

Memo

27 July 2018

To: Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board
From: Manu Pihama, Operations Manager, Community Empowerment Unit
CC: Christine Olsen, Manager, Community Empowerment Unit

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Graffiti Vandalism Prevention Six Monthly Update

Purpose

1. To update the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board on the graffiti eradication service from January to June 2018.

Graffiti eradication service update

2. Success of the graffiti eradication service is measured through reporting the number of graffiti incidents removed and requests for service (RFS), and the completion of a biannual visual audit (the ambient survey).
3. A regional database captures information relating to graffiti incidents, offenders and reports for the purpose of intelligence sharing and directing graffiti vandalism management actions.
4. New service agreements for the regional graffiti vandalism prevention service have been signed for 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2023. Graffiti eradication services continue to be contracted to locally based service providers in the south, north, central and west sectors of Auckland. The Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust is the service provider for the southern area.

Local community initiatives

5. A requirement of the graffiti vandalism prevention contract is for the service provider to engage and empower local communities to address graffiti in their area through town centre clean ups (TCC), the Adopt-a-Spot project and volunteer initiatives.
6. The Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust worked with the World Mission Society Group by providing a work plan, health and safety support and equipment for regular community projects in the local board area. Over 40 volunteers participated in one such project to clean up the Puhinui Stream in Papatoetoe on 27 June 2018:



Graffiti incidents and removal in the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area

7. The number of graffiti incidents decreased by 20 per cent from January 2018 to June 2018 compared to the same period in 2017 (figure 1). The number of RFS graffiti removals decreased by 54 per cent. This reflects a reduction in incidents and the proactive removal of graffiti by contractors before incidents are reported by the public.

8. The number of graffiti incidents recorded at the start of 2018 showed an increasing trend but overall the numbers are lower than those recorded for the same period in 2017. The sharp reduction from May to June can be attributed to a weather related seasonal trend. (figure 2).

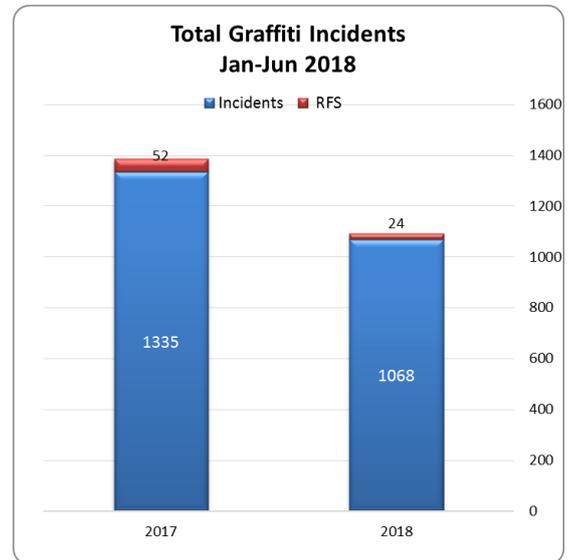


Figure1: Graffiti Incidents and RFS in the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area: January to June 2017 V January to June 2018

