

From: [Grant Webster](#) on behalf of [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: EIR-17-0270 - Cleanliness - Union Street
Date: 08 March 2017 15:40:07
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 15 February 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

1(a) How much money has been spent on cleaning Union Street in the last year?

The Union Street Rejuvenation Project has an allocated budget spend of up to £80k on deep clean works to the end of the current financial year. In addition to this, there is a budget allocation of up to £40k to the Hit Squad to the end of the current financial year. The Hit Squad's remit includes supplementing cleaning works in the area.

1(b) What kind of cleaning work has been undertaken in the last year and how frequently?

The deep clean works carried out as part of the Union Street Rejuvenation Project comprised 2 visits through 2016. The deep clean works are scheduled to be carried out on a bi-annual basis to the end of the project term. The deep clean works include the removal of chewing gum from surfaces, a general power wash of walked surfaces, street furniture and doorways of premises. The deep clean focuses on the area bounded by Holburn Street / Willowbank Road / Springbank Terrace / College Street / Guild Street / Virginia Street / Commerce Street / East North Street / West North Street / Little John Street / Berry Street / St Andrew Street / Skene Street / Victoria Street / Alford Place.

2(a) How much money has been spent on maintaining Union Street in the last year?

The Union Street Rejuvenation Project has enhanced maintenance works in the area. The project will see an additional investment in maintenance and improvement works in the region of £250k by the end of the current financial year. This spend is inclusive of a deep clean of the area carried out in 2016; the purchase of two additional pavement scrubber machines to prevent the build-up of grime/staining on walked on surfaces; and four applied sweepers to improve city centre sweeping regimes. The total budget for the project is up to £619k which is to be spent over the project term to March 2018.

2(b) What kind of maintenance work has been undertaken in the last year and how frequently?

To date, the Rejuvenation Project has included deep clean works carried out in 2016, painting and fixing works, chewing gum removal works, removal of stickers and graffiti and general cleaning of street furniture. The Project funds a dedicated Hit Squad which undertake maintenance works in the area on a weekly basis.

3(a) How much money has been spent on improving Union Street in the last year?

The Union Street Rejuvenation Project has enhanced improvement works in the area. The project will see an additional investment on maintenance and improvement works in the region of £250k by the end of the current financial year. This spend is inclusive of a deep clean of the area carried out in 2016; the purchase of two additional pavement scrubber machines to prevent the build-up of grime/staining on walked on surfaces; and four applied sweepers to

improve city centre sweeping regimes. The total budget for the project is in excess of £600k which is to be spent over the project term to March 2018.

3(b) What kind of improvements have been made in the last year and when?

The Union Street Rejuvenation Project commenced in 2016 and aims to make improvements to the area. The scope of the rejuvenation project includes:-

- The purchase of two pavement scrubber machines to prevent a build-up of grime/staining on walked on surfaces and four additional applied sweepers to improve city centre sweeping regimes.
- A deep clean of the area bounded by Holburn Street / Willowbank Road / Springbank Terrace / College Street / Guild Street / Virginia Street / Commerce Street / East North Street / West North Street / Little John Street / Berry Street / St Andrew Street / Skene Street / Victoria Street / Alford Place. The aim of this to remove chewing gum from surfaces, a general power wash of all walked surfaces, street furniture (including signs, bollards and benches) and doorways of premises.
- A professional clean of St Nicholas Kirkyard façade (Smith's Screen) and the painting of the railings and gates highlighting the detail in gold leaf.
- The setting up of a multi-tasking City Centre Masterplan hit squad to clean, fix and paint. To brand the team and promote them by ensuring the team wear bright uniforms displaying the City Masterplan logo.
- Implement a programme of upgrading/removing/fixing painting street furniture all bollards railings palings and benches etc.
- The recruitment of a building standards officer.
- Building Roof Survey to identify repair/restoration works required.

Aberdeen City Council is currently bidding for £1.5 million from Historic Environment Scotland to help repair and preserve key buildings on Union Street. The Council has set aside £1.5 million of its own money as match funding should the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme bid be successful. The building roof survey carried out as part of the Rejuvenation Project will kick-start the conservation and enhancement of the special historic and architectural heritage of Union Street.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Webster
Information Compliance Officer

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

As the information which you requested is environmental information, as defined under Regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the EIRs), ACC considered that it was exempt from release through FOISA, and must therefore give you notice that we are refusing your request under Section 39(2) of FOISA (Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002). However, you have a separate right to access the information which you have requested under Regulation 5 of the EIRs, under which ACC has handled your request.

Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under the EIRs.

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