

2023



# Streets Ahead Newsletter

Amey working with







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## Introduction

Welcome to the 2023 edition of the Streets Ahead newsletter. We have had yet another busy and exciting year since our last issue, maintaining and improving Sheffield's roads and its environment.

We continue to maintain Sheffield's roads, with 959 miles resurfaced since the contract began in 2012. This year we have also reinstated block paving and cobbles on several roads in the city centre.

Our winter service was kept especially busy when it snowed in early March, and our Grounds Maintenance team were busier than ever in the spring due to the wet start followed by dry sunny conditions. This led to some very long grass in some parts of the city for a time as the team worked through their grass cutting programme.

We continue to support the Sheffield Street Tree Partnership, participating in the highly successful and inaugural Street Tree Fayre in May. We will continue to collaborate with partners in Sheffield on behalf of Sheffield's street trees.

Changes to the city centre have led to us using new machinery to assist our street cleansing team in keeping new paving and seating areas clean and green, and we are continuing to trial new electric vehicles to add to our 20+ fleet of electric vans which have been active in Sheffield since 2019. We hope to be able to expand our fleet quickly to future-proof it for generations to come, supporting Sheffield's Air Quality Strategy and Clean Air Zone.

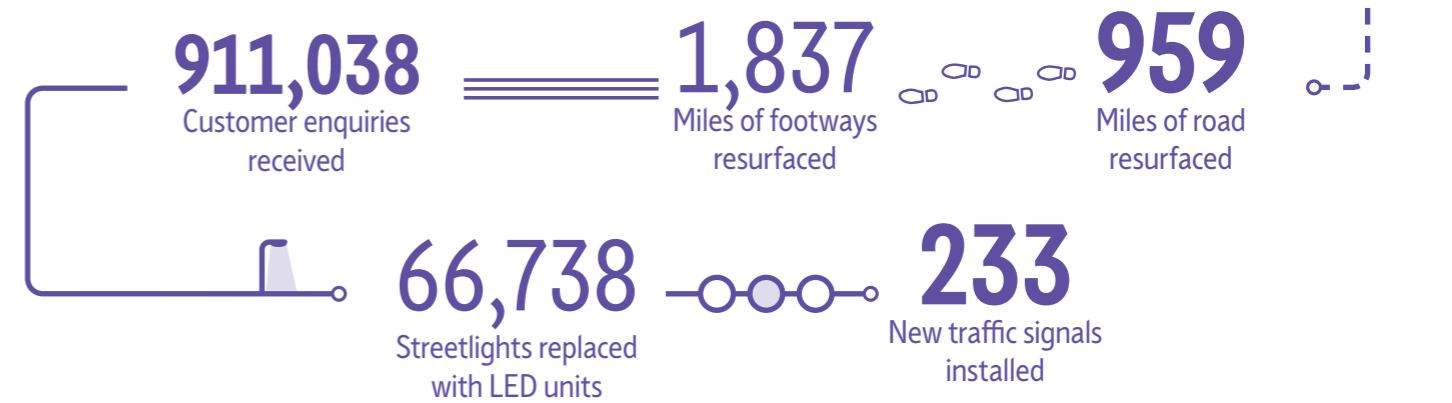
Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their patience as we have delivered our works this year. I hope you find this edition of our newsletter informative and interesting.

**Peter Bamfield - Business Director, Amey Streets Ahead**



## Achievements to date

Key facts since the start of the contract in 2012:



Key facts in the last 12 months:

From October '22 to April '23  
**11,800 tonnes**  
of grit used & 139 gritting runs

**13,537**  
Reports of fly-tipping received

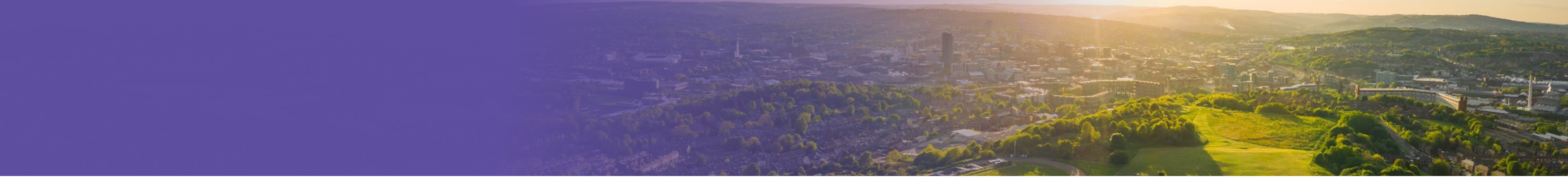
**50,460**  
Gullies cleaned



**28,384**  
Street cleansing enquiries

**6,257**  
Urgent defects responded to





## Sheffield Street Tree Partnership

The Sheffield Street Tree Partnership (SSTP) was established in 2019 and works together to promote and enhance Sheffield's street trees. Partners include representatives from Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust, Sheffield Tree Action Groups, Sheffield City Council and Amey Ltd.

