



Decimus

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COMMUNITY CLEANLINESS INSPECTION – LEE HIGH ROAD, LEWISHAM (

LHR-CCI-220726

Wednesday, 22 July 2026

Responsible Authority Independent Community Inspection

20 Findings Recorded



HEAVY LIQUID STAINING AND INGRAINED PAVEMENT GRIME

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

A long trail of dark liquid residue and heavy staining was observed extending from the shopfront area across several paving slabs along the pedestrian route. The pavement is also covered with widespread splash marks and ingrained grime.

The source of the liquid could not be confirmed during the inspection. However, its position and pattern suggest that it may be connected to activity from nearby commercial premises.

The affected area requires a thorough mechanical or pressure clean. The council should also investigate whether wastewater, grease or other substances are being discharged onto the public footway and take appropriate enforcement action where responsibility is established.

SOLUTION

Arrange a targeted deep clean using hot-pressure washing or suitable mechanical pavement-cleaning equipment to remove the ingrained staining and residue. Inspect nearby commercial premises to identify the source of the liquid, remind businesses that wastewater and grease must not be discharged onto the public footway, and take enforcement action where evidence supports it. Add this section to a monitored cleansing schedule with a follow-up inspection to confirm that the staining has been removed and has not returned.



HEAVILY STAINED PAVEMENT AROUND PUBLIC LITTER BIN

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The paving surrounding the public litter bin was heavily marked by dark liquid splashes, ingrained grime and surface staining. Dirt and residue were particularly concentrated around the base of the bin, suggesting that this area is not being cleaned thoroughly during routine street-cleansing visits.

The bin itself appears available for use, but the surrounding pavement remains visibly dirty and detracts from the appearance of the wider shopping area.

SOLUTION

Remove any loose litter and carry out a detailed hot-pressure or mechanical clean around the full base of the bin and the surrounding paving slabs. The exterior and underside of the bin should also be washed. Add the area around public bins to routine targeted cleansing checks, with periodic deep cleaning to prevent repeated build-up of grime and liquid residue.



HEAVILY SOILED PAVEMENT BENEATH SHOPFRONT SCAFFOLDING

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The footway beneath and alongside the shopfront scaffolding was visibly covered with widespread dark spotting, ingrained dirt, residue and scattered debris. The staining extends across the pedestrian route and is particularly noticeable close to the shop entrance and around the scaffold bases.

The presence of scaffolding may make routine mechanical cleansing more difficult, but the pavement must still be maintained to an acceptable standard. The narrow walking route and dirty surface also reduce the quality of the pedestrian environment.

SOLUTION

Arrange a detailed manual clean followed by suitable mechanical or hot-pressure washing where access permits. Clean around every scaffold base, shopfront edge and utility cover rather than only the open central route. Confirm whether the business or scaffolding contractor has cleansing obligations, require any associated waste or residue to be removed, and inspect the area again while the scaffolding remains in place.



WIDESPREAD PAVEMENT STAINING, LITTER AND INGRAINED GRIME

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

A substantial section of the footway was visibly covered with dark splash marks, ingrained grime, scuffing and general surface staining. A discarded item of litter was also present along the pedestrian route.

The condition extends across numerous paving slabs and is not limited to one small patch. Although the exact source of the staining could not be confirmed during the inspection, the repeated marks and overall appearance suggest that routine sweeping is not sufficient to maintain this section of Lee High Road to an acceptable standard.

SOLUTION

Remove the loose litter and arrange a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure clean of the affected pavement, including the kerb edge and areas around the street pole. Review the frequency and quality of scheduled cleansing along this commercial stretch. Where fresh staining appears linked to nearby businesses, investigate the source and provide advice or enforcement as appropriate. Carry out a follow-up inspection after cleaning to ensure the condition has improved.



DIRTY AND STAINED FOOTWAY AROUND BUS STOP AREA

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Highways Transport for London, where the bus-stop infrastructure is maintained by TfL

The pavement around the bus stop was visibly affected by widespread dark staining, ingrained dirt, scattered residue and small pieces of litter. Grime was also concentrated around the base of the bus-stop pole and along the edge of the closed shopfront.

As this is a high-footfall waiting area, the current condition creates a poor impression for passengers and pedestrians. The repeated staining suggests that ordinary sweeping is not sufficient and that detailed washing is required.

