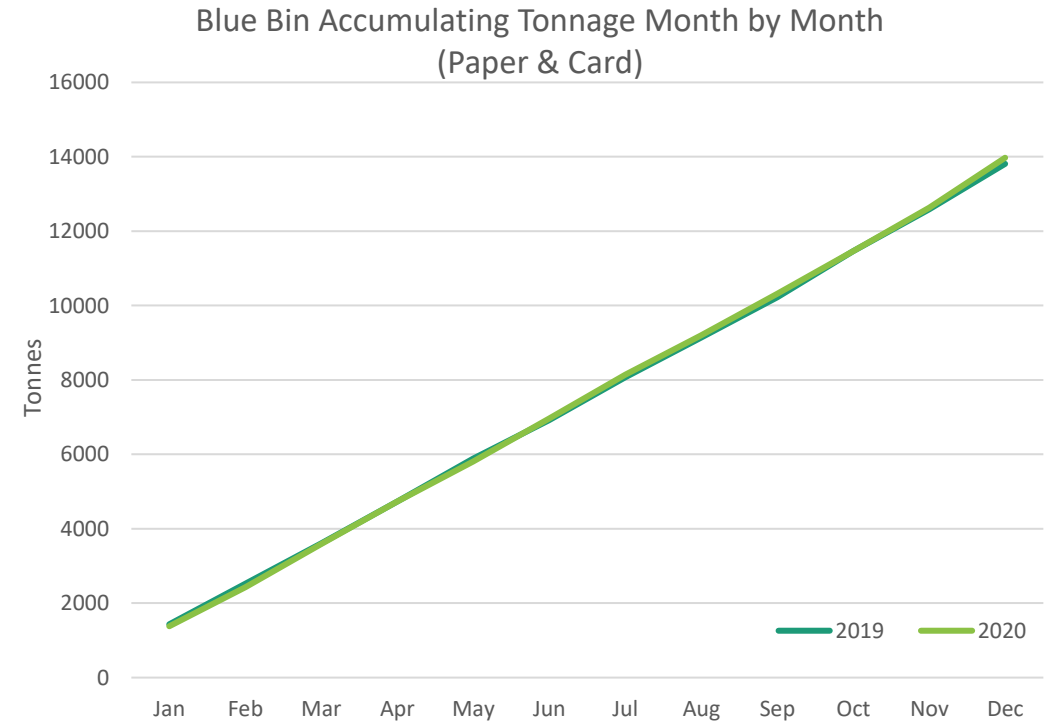
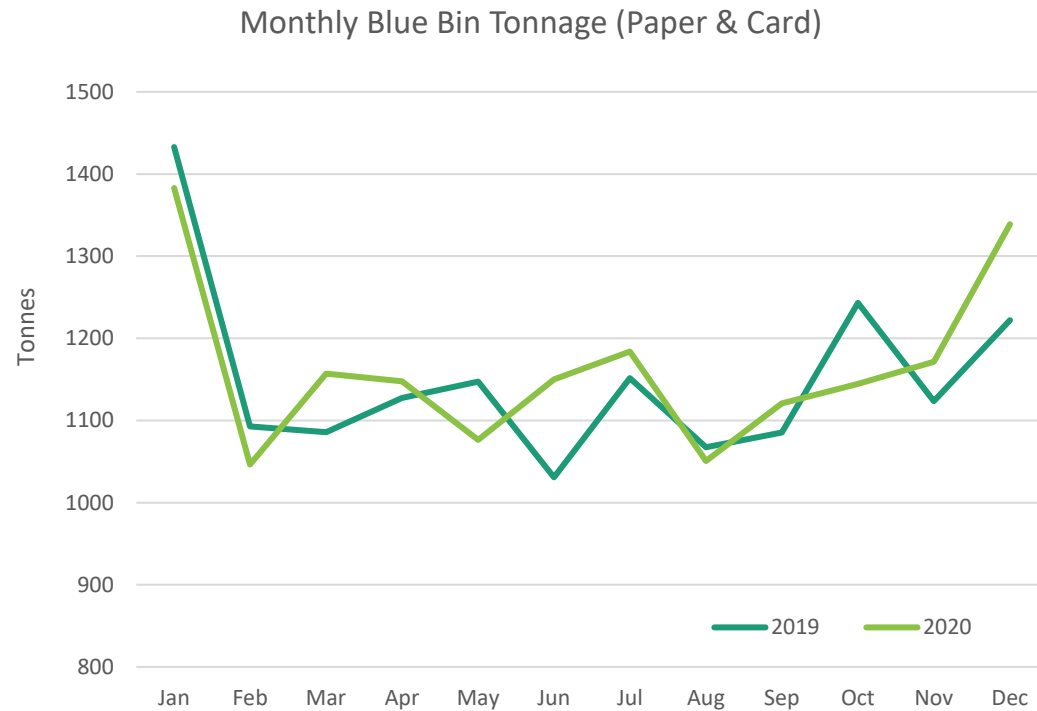
# Brown Bins