One of the highlights of this year was the Sheffield Tree Fayre held in Sheffield Botanical Gardens. It certainly lived up to its billing as a family-friendly event celebrating the wonder of trees and woodland!



Following a successful community tree planting pilot, the Partnership is now working with national charity Trees for Streets so that more people in Sheffield can sponsor and crowdfund for additional trees in their area. You can find out more at: [www.treesforstreets.org](http://www.treesforstreets.org)

The Partnership has recently launched a new website to provide information about the work it does, who is involved and how people can get involved! Just go to: [www.sheffieldstreettreepartnership.org](http://www.sheffieldstreettreepartnership.org)

## Resurfacing roads and pavements

From Hucklow Road in Firth Park to Hollinsend Road in Gleadless, our resurfacing work requires road closures and diversions to ensure the safety of pedestrians and road-users alike.

In addition to our maintenance programme, we have a programme of replacing block paving and cobbles. Earlier this year we replaced missing and broken paving stones on Broomspring Close, as well as reinstating missing and broken cobbles on Penton Street, off Trippet Lane.

We always aim to get our work completed as quickly as possible, and our teams are thankful for the support and patience of fellow Sheffielders.



Work underway on Hucklow Road in Sheffield



Our team completing a permanent repair of a pothole

## Potholes

As well as our planned resurfacing programme, we have a duty to maintain the safety of the highway network in Sheffield, which means that safety-critical repairs are made first to ensure roads are safe.

This is the process we follow:

- We assess potholes according to their level of risk to road users.
- The Streets Ahead contract states that potholes posing the greatest risk to road-users must be repaired within 24 hours of the report being received by us. This is often a temporary repair to remove any risk of injury.
- We then return within 28 days to make the repair permanent.
- Our teams must prioritise the repair of the most dangerous potholes first so that we are contract compliant.
- This can mean that in some circumstances, an adjacent pothole (not deemed to be dangerous) is left, whilst all the safety critical potholes are given priority until our teams return at a later date.



## Winter

Our winter maintenance period runs from 1st October to 30th April, and when freezing conditions arrive, we grit 60% of the city's highway network in priority order, from all the main roads that link Sheffield to other major towns and cities and the motorway network, to roads that provide access to local hospitals. We also keep over 2200 grit bins stocked up, refilling them regularly to ensure grit is available in communities where it is needed the most.

This year saw the first significant snowfall in Sheffield for several years, when we experienced between 10 and 18 inches of snow in some parts of the city in early March.



Before that, it had already been a busy winter period for the gritting teams, as John Kirk, Amey's Winter Maintenance Manager explains:

"It is always difficult to predict what the weather will bring during winter, but this year has felt particularly cold. We started gritting in mid-November and overall, we carried out 139 gritting runs in total, compared to 113 last year."

The snowfall in March brought several challenges, as John explains, "The Met Office provide us with Sheffield-specific weather forecasts and as a result, we were able to begin preparing the road network before the predicted snow, spreading grit over several days due to already freezing temperatures."

"By Thursday, we were out gritting all the priority routes from mid-morning and from that point onwards, our gritting teams were out constantly, returning only to refill the gritters and to change shifts."

It is no exaggeration to state that our gritting teams worked around the clock. In fact, our two shifts of drivers drove our 19 gritters, 7 times over 3 days, working over 580 hours, spreading 2,200 tonnes of grit across our priority 1 and 2 gritting routes, supported by local farmers on higher routes, whose support we appreciated. Our teams refilled 894 empty grit bins over the same period, with 950 grit bins in total refilled in March alone.







## Focus on safety

Keeping our workforce, road-users, and pedestrians safe on Sheffield's roads is not only our duty, it is our number one priority.

Amey is committed to continuous improvement and ensuring that everyone can work in a safe and healthy environment.

## Safety in roadworks

Working environments can differ depending on the work we are doing, but all of them carry a degree of risk. The most obvious example is when we are resurfacing a road.

need to access the road we are working on. That is why we must close roads to carry out our work and protect the general public from the associated dangers.

There is a lot of heavy machinery required to remove an old road surface and replace it. It is a dirty and noisy working environment and can require many vehicles at any one time, all of which

We appreciate that it can be inconvenient, and it may mean that you must move your car before we arrive, or park elsewhere, but we can't do it any other way.



Vehicles parked on site on Southgrove Road, Sheffield during resurfacing work

Check our website for more information about our resurfacing programme:  
[www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads-pavements/streets-ahead/road-pavement-resurfacing](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads-pavements/streets-ahead/road-pavement-resurfacing)

Follow us on Twitter for real-time updates: [@sccstreetsahead](https://twitter.com/sccstreetsahead)

## Street cleansing team

It is an unfortunate reality that our street cleansing team are anything other than very busy. With two teams made up of 100 operatives, they work around the clock, emptying 3000 litter bins to keep Sheffield litter-free.

