

## The Cleansing of Parks and Green Spaces

Section 89(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) places a duty upon the Council to ensure that all land under its direct control is kept clear of litter and refuse. The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has issued a Code of Practice, under section 89(7) of the EPA to provide guidance in establishing reasonable and generally acceptable standards of cleanliness. The graded standards shown below also correspond to the scales used by the Council for recording levels of street cleanliness for National Indicator NI 195. All revisions to the Code of Practice are to adhered to.

### Grades

- Grade A: No litter or refuse
- Grade B: Predominately free of litter and refuse apart from some small items
- Grade C: Widespread distribution of litter and/or refuse with minor accumulations
- Grade D: Heavily affected by litter and/or refuse with significant accumulations

### Zoning

The Code of Practice has re-classified the different types of land managed by the Council into four main zones. Parks and green spaces in the borough fall into the ***High intensity of use*** zone or the ***Medium intensity of use*** zone.

## Timings

Appendices 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 list the zoning category into which each location falls under the Code of Practice and the response times applicable to each category for achieving the highest standard of cleanliness.

Category Zone	Description	Maximum response time to restore to Grade A	Lewisham Parks Acceptable standard as allowed for under the Code of Practice (para 6.5)
High intensity of use	Parks and green spaces located in busy public areas, or with strategic or national importance, or parts of other open spaces subject to high intensity of use	1/ 2 a day  This means by 6pm if reported before 1pm or by 1pm the next day if reported between 1pm and 6pm on the previous day	This means that sites should be returned to a Grade A standard within <b>6</b> hours of being reported during operational hours
Medium intensity of use	Parks and green spaces located in areas subject to medium intensity of use	1 Day  This means by 6pm the following evening	This means that sites should be returned to a Grade A standard within <b>12</b> hours of being reported during operational hours

### Note

Special conditions are applied to certain events for example the start of the London Marathon and the November fireworks, both held on Blackheath