SOLUTION

Remove all loose litter and carry out a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure clean of the pavement, including the area around the bus-stop pole, seating, kerb edge and shopfront boundary. Clean the street furniture where necessary and introduce regular targeted inspections of the bus-stop area, particularly during periods of heavy use.



POORLY MAINTAINED FOOTWAY WITH STAINING, LITTER AND REFUSE BAGS

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The footway was visibly affected by widespread dark staining, ingrained grime and scattered litter. Although a public litter bin is present, the surrounding paving remains dirty and marked.

Several refuse bags were also visible further along the pavement beside street infrastructure. This indicates a combined issue involving inadequate detailed cleansing and potentially incorrect presentation of commercial waste.

SOLUTION

Remove the refuse bags and loose litter, then carry out a full-width hot-pressure or mechanical clean of the pavement, including around the litter bin, street poles, utility covers and kerb edge. Establish who placed the refuse bags there and take enforcement action where commercial waste has been presented incorrectly. Increase cleansing and waste-monitoring visits along this section and complete a follow-up



COMMERCIAL REFUSE BAGS OBSTRUCTING AND FOULING THE PUBLIC FOOTWAY

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

Two large refuse bags containing mixed waste were left directly on the public pavement beside a utility cabinet. Loose waste was also visible around the bags, and the surrounding paving was heavily stained and dirty.

The bags reduce the usable width of the footway and create an unattractive and potentially unhygienic environment for pedestrians. Their contents and location suggest that they may be connected to a nearby commercial premises, although responsibility could not be confirmed during the inspection.

Solution:

Arrange prompt removal of the refuse and clean the affected paving and utility-cabinet surroundings. Inspect the bags for evidence identifying the waste producer, review nearby CCTV where available, and confirm whether the waste was placed out within an authorised collection period. Where commercial waste has been presented incorrectly, issue appropriate advice or enforcement. Introduce targeted waste-presentation checks along this stretch of Lee High Road.



STAINED PAVEMENT, WEEDS AND POOR CLEANSING AROUND STREET FURNITURE

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The pavement was visibly affected by widespread dark staining, splash marks and ingrained grime, particularly around the public litter bin, signpost and kerb edge. Weeds were also growing from the edge of the shopfront and around drainage or utility features.

Although a litter bin is available, the surrounding area remains poorly maintained. Dirt and vegetation have accumulated in areas that may be missed during routine sweeping, reducing the overall cleanliness and appearance of the pedestrian route.

SOLUTION

Remove the weeds and loose debris, clean around the full base of the litter bin, signpost, kerb and shopfront edge, and carry out a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure wash of the affected paving. The council should include edges, utility covers and street-furniture bases within future cleansing inspections and investigate any recurring liquid staining linked to nearby premises.



FOOD-PREMISES FRONTAGE AFFECTED BY INGRAINED STAINING AND RESIDUE

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The paving immediately outside the commercial entrance was visibly affected by dark spots, ingrained grime, splash marks and small areas of residue. Dirt had also accumulated along the doorway and building edge.

Because the staining is concentrated beside the entrance to a food premises, the source should be checked rather than assumed. The condition may result from customer activity, waste handling, food or drink spillages, or inadequate cleaning of the shop frontage.

SOLUTION

Deep-clean the pavement outside the entrance, including the doorway, kerb edge and building line. The council should inspect the premises' waste-handling and frontage-cleaning arrangements and confirm whether any liquids or food residue are being allowed onto the public footway. Require the business to clean any mess for which it is responsible and take enforcement action if repeated fouling is established.



SOILED AND STAINED TACTILE PAVING AT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The tactile paving at the pedestrian crossing was visibly affected by dark spotting, white residue, ingrained dirt and surface staining. Because tactile paving is specifically used by blind and partially sighted pedestrians, it should be kept clean, unobstructed and clearly distinguishable from the surrounding footway.

The staining also continues onto the adjacent paving and close to the shopfront edge, indicating that this is part of the wider cleanliness problem along Lee High Road.

Solution:

Carry out a careful deep clean of the tactile paving and surrounding footway using a suitable method that will not damage the raised surface. Remove all residue from between the tactile studs, clean the shopfront edge and inspect the area for recurring discharge or spillages. Include tactile paving in future detailed cleansing inspections and arrange prompt follow-up where staining returns.