- **No covid related disruptions to collections in 2020**
- **Significant increase in tonnage through 2020, especially lockdown 1**
- **6000 tonnes more collected in 2020 than 2019 (19% increase)**



# Blue Bin

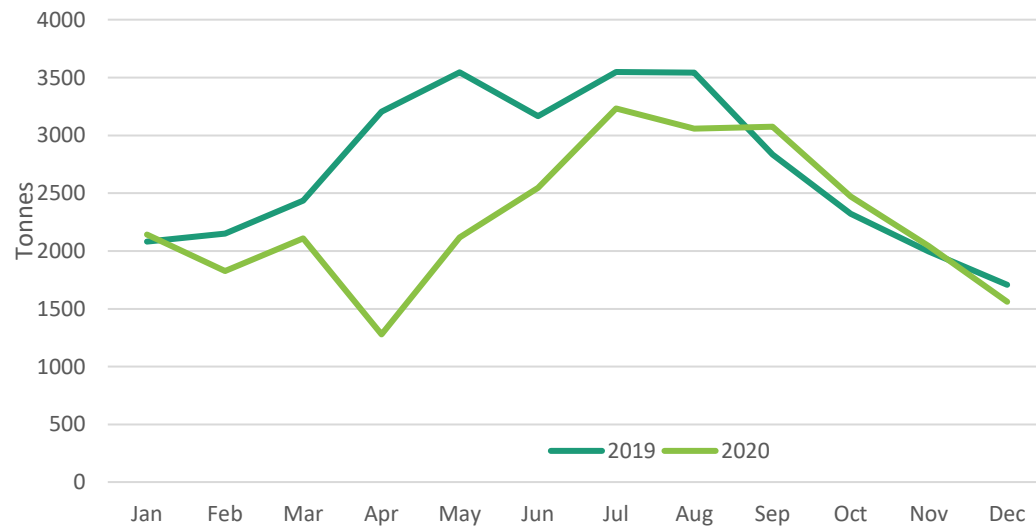
- **No covid related disruptions to collection in 2020**
- **Recent trends have been for lower annual yields of paper & Card**
- **150 tonnes more collected in 2020 than 2019 (1% increase)**



