

56775 Waste & Cleansing Service, Parks & Greenspaces, Community Safety

Please provide the following information held by Edinburgh City Council's Waste & Cleansing Service, Parks & Greenspaces, Community Safety, or any other relevant team for the period 00:00 on 1 August 2024 to 23:59 on 31 August 2024:

All incident reports, work orders, or service requests relating to the removal of tents, bedding, sleeping bags, mattresses, or other personal effects from public spaces in the city centre during this period.

For each removal recorded in (Q1), please provide:

The date and time.

The location.

The description of items removed.

The reason recorded for the removal (e.g., "street cleansing," "public safety," "abandoned property").

The department, contractor, or agency carrying out the removal.

Please refer to the attached document which provides details of the Service Requests (SRs) recorded in this period in the City Centre Ward. We are unable to extract data in relation to the City Centre definition provided; however, the City Centre Ward should cover the area described.

Information that may identify third parties has been redacted from the document provided in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

Copies of any written guidance, policies, or operational instructions in place during August 2024 relating to the removal or disposal of personal effects associated with rough sleeping from public spaces in the city centre.

(For this request: "City centre" means the New Town, Old Town, and West End, as defined in Council Planning documents. "Public spaces" includes streets, parks, closes, underpasses, and other council-managed land.)

There is no Waste Services written guidance, policies, or operational instructions in place during August 2024 relating to the removal or disposal of personal effects associated with rough sleeping from public spaces in the city centre.

Our Park Rangers, from time-to-time, deal with tents, campers, rough-sleeping abodes, etc. in parks and greenspaces around the city.

Protocol is usually, where wild campers are witnessed, to give them a day to move on in line with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC) guidance otherwise the tent/belongings will be removed and stored. Indications [written letter] are left as to where/how these can be collected.

Where rough-sleepers are encountered or suspected, a notice is given (printed letter) detailing our preference to keep the area tidy and, if possible, find alternative accommodation. This is accompanied by us notifying Streetworks/SimonScotland. Only once we establish the tent/camp is not being used, it would be cleared.

There are no such records held in relation to parks and greenspaces from August 2024.