FADED AND UNCLEAR CARRIAGEWAY / BUS-LANE MARKINGS

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The carriageway markings visible in this section appear faint, worn and insufficiently clear. The pink/red bus-lane style markings are patchy and no longer stand out clearly against the road surface. This reduces the visual clarity of the highway layout for drivers and weakens the overall appearance of the street.

Although the footway in this image is the main foreground, the adjoining road markings are also relevant to the condition of the wider public realm and may require renewal.

SOLUTION

Inspect the condition of the carriageway markings and confirm whether repainting or full remarking is required. Refresh any faded bus-lane or traffic-management markings so they are clear, consistent and easily visible to road users. Where old or redundant markings remain, remove or properly replace them to avoid confusion, and include the location in future highway-condition inspections.



EXTENSIVE LIQUID TRAILS AND INGRAINED STAINING ACROSS FOOTWAY

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

Several long liquid trails, splash marks and dark stained patches were visible across the pedestrian route. The residue extends over multiple paving slabs and appears to run from the shopfront side of the pavement towards the kerb.

The exact source could not be confirmed during the inspection. However, the pattern suggests repeated spillages, washing water or another form of liquid discharge rather than ordinary footfall alone. The surrounding paving is also affected by widespread ingrained grime and scattered small debris.

SOLUTION

Arrange a full-width hot-pressure or mechanical deep clean of the affected pavement, including the shopfront edge, kerb line and utility cover. Investigate nearby businesses to determine whether washing water, grease or other liquids are being discharged onto the public footway. Require responsible premises to improve their cleaning and waste-handling practices, use enforcement where repeated fouling is established, and reinspect the location after cleansing.



HEAVILY STAINED PAVING AROUND BINS AND STREET FURNITURE

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The pavement around the public litter bin, larger street bin and adjoining pole was visibly affected by extensive dark staining, ingrained grime and dirt concentrated around the bases of the street furniture. Similar marks continue along the pedestrian route.

The clustering of dirt around fixed equipment suggests these areas may be missed during routine sweeping. The condition weakens the overall appearance of this busy commercial section of Lee High Road.

SOLUTION

Carry out a detailed mechanical or hot-pressure clean around the full bases of both bins, the pole, kerb edge and surrounding paving slabs. Wash the exterior of the street furniture where necessary and remove any trapped litter or residue. Future cleansing inspections should specifically include fixed equipment and other hard-to-reach areas, followed by a recorded reinspection to confirm improvement.



REPEATED LIQUID STAINING AND GRIME OUTSIDE COMMERCIAL PREMISES

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

Several dark liquid patches, splash marks and areas of ingrained grime were visible across the footway immediately outside the commercial frontage. Dirt and debris had also accumulated along the doorway and building edge.

The repeated pattern of staining across separate paving slabs suggests recurring spillages, wastewater or another form of liquid discharge rather than a single isolated incident. However, the precise source could not be confirmed during the inspection.

SOLUTION

Carry out a full-width hot-pressure or mechanical deep clean, including the shopfront edge, doorway, utility covers and kerb line. Investigate nearby businesses' frontage-cleaning, waste-handling and wastewater arrangements. Require any responsible premises to prevent further discharge onto the public footway, use enforcement where repeated fouling is established, and reinspect the area after cleansing.



WIDESPREAD PAVEMENT STAINING ALONG BUSY COMMERCIAL FOOTWAY

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The pavement was visibly affected by repeated dark spots, splash marks and ingrained grime across a substantial section of the pedestrian route. Staining was present close to the kerb, around the street pole and along the shopfront side of the footway.

The marks continue over numerous paving slabs, showing that the problem is not confined to one isolated patch. The condition contributes to the generally neglected appearance of this busy section of Lee High Road.

SOLUTION

Carry out a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure clean of the pavement, including the kerb edge, street-pole base and shopfront boundary. Investigate whether recurring staining is linked to nearby commercial activity, improve the frequency of detailed cleansing along this stretch and complete a follow-up inspection after the work.