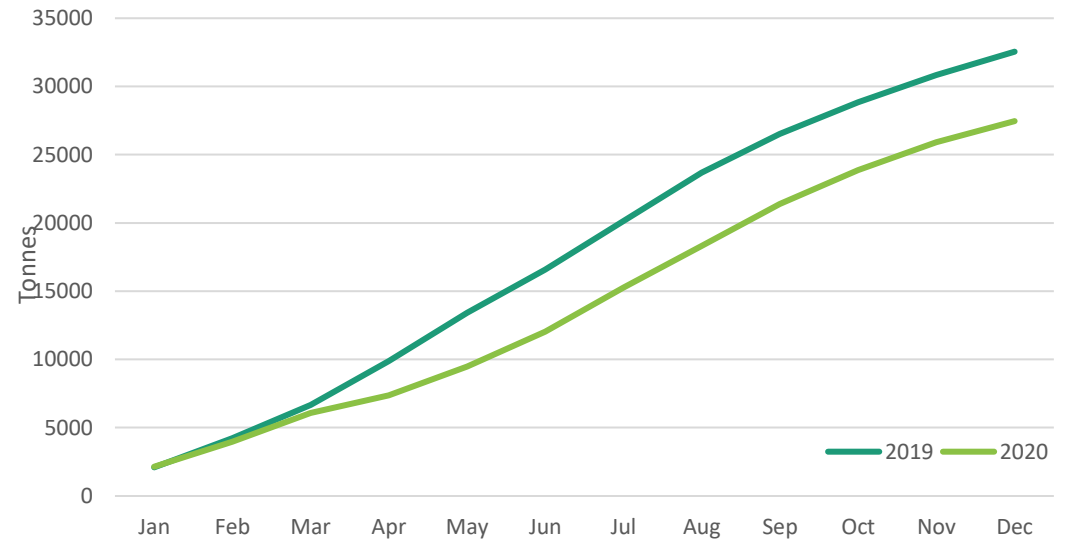
# HWRC's

- **HWRC's have remained open throughout the year**
- **Restrictions on numbers on sites to ensure social distancing has presented issues**
- **Additional opening hours have been provided to try and mitigate queues at sites**
- **Temporary traffic measures in place to prohibit queuing outside sites**
