



CASE STUDY

Project name: Bedford Town Centre surface protection scheme
Client: Bedford Borough Council
Contractor: As above
Site: Bedford Town Centre
Project: 14,000m² Textured concrete/chinese granite paving
Product/s used: QSANDBOND - Now branded Qseal
Date: March 2006



Problem:

Bedford is the County Town of Bedfordshire and as such it needs to present its environs in the best state all the time. Over the years the paving jointing had been progressively washed out.

Bedford Borough Council required a sealer to prevent future sand loss from slab footways which had primarily been caused by the effects of continuous mechanical sweeping. They were also keen to reduce the adhesion of chewing gum in high traffic, high profile central areas.

A one stop solution was required that would embrace deep cleaning the paving, re-sanding all vacant joints and supplying and applying a 'best in class' sealant to stabilise joint material and provide the added benefit of reducing the adhesion of chewing gum

Solution:

Following the tendering process QSS were contracted to carry out the whole process which included deep cleaning and entailed removing 288,000 pieces of chewing gum as well as general detritus

All vacant joints were re-sanded with kiln dried sand, the joint material and paving surfaces were then impregnated with over 4 tons of QSANDBOND - now branded Qseal.

The Impregnation used has been applied in Bedford for over 14 years and has proved itself over this extended period.

Benefits:

- Test measuring before treatment and over 1 year later, on 20 separate areas proved a 60% gum reduction.
- Long term stabilisation of jointing material/paver units - guaranteed for 5 years.
- Reduced cleaning effort saving much needed resources.
- Lower whole life costs.

This successful initiative enabled Bedford Borough Council to gain significant funding from DEFRA to continue Gum reduction campaigning.