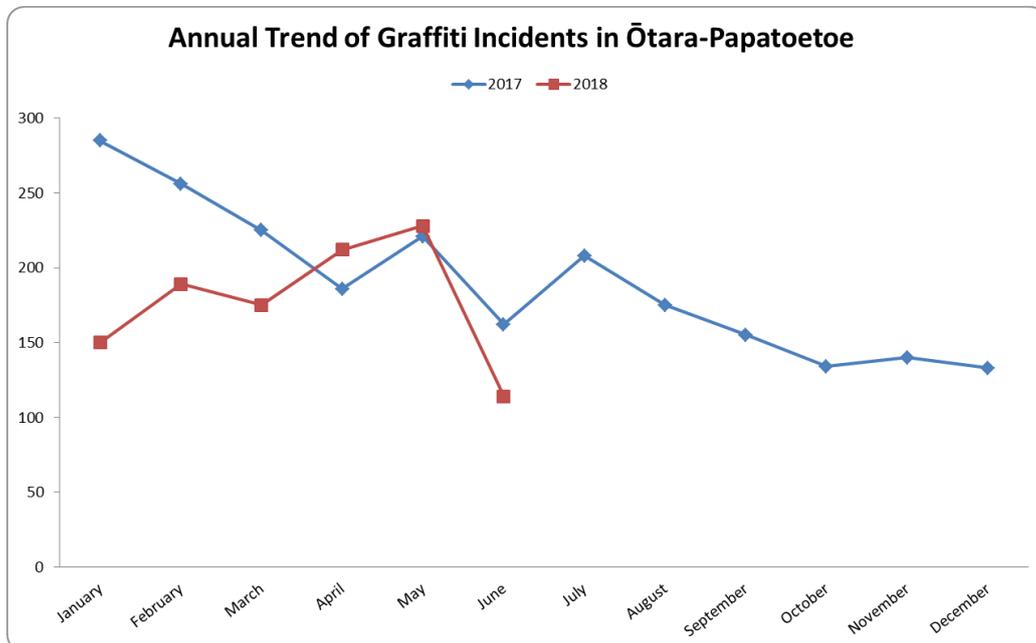


Figure 2: Annual Trend in Graffiti Incidents in the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area: 2017 vs. 2018

9. There has been a noticeable reduction in the number of graffiti incidents removed and the number of RFS recorded in the local board area since the graffiti vandalism prevention programme started in 2013. The reduction is attributed to a consistent approach of responding in a timely manner to remove reported incidents of graffiti. The graffiti removal contract stipulates a two pronged strategy of rapid and proactive eradication as an effective means of managing graffiti in the local board area.

Ambient survey results

10. The graffiti ambient survey evaluates the effectiveness of the graffiti eradication service and measures how much of the city is graffiti free. This involves selecting areas within the local board area and grading the areas by visual inspection. The survey provides a benchmark against which performance can be compared across the region.

11. Ōtara-Papatoetoe achieved 98 out of 100 in the March 2018 ambient survey, the highest result recorded for Ōtara-Papatoetoe since the survey began in 2011. This result is 22 points higher than the previous survey carried out in September 2017 and gives the local board an average final score, over the September and March surveys, of 87 per cent for 2017/2018 (figure 3).

12. The improved ambient survey score is attributed to effective work with partners, such as commercial bin suppliers, to remove graffiti from out-of-scope assets.

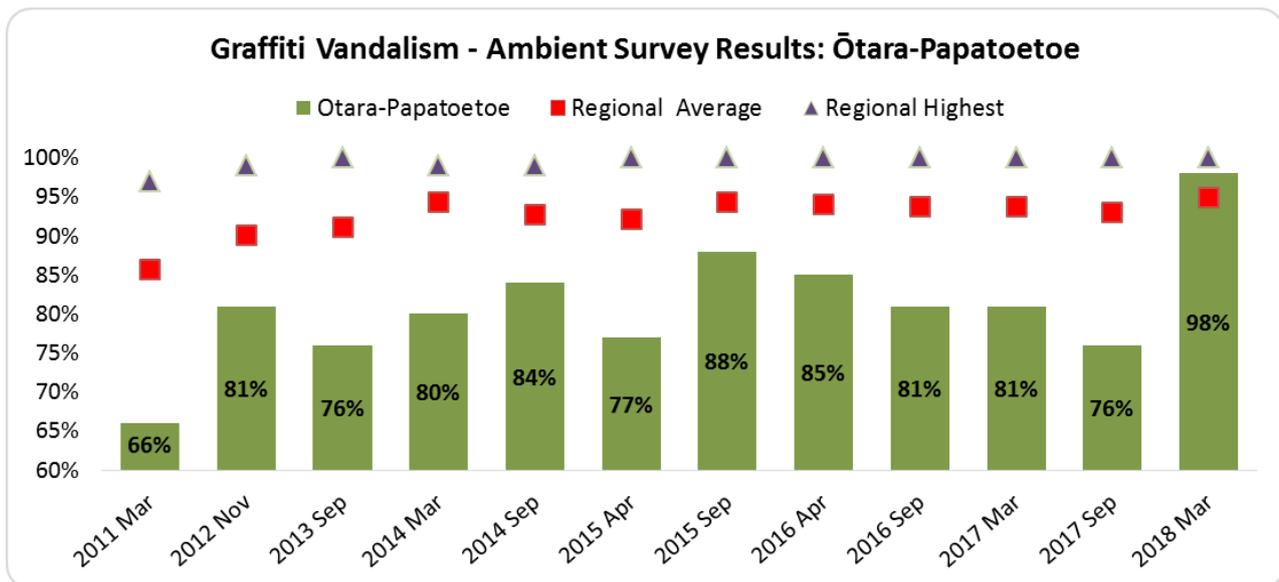


Figure 3: Ambient Survey results for the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area since 2011.