- **Lockdown 1 saw significant drop in waste volumes for 2020 through the sites, this is then gradually recovering through the year**
- **5000 less tonnes of material through the sites in 2020 (21% decrease)**

HWRC All Materials



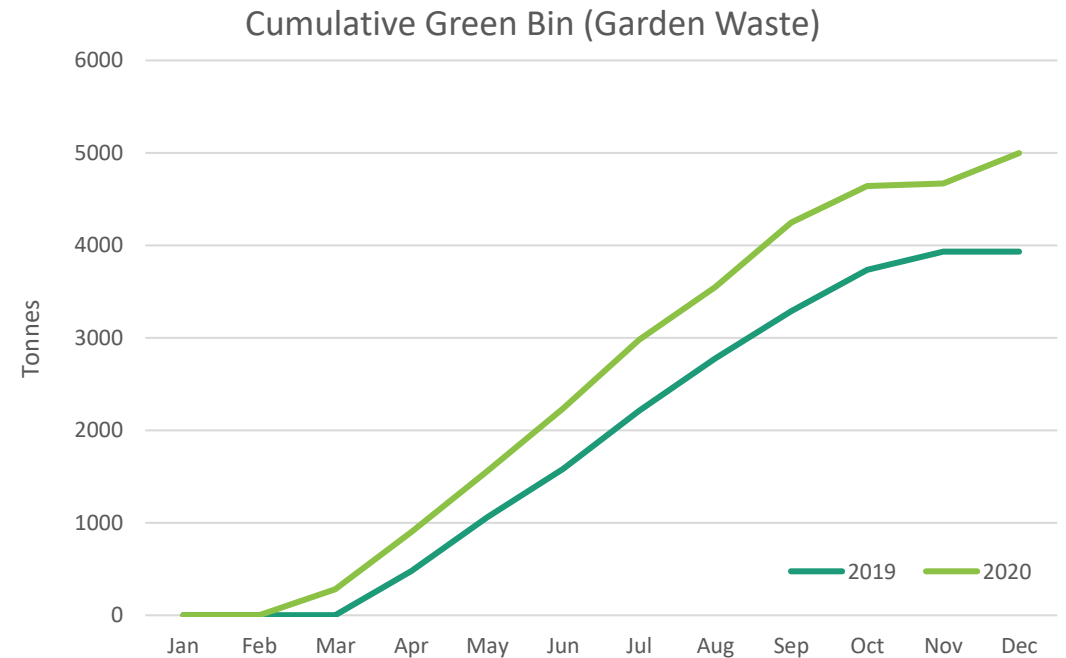
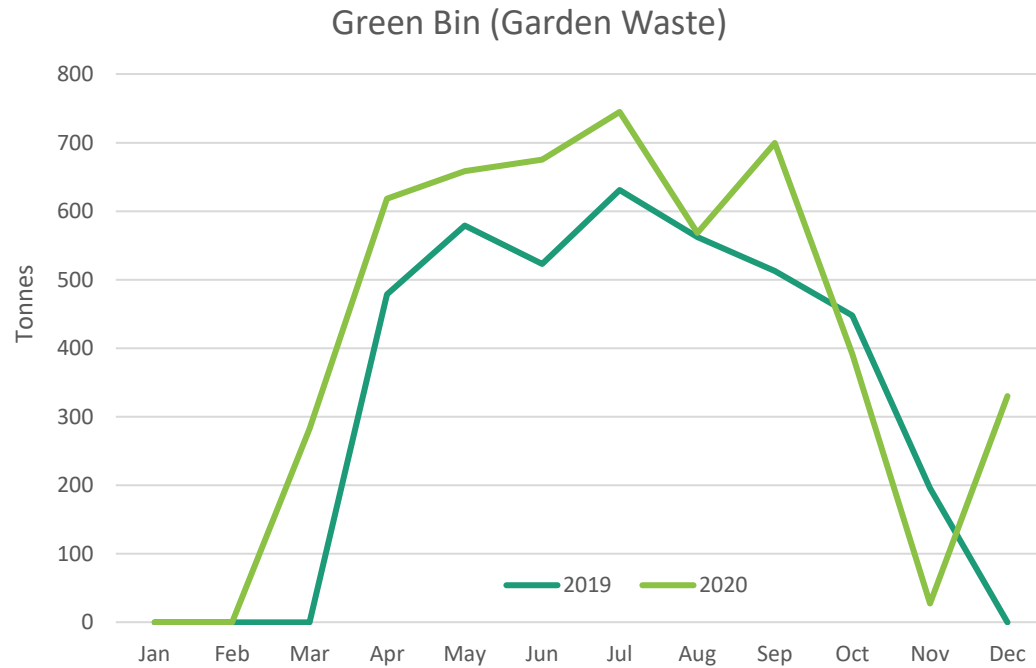
Cumulative HWRC All Waste





