

**Embargoed until Monday 13 March 2023**

## Key messages for Caru Cymru Partners

- Independent street cleanliness surveys give a ‘snapshot’ of litter and other environmental quality issues.
- Street cleanliness surveys have been carried out in every local authority since 2007-08. Keep Wales Tidy bring together the data from these surveys to build a year-on-year Wales-wide picture of the condition of our streets.
- *How Clean Are Our Streets* has been prepared by Keep Wales Tidy and is a summary of the findings collated from the Local Environmental Audit and Management System (LEAMS) surveys undertaken across Wales since 2007-08. Surveys cover a 6% sample of streets, selected at random from full lists of adopted highways provided by each local authority. The results are for streets alone and do not extend to parks green spaces, beaches, or busy roads. The report and methodology can be found on the Keep Wales Tidy website.
- The street cleanliness surveys were carried out as part of Caru Cymru – an initiative led by Keep Wales Tidy and local authorities to eradicate litter and waste.
- Caru Cymru has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

- People are encouraged to help tackle litter across Wales by taking part in Keep Wales Tidy's Spring Clean Cymru campaign between 17 March – 2 April.

<https://keepwalestidy.cymru/caru-cymru/spring-clean-cymru/>

### More information

A summary of the all-Wales report and survey methodology can be found on the Keep Wales Tidy website [keepwalestidy.cymru](https://keepwalestidy.cymru)

For communications support, please contact the Keep Wales Tidy Marketing and Communications Team. Email [comms@keepwalestidy.cymru](mailto:comms@keepwalestidy.cymru) or call 07875 662803

The following article will be available on Keep Wales Tidy's website on Monday 13 March:

## How clean are our streets in Wales?

We've published our latest independent annual report on street cleanliness in Wales. We survey thousands of streets in every corner of the country and have been doing so since 2007.

If you're looking for the most recent and reliable street litter data for Wales, you've come to the right place! We produce the only consistent and robust measure of street litter data for the whole of Wales.

Our one-of-a-kind report has revealed that smoking litter was found on three in four streets across the country in 2022-23. Despite significant improvements in smoking-related litter since surveys began, cigarette butts, vapes, packaging and filter tips were found on 76% of

streets this year. Single use vapes are new culprits captured for the first time in this years' report.

'How Clean Are Our Streets?' brings together results from thousands of street cleanliness surveys to give a 'snapshot' of litter and other environmental quality issues.

### So, how clean *are* our streets?

Headline results from the **How Clean Are Our Streets?** report include:

- 96% of streets grade B and above. Grade B and above means the streets are an acceptable level of cleanliness.
- Dog fouling was recorded on 6% of streets – the lowest figure since street cleanliness surveys began in 2007-08.
- Litter dropped by pedestrians remains the most common source.
- On-the-go food and drink packaging found on 65% of streets.
- Smoking litter is the most common type of litter, found on 3 in 4 streets. New trend identified - Early estimates suggest vape litter found on 6% of streets.
- 7,450 wet wipes littered on streets of Wales at any time.

Read our ['How Clean Are Our Streets? 2022-23'](#) report and the [survey methodology](#).

### Take action in your community!

With our annual Spring Clean Cymru clean-up campaign just around the corner, we're calling on everyone to get outside and take action in your community between 17 March – 2 April.

Help tackle litter on our streets, green spaces and beaches by pledging to collect a bag of litter (or more).

Everyone can make a big difference to our environment.

[Register your own Spring Clean Cymru event.](#)

[Join one of our existing events in your area.](#)

Example social media messaging:

How clean are our streets in Wales? 😞 🇬🇧 □□□□□□

We survey thousands of streets in every corner of the country and have been doing so since 2007 🤖

We produce the ONLY annual street cleanliness survey in Wales and our 2022-23 report is OUT NOW! Read the full report 📄

📣 Headlines below 📌

👉 96% of streets grade B and above

📦 Packaging on 65% of streets

🐕 Dog fouling lowest level to date

🚬 Smoking litter on 3 in 4 streets

★ Early estimates suggest vape litter on 6% of streets

○ 7,450 wet wipes on streets

🚶 Pedestrian dropped litter most common source

With #SpringCleanCymru just around the corner, we're calling on everyone to get outside and take action in your community between 17 March – 2 April.

Help tackle litter on our streets, green spaces and beaches. Everyone can make a big difference to our environment. Sign up now 📄 <https://keepwalestidy.cymru/carucymru/spring-clean-cymru/>