

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
6th March 2015**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Wynne Jones, Portfolio Holder for Highways

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Russell George

Will the Cabinet member provide an update on rubbish clearance from roadsides and hedges throughout Powys?

It is our current practice to routinely undertake litter picking throughout Trunk and Primary County road network twice per year. The first litter pick is undertaken during March prior to the grass growing, with the second being undertaken around September time. To put some perspective this costs in the order of £40k per occasion entailing walking the majority of the 500 miles or so of road both sides. In addition to this routine maintenance, endeavours are made to respond to reports and complaints to deal with specific 'hot-spots' of littering.

It is disappointing that this level of expenditure has to be directed to deal with what is essentially a totally unnecessary problem. On the other hand, it is encouraging to note a real increase lately in the number of volunteer groups; including some led by fellow County Councillors, taking the initiative and helping out with this activity and making a visible improvement in their community.