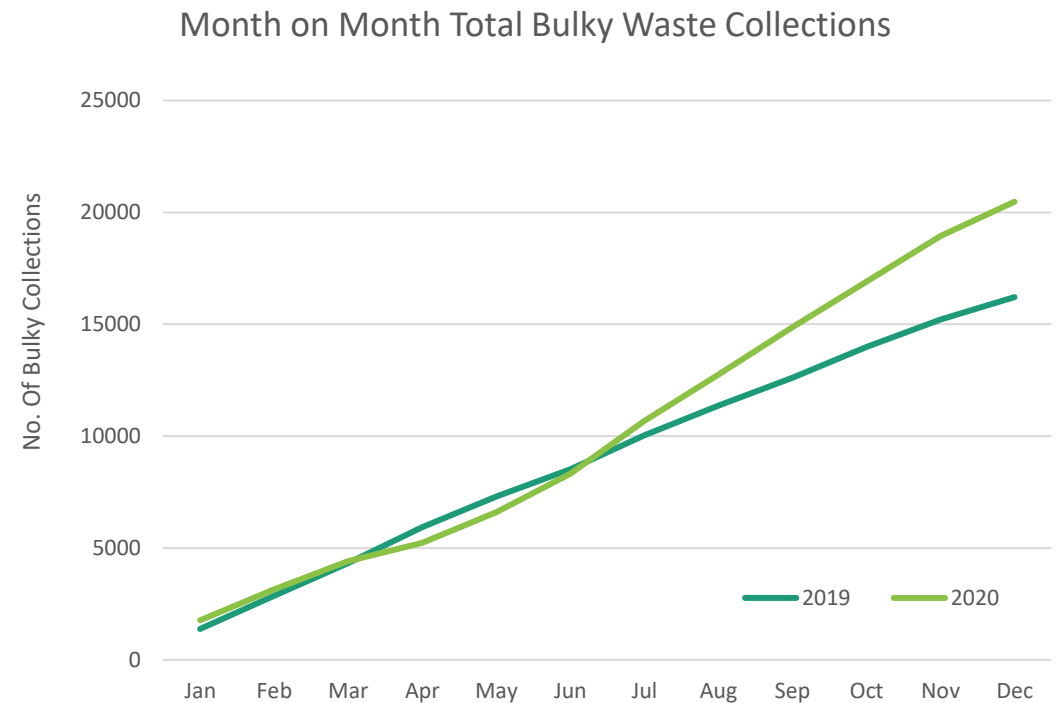
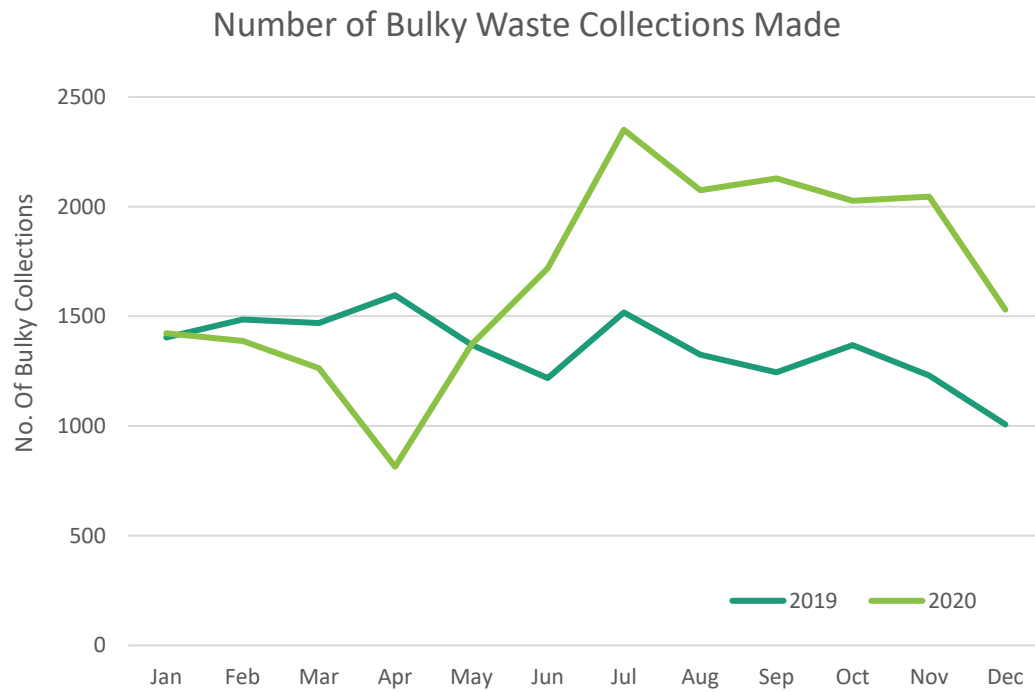
# Green Bin

