

Minute Extract

23/21 Highway Maintenance – Progress on £9million Investment

The Board considered a report on Highway Maintenance – Progress on £9million Investment. This report was presented by the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride and the Highway Asset Team Leader.

The Board noted that there was a current maintenance need of £64.1m for Derby's roads and footways. It was noted that there was an annual depreciation of £5.5m for roads and £1.5m for footways. It was noted that the proposed allocation for 2022/23 was £3.197m along with any available pothole grant funding.

It was reported that based on data driven decision making, Council Cabinet had awarded an additional £9million to provide improvements to the city's road and footway assets and to help reduce the maintenance need. It was noted that the Highways Team were delivering best value by implementing change, including a greater focus on 'in-house' delivery based on better informed forward planning and co-ordination.

It was noted that the Council followed an Asset Management Approach which was a systematic and logical process in accordance with National Guidance. It was reported that the full funding allocation from DfT was dependent on the Council demonstrating this approach and that lifecycle planning was a key principle, which was expected as a minimum.

The Board noted that programme delivery had resulted in a total investment of £13.1million since the start of 2020/21. It was reported that further improvements would be delivered by further embedding the risk-based approach to other service areas such as gully emptying.

It was noted that completion of two full gully asset inventory surveys before and after winter in 2020/21 had identified:

- Approx. 42,000 gullies in total
- 14,000 gullies need to be cleansed on an annual cycle
- 18,000 gullies on a 2 year cycle (9k per year)
- 10,000 gullies on a 4 year cycle (2.5k per year)
- Annually 25,500 gullies per year to be cleansed (approx. 106 gullies per day)

It was reported that going forward a full inventory of carriageway and footways condition would be conducted to allow effective programming

and planning of future works. It was noted that this would help the Council to deliver optimum treatment at the optimum time.

The Board noted that 392 carriageway resurfacing schemes had been delivered or were programmed in 2020/21 and 2021/22 and that 43 footway resurfacing schemes had been delivered or were programmed in 2020/21 and 2021/22. It was also noted that 125 preventative treatment schemes had been delivered or were programmed in 2020/21 and 2021/22.

It was reported that the Highways, Winter Maintenance and Street Lighting Service had recently won the APSE Best Service Team award for the delivery of 'in-house' highway maintenance works programmes. The Board congratulated the Highways, Winter Maintenance and Street Lighting Service on winning this award.

The Chair raised concerns that the annual funding of £3.197m would not be sufficient to cover the annual depreciation of £7m for roads and footways. The Board agreed that Cabinet should lobby government asking for funding to be raised to at least £7m to solve this issue.

A councillor questioned how long roads and footways would remain in a good condition if £64.1m was spent on maintenance. The Board noted that there would not be the capacity to complete all of these works at once and that the roads and footways would begin depreciating immediately.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the delivery to date.**
- 2. to note the ongoing work and the continued asset management approach to programmed and reactive highway maintenance.**
- 3. to recommend that Cabinet write to the government requesting that funding for highway maintenance is increased to at least £7m per-annum rather than the proposed £3.197m.**

MINUTES END