

HIGHWAYS FORWARD PROGRAMME PRIORITISATION

Committee name

Public Safety and Transport Select Committee

Officer reporting

Poonam Pathak, Interim Head of Highways

Papers with report

None

Ward

All

HEADLINES

To provide information to the Committee on highway forward programme prioritisation criteria.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Public Safety and Transport Select Committee note the contents of the report and provide any comments to officers as appropriate.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

This report provides information and criteria for prioritising the highways forward programme. The Highways Asset Management Plan is currently being prepared by the officers. Asset Management is a strategic approach that enables us to make decisions over what service we want to provide and what we can achieve within our budget limits. It enables us to identify the best allocation of resources for the management, operation, preservation and enhancement of highway infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future customers. Asset management therefore supports business decisions and provides longer term financial benefit.

Hillingdon currently adopts a “worst-first” approach to asset management. We identify the worst condition roads and develop a one-year programme of road resurfacing and reconstruction.

Officers are preparing a 5-year work programme which will include both major resurfacing and preventative maintenance from 2022/23 onwards. This is the first step towards long-term programme development.

Proposed prioritisation criteria

Condition surveys have initially been used to determine which roads will be suitable for major resurfacing and preventative maintenance. For the 2022/23 programme and beyond, we have also take account of a range of factors other than road condition in our decision making, such as accident claim, defect records, complaints, road usage levels, and footfall.

The prioritised future years works programmes of highways capital resurfacing schemes will be reviewed and updated based on the results of the latest road condition survey data.

Classification – Public

Public Safety and Transport Select Committee – 07 April 2022

Funding level

The forward programme assumes that the 2022/23 to 2026/27 carriageway and footway resurfacing budgets are maintained at circa £6m per year.

Work Programmes

The proposed forward programme for the carriageways and footways network is being developed and will be reviewed annually. This will help forecast budget requirements and co-ordinate works with utility companies and other Council projects and major developments.

This indicative list of works will be further developed using biennial collected condition information, non-engineering factors (road safety records, road usage levels, accident claims), member, and petition requests. At the same time we are preparing a preventive maintenance forward programme for carriageways only.

Next Step

The Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP) is currently being prepared which will assist in ensuring our carriageway and footway maintenance programmes are developed in a transparent and objective manner therefore prioritisation will be carried out using the results of condition surveys of the high usage network plus survey results for those which have been nominated for inclusion in the survey programme by engineers / inspectors / elected members / insurance team / petitions.

Officers will finalise the forward programme and HAMP and submit them for approval.

Implications on related Council policies

A key role of Select Committees is to monitor the performance of Council services within their remit. Select Committees may also recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

How this report benefits Hillingdon residents

The vision for highway assets sits within the Councils core priority (Our People, Our Natural Environment, Our Build Environment and Financial Management), which is achieved by providing highway assets which are in good condition, fit for purpose, energy efficient, provide accessible services to our customers, represent value for money through long term planning, and enhanced allocation of resources. Moreover, we endeavour to provide improved service and quality of life to users with high customer satisfaction.

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Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report. The proposed work programme is consistent with the current allocated funding for Highways planned works.

Legal Implications

None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.