- Service stood down in March (1 collection Cycle) and October/November (2 collection cycles) for covid reasons
- Additional recovery collection undertaken in December and refunds instigated for missed collections. Customers could opt to donate to lord mayors charity instead of refund circa £20k to be donated
- Lockdown 1 saw customer subscriptions rise above previous years levels by around 3000 customers (13k in 2019 16k in 2020)
- 1000 tonnes more collected in 2020 than 2019 (20% increase)



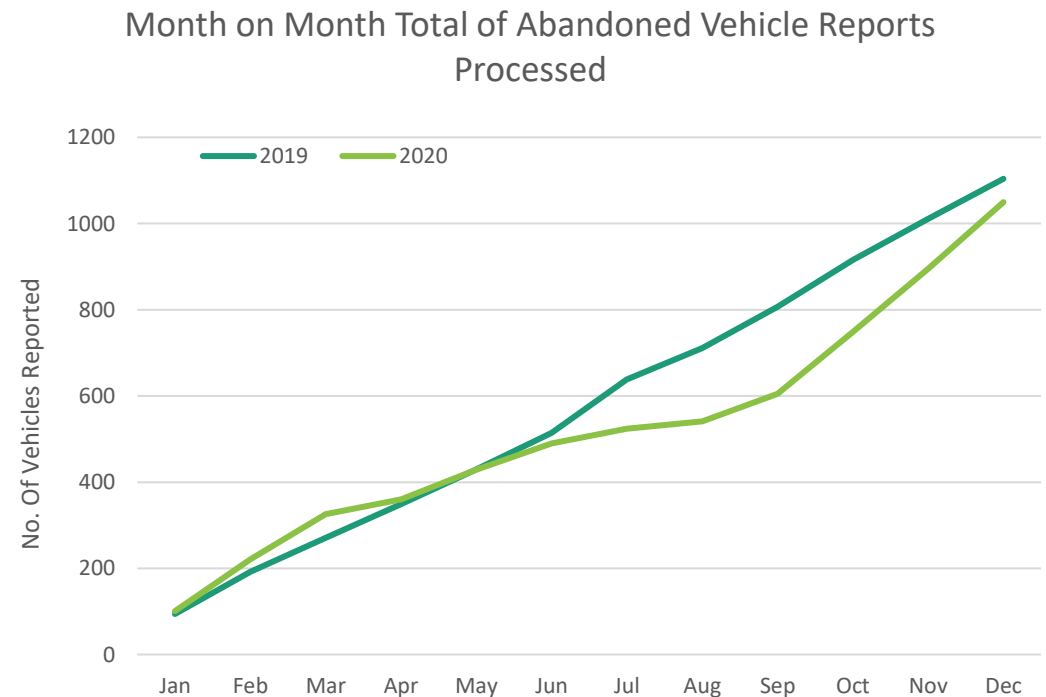
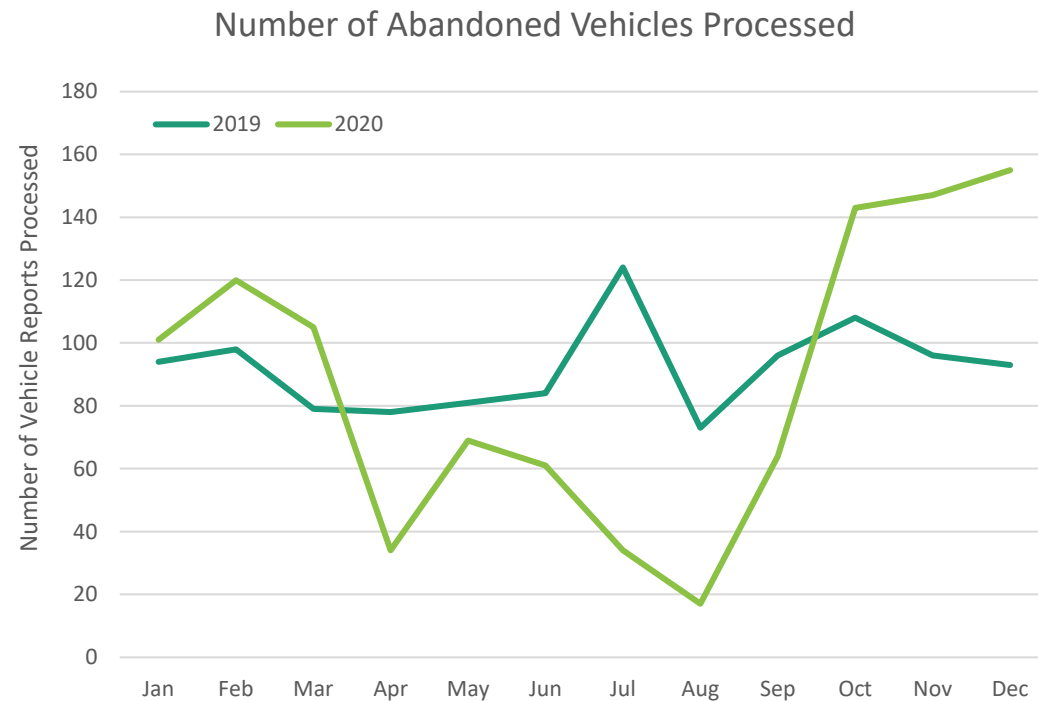
# Bulky Waste

- **2020 Bulky waste collections up by around 4000 bookings (25%) on 2019 numbers**
- **Bookings from social landlords remain roughly the same in thee periods but private tenants making bookings is the cause for most of the increase**



# Abandoned Vehicles

- **No significant variation in 2020 numbers from 2019**
- **Lockdown 1 period saw a significant drop off in reports**
- **Number of reports have increased significantly since October when a new web form went live enabling easier reporting of abandoned vehicles**



[www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/road-pavements](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/road-pavements)

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/bins-recycling-services](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/bins-recycling-services)

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Thank you



## Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

**Report of:** Policy and Improvement Officer

**Subject:** Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme: Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

**Author of Report:** Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer  
[alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)

This report is a summary of the work of the Committee 2020/21. The usual pattern of meetings was disrupted by Covid-19, meetings were held virtually, and this Committee met in September, November, December 2020, January, February and lastly March 2021.

The work programme attached at Appendix 1 is the completed work programme 2020/21, it includes potential items the Committee might like to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22.