SOILED AND STAINED TACTILE PAVING AT PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The tactile paving at the pedestrian crossing was visibly affected by dark spotting, white residue, ingrained dirt and surface staining. Because tactile paving is specifically used by blind and partially sighted pedestrians, it should be kept clean, unobstructed and clearly distinguishable from the surrounding footway.

The staining also continues onto the adjacent paving and close to the shopfront edge, indicating that this is part of the wider cleanliness problem along Lee High Road.

SOLUTION

Carry out a careful deep clean of the tactile paving and surrounding footway using a suitable method that will not damage the raised surface. Remove all residue from between the tactile studs, clean the shopfront edge and inspect the area for recurring discharge or spillages. Include tactile paving in future detailed cleansing inspections and arrange prompt follow-up where staining returns.



STAINED PAVEMENT AND NEGLECTED EDGES AROUND STREET POLE AND SHOPFRONTS

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The footway was affected by widespread dark staining, ingrained grime and scattered marks across numerous paving slabs. Dirt and residue were concentrated around the base of the street pole, while weeds and accumulated debris were visible along the shopfront edge.

These areas appear to be missed during routine sweeping and contribute to the wider neglected appearance of this section of Lee High Road.

SOLUTION

Remove the weeds and accumulated debris, clean around the full base of the street pole, utility cover, kerb and building line, and carry out a full-width hot-pressure or mechanical wash of the paving. Future cleansing inspections should specifically include shopfront edges and the bases of fixed street furniture, followed by a recorded reinspection.



STAINED FOOTWAY WITH WEEDS AND DEBRIS ALONG NEGLECTED SHOPFRONT EDGE

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

The pavement was visibly affected by dark staining, ingrained grime and scattered marks across multiple paving slabs. Weeds, dirt and accumulated debris were also present along the base of the adjoining building and around the utility cover.

The deteriorated shopfront edge and vegetation contribute to the neglected appearance of the area and suggest that the full width of the footway is not being cleaned during routine visits.

SOLUTION

Remove the weeds and accumulated debris, clear the building edge and utility-cover surroundings, and carry out a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure clean of the paving. The adjoining property owner or occupier should be contacted where the frontage itself requires maintenance. Include shopfront edges and utility covers in future cleansing inspections and reinspect after the work is completed.



STAINED FOOTWAY AND NEGLECTED DRAINAGE CHANNEL BESIDE SHUTTERED PREMISES

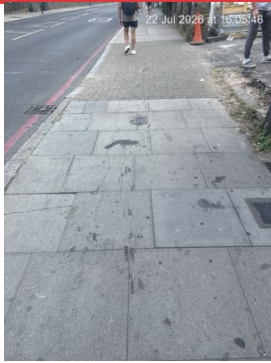
Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing /
Environmental Enforcement

The pavement was affected by repeated dark splash marks, liquid staining and ingrained grime across several paving slabs. Dirt and debris were also visible along the linear drainage channel beside the shuttered commercial frontage.

The drainage edge and building line appear to be areas that may be missed during routine sweeping. The shutter itself is also heavily marked with graffiti, adding to the neglected appearance of this section.

SOLUTION

Carry out a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure clean of the pavement and thoroughly clear the drainage channel, shopfront edge and kerb line. Check that the channel is free-flowing and not holding contaminated residue. Contact the property owner or occupier regarding graffiti removal and frontage maintenance, and include drainage edges in future detailed cleansing inspections.



PAVEMENT STAINING, TRACK MARKS AND DEBRIS BESIDE WORKS AREA

Responsible Party Lewisham Council – Street Cleansing / Environmental Enforcement

Lewisham Council Street Cleansing / Highways

Contractor or adjoining property responsible for the works area

Comments

The footway was visibly affected by dark liquid staining, tyre or equipment track marks and ingrained dirt across several paving slabs. Loose soil, rubble and debris were also present along the edge of the adjoining works area.

The marks suggest that construction activity, equipment or materials may have been carried across the public footway. The surrounding area has not been adequately cleaned or contained, reducing the cleanliness and appearance of the pedestrian route.

SOLUTION

Require the contractor or responsible property to remove all loose debris, contain the works area properly and clean any mud or residue deposited on the pavement. Carry out a full-width mechanical or hot-pressure clean of the affected slabs, including around utility covers and the kerb. Inspect the area during and after the works to ensure the footway remains clean, safe and unobstructed.