

Putting the

PRIDE back into our area



GRAFFITI BUSTERS FACTSHEET

How you can help

Graffiti blights many of our streets. However, it isn't something we have to put up with. There are many simple steps which residents can take to help in the fight against graffiti.

Removing graffiti is the responsibility of the person or company on whose property it appears - so you can help by reporting any graffiti you see using the contact details in this fact sheet.

The different organisations listed have very varying attitudes towards removing graffiti - some will act very quickly, others can be reluctant to act at all.

But the more of us who report graffiti, the better the chance that it will be cleaned up quickly.

If graffiti appears on your own property, people are often unsure about how to get it removed.

You will find details on this fact sheet about where you can purchase products for removing graffiti.

Finally, please use the enclosed graffiti report card if you want to let us know about a particular graffiti blackspot.

Andrew Dakers

Liberal Democrat

*Prospective Parliamentary Candidate
for Brentford & Isleworth*

Reporting graffiti to the Police

If you see someone in the act

If you see someone actually in the act, they are committing criminal damage, so the police advise phoning 999. If there are police nearby they will go to the location.



This will, however, be a low priority so get a good description as the perpetrators may be gone by the time they arrive.

Otherwise, after the crime has been committed...

You can ring Hounslow Police on:

020 8577 1212

Reporting the graffiti incident to the police and getting them to record it may help the situation. It will bring evidence of the full costs and extent of the problem to people's attention.

Getting graffiti removed

Adshel Bus Shelters	0800 731 3699
British Telecom	151 (Options 9 *)
Hounslow Borough Council	020 8583 5071/5072
London Buses - Bus Stops	020 7222 1234
London Underground	0845 330 9880
National Grid Transco	0800 111999
Network Rail (Tracks/ stations/ bridges)	08457 114141
Royal Mail	08457 740740 (Option 4)
Southern Electric	08457 444555
Telewest (Street cabinet repairs)	0800 953 2244
Transport for London Roads	0845 305 1234

Cleaning your own property

People who suffer the curse of graffiti on their own property are often unsure about how to have it removed.

You can either employ a firm to do the work, purchase cleaning materials or borrow a free cleaning from your nearest community group. For more information on the cleaning kits call 020 8583 5071/5072

Don't forget, if you leave graffiti it will:

- attract more graffiti
- decrease property value
- make the area less attractive
- have an adverse affect on commerce

Why remove graffiti quickly?

Quick removal of graffiti has been shown by studies in the USA to be very discouraging to the vandals. A graffiti artist wants his or her work to be seen by as many people as possible. Removing the work fast frustrates this desire.

Uncleaned graffiti will attract more graffiti to a wall or surrounding area. Furthermore it is easier to remove graffiti from a surface quickly as paint and pen ink becomes harder to remove as it dries.

Graffiti removal contractors

Unfortunately Hounslow Borough Council does not maintain a list of approved graffiti removal contractors.

However Nordic Pioneer UK Ltd (Jim Meechan) Tel. 01325 464880 have worked on a number of community initiatives. Nordic try and use products that are as environmentally-friendly as possible.

As with other suppliers which can be found in the Yellow Pages, you should of course ask them exactly what they will do, at what price and when.

Preventing graffiti

There are two treatments that can make your life easier if you suffer an attack by graffiti vandals. These are available through Nordic and other suppliers.

Active surfaces are chemical coatings which are designed to slow the drying times of the spray paint or marker pen used. They are cheap, easy to apply to a wall and usually don't require specialist equipment. However these surfaces are often known as sacrificial coatings as they dissolve when graffiti remover is applied and must then be recoated.

Passive surfaces are more robust coatings which do not need to be recoated after an attack. They are more expensive than active surfaces and have the advantage of being available in a variety of colours like paint.

Racially Abusive or Offensive Graffiti Hotline



020 8583 2620

If you see racially abusive or offensive graffiti on Council property please call and leave full details on the Graffiti Hotline.

Any other local issues?

Please let us know if you have a local problem which you would like the Liberal Democrat team to tackle:

Type of problem

- Litter Fly-tipping
 Graffiti Fly-posting

Location:

Name: _____ Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____@_____

Please return to: Graffiti Busters, Liberal Democrats, 127 Avenue Road, Hounslow TW3 2RQ