



## Labour accuses Trafford of complacency over litter

Trafford's Labour Group have condemned the ruling Conservatives of belittling residents' concerns over street cleaning and playing down a critical survey from ENCAMS, the national watchdog.

The report scores Trafford's litter and detritus clearance as unsatisfactory overall and highlights the litter around smaller shopping areas as especially poor. The council issued a press release last week leading on the small amount of fly tipping or fly posting that the inspectors found.

Gorse Hill councillor Laurence Walsh stated "Residents have been telling me for many months of their frustration at the state of the streets and pavements particularly around the shops. I have raised it at full council and the Conservatives have belittled these concerns. Now that an official watchdog has found the same problems are widespread throughout the borough I would have hoped that they would at last take cleaning our streets seriously but judging by their press release it doesn't look like it."

Labour's spokesperson for Stretford, Tom Ross said "The council is paying to train four of its staff to undertake their own surveys. The priority should be cleaning the streets and getting rid of the graffiti in the subways that seems to have been there for months. We don't need to have our own inspectors with clipboards; residents know where needs to be cleaned."

### Notes

ENCAMS (formerly the Keep Britain Tidy Group) has been commissioned to carry out Surveys of Local Authority areas on behalf of DEFRA

Its 2006/7 reports were released on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2007 and Trafford's is available at

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/WhereYouLive/Streetcleaninglitterandillegaldumping/DG\\_069106](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HomeAndCommunity/WhereYouLive/Streetcleaninglitterandillegaldumping/DG_069106)

Trafford Council's press release is available at

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/news/press/details.asp?ID=1110>

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