**Type of item:** The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Note the work programme completed 2020/21
- Agree potential items to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22

**Background Papers:** [Sheffield Council Constitution](#)

**Category of Report:** OPEN

## **Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme: Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Family Support Scrutiny Committee - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**

### **1.0 What is the role of Scrutiny?**

1.1 Scrutiny Committees exist to hold decision makers to account, investigate issues of local concern, and make recommendations for improvement. The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (formerly the Centre for Public Scrutiny) has identified that effective scrutiny:

- Provides ‘Critical Friend’ challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers
- Enables the voice and concern of the public and its communities
- Is carried out by independent minded governors who lead and own the scrutiny process
- Drives improvement in public services and finds efficiencies and new ways of delivering services

1.2 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny has updated its activity with several blogs and handy advice for scrutiny in Covid-19, and the Covid Act. These can be found on their web pages - <https://www.cfgs.org.uk/> .

1.3 Scrutiny Committees can operate in a number of ways – through formal meetings with several agenda items, single item ‘select committee’ style meetings, task and finish groups, and informal visits and meetings to gather evidence to inform scrutiny work. Committees can hear from Council Officers, Cabinet Members, partner organisations, expert witnesses, members of the public. Scrutiny Committees are not decision making bodies, but can make recommendations to decision makers.

### **2.0 Work programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme 2021/22**

2.1 The usual pattern of meetings was disrupted by Covid-19, meetings were held virtually, and this Committee met six times in 2020/21. Each year the Committee determines a work programme, which remains through the year. Appendix 1 is the completed work programme 2020/21.

2.2 In practice with previous years the outgoing Committee will highlight potential items to include in a future work programme 2021/22, examples of these are set out in Appendix 1.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Note the work programme completed 2020/21
- Agree potential items to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22

# Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

## WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

**Last updated:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Please note:** this version is the completed work programme 2020/21

<b>E&amp;EWB</b>			
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reasons for selecting topic</b>	<b>Lead Officer/s</b>	<b>Agenda Item/ Briefing paper</b>
<b>Tuesday 8th September 2020</b>			
Leisure Re-opening Subsidy - Sheffield City Trust/Places Leisure 809 47	Issue carried forward from last year, Committee requested further information on Sheffield City Trust following the call in from last year. They also requested the report in response to community and residential concerns about the re-opening of facilities following lock down, particularly Ponds Forge.	Cllrs Mary Lea and Terry Fox, Eugene Walker, Ryan Keyworth, Lisa Firth, John Warner	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Tuesday 24th November 2020</b>			
Sheffield Covid Business Recovery Plan – Call in of Cabinet Decision	Brought to the Committee as a call in	Edward Highfield and Alexis Krachai	<b>Call in</b>
Work programme 2020/21		Policy and Improvement Officer	<b>Standing Item</b>

<b>Tuesday 15th December 2020</b>			
<i>Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Bus Services in Sheffield</i>	<i>Discussion item on the impact with representatives from First Bus and Stagecoach</i>	<i>Matthew Reynolds, Transport Planning and Infrastructure Manager, Sheffield City Council</i>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<i>Work programme 2020/21</i>		<i>Policy and Improvement Officer</i>	<b>Standing Item</b>
<b>Tuesday 19th January 2021</b>			
<i>Update on the Sheffield Plan</i>	<i>An ongoing issue of interest for the committee</i>	<i>Cllr Julie Grocutt, Colin Walker and Simon Vincent</i>	
<i>Work programme 2020/21</i>		<i>Policy and Improvement Officer</i>	<b>Standing Item</b>
<b>Tuesday 23rd February 2021</b>			
<i>Update on Covid Business Response and Recovery Planning</i>	<i>An item of ongoing interest to the Committee.</i>	<i>Cllr Mazher Iqbal, Edward Highfield, Ben Morley</i>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<i>Work programme 2020/21</i>		<i>Policy and Improvement Officer</i>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Tuesday 23rd March 2021</b>			
<i>Waste, fly tipping and littering</i>	<i>An item of ongoing interest to the Committee.</i>	<i>Cllr Mark Jones, Gillian Charters</i>	
<i>Work Programme 2021/22 and Future Work Programme</i>	<i>This report provides the Committee with a summary of its activities over the municipal year for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21; and a list of topics which it</i>	<i>Policy and Improvement Officer</i>	<b>Agenda Item</b>



is recommended be put forward for consideration as part of the 2021/22 Work Programme for this committee.

**Potential items for future work programme 2021/22**

*Transport Strategy – Role of cycling*

*Climate Change*

*OSMC keeping a watching brief on this*

Employability/Inclusive and Sustainable Economy

**Review group**

Development of Active Sheffield Strategy

Timeline to be determined – initial meet 2020/21, move remaining activity into 2021/2022

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