Regional graffiti comparisons

13. From January to June 2018 there was a:

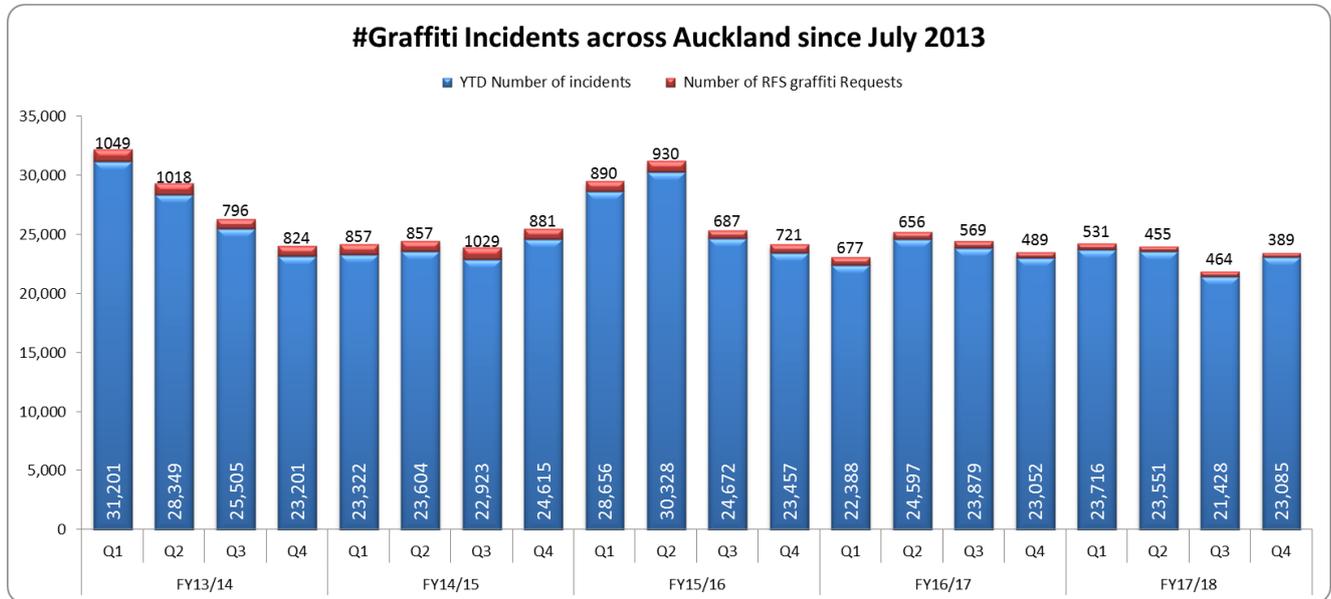
- five per cent decrease across the Auckland region in the number of graffiti incidents removed compared to the same period in 2017 (see Appendix 1: Figure 4). Within the local board area there was a 20 per cent decrease.
- 19 per cent reduction in RFS regionally and a 54 per cent decrease in Ōtara-Papatoetoe as the contractors remove graffiti on a proactive basis. All RFS have been actioned within the 24 hour target time.

14. The March 2018 ambient survey score for Auckland was 95 out of a possible 100 maintaining a consistently high score for the region. Ōtara-Papatoetoe scored 98 per cent on the March 2018 survey. This improvement may be attributed to the marked increase in the amount of graffiti removed from out-of-scope assets. (see Appendix 1: Figure 5).

Appendix 1: Regional Graffiti Vandalism Prevention Six Monthly Update

Regional graffiti incidents and removal

Across Auckland 44,513 graffiti incidents were removed in January to June 2018 compared to 46,931 removed in the same six month period in 2017. This represents a five per cent decrease in incidents. There has been a 19 per cent decrease in RFS and 100 per cent of graffiti RFS were removed within the 24 hour target time. Figure 4 shows the number of incidents and RFS across the Auckland region from July 2013 to June 2018.



Regional Graffiti Ambient Survey

The 2017/2018 survey of graffiti free assets in Auckland scored 94 out of a possible 100 equalling the high score achieved in 2016/2017. This result is equal to the Long-term Plan target and maintains the positive trend evident over previous years. Improvements were recorded in Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Manurewa, Waiheke Island and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki.