The team has adapted to the recent physical changes in the city centre, using new equipment and vehicles to ensure they clean everything to the highest possible standard.

From mini-jet washers to new sweepers and steam cleaners, the newly created seating areas, paving, and bollards are kept in tip-top condition for everyone to enjoy!



Jet washing the paving at Furnival Gate in Sheffield



Jude De Couto from our street cleansing team with some of the equipment you can borrow from your local library

## Volunteer litter picking groups

We are continually amazed by how brilliant Sheffield's army of litter pickers are! More and more people are getting involved, especially now that lots of local libraries have a supply of equipment anyone can borrow to undertake a litter pick safely.

A huge thank you from us for everything that they do, and for always ensuring they let us know where their bags of litter are when they have finished so we can pick them up and dispose of them.

There's more information about how you can get involved on the website: [www.sheffield.gov.uk/pollution-nuisance/organise-litter-picks](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/pollution-nuisance/organise-litter-picks)





At the top of Lose Hill in the Peak District

## Apprentices

Our current intake of apprentices is coming to the end of their two-year apprenticeship with Streets Ahead. Some have secured a permanent role with us, such as Adrienne who is joining us as an Area Highways Representative and Luke who is now a permanent member of our Grounds Maintenance team.

We recruit new apprentices each year and to date, Amey in Sheffield have employed over 100 apprentices, with many going on to secure a permanent job. For more information on our current vacancies, check out the Amey website: [www.amey.co.uk/your-career/early-careers/](http://www.amey.co.uk/your-career/early-careers/)

## School assemblies

Our Education Officer has delivered litter assemblies to almost 3,530 school pupils in Sheffield during the past academic year. Even Phil the Bin has got in on the act, visiting schools helping the pupils to understand the harmful impact of litter on the environment.



Phil the Bin with the senior leadership team from Nether Edge Primary & Nursery School

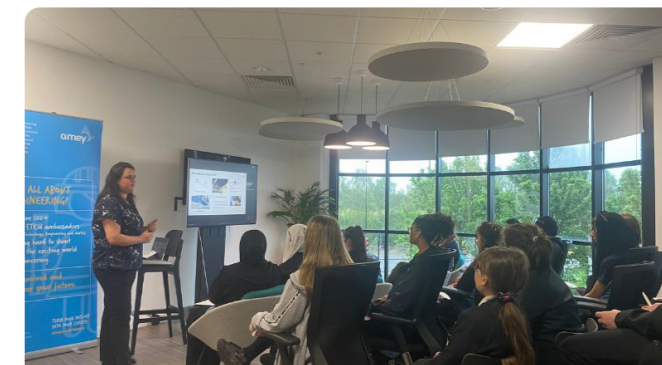
## Amey challenge cup

Three Sheffield schools took part in the Amey Challenge Cup at Distington House at the end of June - Yewlands School, Sheffield Springs Academy & Hinde House School.

The schoolgirls were given the task of designing a structure to replace a collapsed bridge over the River Teme. After a fun-packed day and some serious judging, Hinde House School, who presented the most cost-effective solution, were crowned very worthy winners!

Not only did we organise the annual Amey Challenge Cup, which aims to encourage schoolgirls from less affluent backgrounds to consider a career in engineering, we also held the very first Amey SEND Challenge Cup in Sheffield in March, to celebrate Neurodiversity Celebration Week.

Using a simplified version of the same task, students from Sheaf Training, Bents Green School and Seven Hills School took part, with the latter being crowned the winners after presenting the best all round solution.



Students from Seven Hills School with their well-deserved trophy

Amey Challenge Cup, June 2023

## Fundraising for Cancer Research UK

Cancer Research UK is Amey's employee-chosen charity and this year, Streets Ahead has once again been raising money for this worthwhile cause.

In September last year, nine employees completed the Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge, completing the 24 miles in 11.5 hours, raising over £1000, and in June this year, twelve employees walked 12 miles in the stunning Peak District from Lose Hill to Win Hill, raising over £200.



Ingleborough



Whernside



Pen-y-Ghent

All 3 Peaks in 2022



## Keeping you informed

Those of you directly affected by Streets Ahead works will either receive a letter advising you of arrangements before we start any work or be notified by roadside signs.

## Reporting service issues

If you would like to report any issues, please contact us:

Online at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/reportmystreet](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/reportmystreet)

By email: [streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk)

By phone: **0114 273 4567**

## Feedback

We would love to hear your feedback on this newsletter and if there is any more information you would find useful.

Please email any comments or suggestions to [streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:streetsahead@sheffield.gov.uk).

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