

Operation Spruce Up

Oliver Sherratt: Head of Direct Services

Spruce Up is really what is says on the tin. It's a good old fashioned thorough, tidy up of our town centres and front streets. We started it here in Spennymoor this morning but over the next 14 months we are going to do 14 settlements like that.

Who's involved?

It's a wide list of people that would be involved. Each Area Action Partnership throughout the county is selecting its own settlement that would get this, this treatment. Where there's a local town or parish council they'll be involved. Local school children and schools those will also be involved as well, businesses and like. We encourage everyone to get involved, alongside our street cleansing teams, grounds maintenance teams, highways and others.

And it's through that joined up effort, that collective clout that, wow, you know, good things get done.

What happened in Spennymoor?

There's a hive of activity, you can see here there's some landscaping going on behind me we have also got local school children helping out with that. We've got wagons thoroughly cleansing the gullies; we've got the seats being repaired. We've got bollards being painted, just to give it a new lick of paint, a new lease of life and really that collective clout of all of the various council services has been added to by the local community, and wow how good is, is that.

That not only means that people, are thoroughly involved in relation through to it and helps us do even more work but it also leaves that idea of pride, as well. People helping out to rejuvenate their local area.

Let's hear from children of Rosa Street Primary School

Emily Denham: We went out to Spennymoor and planted some flowers

Why did you want to keep Spennymoor tidy?

James Kelly: So it doesn't look all horrible

Emily: So we don't get it all messy and so there's no accidents.

How would litter cause someone to have an accident?

Emily: Because they might trip over

What was your favourite bit about taking part?

Emily: Tidy ted came

How do people find out more about the campaign?

Oliver Sherratt:

I would encourage you to look up details on the County Council's website, search for Operation Spruce up and you will find a whole host of information there as regards what Spruce Up's about how you can get involved and we very much look forward to hearing from you