

CABINET

18 December 2018

ADDITIONAL HIGHWAYS FUNDING ALLOCATION

Report of the Strategic Director for Places

Strategic Aim:	Sustainable Growth	
Key Decision: Yes	Forward Plan Reference: FP/16112018	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Mrs L Stephenson, Portfolio Holder for Culture & Leisure, Highways & Transportation	
Contact Officer(s):	Neil Tomlinson, Senior Highways Manager	01572 758342 ntomlinson@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	N/A	

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Approves the use of the additional Highway Maintenance Grant Allocation for a programme of maintenance works to be delivered in 2018/19
2. Authorises the Strategic Director for Places, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to approve the use of any savings generated from Capital schemes to bring forward schemes from the forward programme, or works as may be required to expedite the delivery of capital maintenance works.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the allocation of the additional £845k highway maintenance capital funding allocation for 2018/19, as awarded in the Chancellor's November budget statement.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the Budget 2018, the Government is allocating £420 million in the 2018/19 financial year for local highways maintenance, including the repair of potholes, to keep local bridges and structures open and safe, as well as to help aid other minor highway works that may be needed
- 2.2 In order to minimise administrative burdens for all concerned and to be fair and proportionate, the Department of Transport (DfT) distributed the funding formulaically, based on the Department's existing local highways maintenance capital funding needs element formula, which takes into account highway assets for which each authority is responsible.
- 2.3 Rutland County Council's share of the allocation is £845k.

3 MAINTENANCE SCHEMES

- 3.1 The Council have been working with our Term Service provider, Tarmac, to utilise the available supply chain and developing technology in surveying and assessing carriageway and footway condition, to provide a detailed forward programme of additional carriageway and footways works for delivery during the remainder of the financial year.
- 3.2 The programmes have been compiled using our software systems, AssetStream, and Horizons. The outputs from these surveys, are aligned with selected parameters to provide a prioritised programme of works.
- 3.3 This programme of works has been reviewed with our supply chain to ensure that delivery can be undertaken during the remainder of this financial year, to meet the DfT's desire to provide assistance in improving the country's highway network.
- 3.4 The carriageway patching, inlay and surface dressing schemes can be found in Appendix A.
- 3.5 The footway resurfacing schemes can be found in Appendix B.
- 3.6 The proposed programmes of works have been scheduled so as to be deliverable within the remainder of the financial year (weather permitting), and the remaining funding will be carried forward to the 2019/20 Capital Maintenance Programme.
- 3.7 During the programming process, further programmes of work are being compiled for 2019/20, including carriageway patching, surface dressing, micro-asphalting and footway dressing. These programmes and budget allocations for 2019/20 will be presented to Cabinet on 19th February 2019, as the annual Highways Capital Funding report.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Specific consultation with Members and the public has not been undertaken for individual schemes.
- 4.2 Consultation was undertaken during the approval of the Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP) on the methodology and process for the identification of highway maintenance programmes.
- 4.3 Scheme specific consultation and communication will take place with affected stakeholders in advance of implementation.
- 4.4 Communication regarding scheme and work delivery will be in accordance with the Stakeholder Communications Plan, approved within the HAMP.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 The additional maintenance funding could be used and allocated in alternative ways:
 - Re-allocate a proportion of the funding to spend already undertaken in 2018/19 on revenue highway maintenance works. (Note: £300k of savings were already allocated and realised for 2018/19).
 - Re-allocate a proportion of the funding to spend already undertaken in 2018/19 on capital highway maintenance works and undertake no additional works this year. The off-set capital funding allocation could be carried forward to 2019/20 capital maintenance programme.
 - Undertake no additional maintenance works in this financial year and carry the full allocation through to 2019/20 capital maintenance programme.
 - Do not use the funding on highway maintenance services and allocate to other service areas within the authority. This would be in direct contravention to the DfT request to use the funding for the intended purpose, and the Council would not be able to comply with the request conditions and publish a statement on our website, as to the final use of the funding.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The 2018/19 budget for the Highways Capital Programme was approved on the 20th February 2018 (Report No 16/2018) with a small carry forward from 2017/18. The budget for 2018/19 is currently at £2.409m.
- 6.2 On November 13th 2018, Rutland County Council received £845k of additional funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) for capital maintenance.
- 6.3 The funding is not ring-fenced and could be used for other purposes, however, the DfT expect the authority to use this funding for its intended purpose. The DfT also expect the authority to publish a brief note on its website by end of March 2019, copied to the Department for Transport, setting out how the funding allocated to authorities earlier this financial year and this new extra funding has been utilised.

6.4 It's recommended that due to the conditions to the grant, the funding should be treated as ring fenced. Any new capital project funded from the £845k additional grant would therefore require cabinet approval.

6.5 Works undertaken with the Council's delivery partners have identified the following programmes of maintenance work that can realistically under-taken before April 2019:

Works Type	Approximate Length Treated	Approximate Area Treated	Estimated Cost
Carriageway Patching/Resurfacing (see Appendix A)	42km	15,000m ²	£350k
Footway Resurfacing (see Appendix B)	2km	2500m ²	£85k

6.6 Any identified works that cannot be undertaken this financial year, will be added to the forward programme for works for 2018/19, and completed as soon as possible.

7 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

The Council has a duty under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980, to maintain the Highway in such a state as to be safe and fit for the ordinary traffic that may reasonably be expected to use it. The capital programme for maintenance must make sufficient provision for the Council to comply with this duty.

8 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

8.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed for the following reasons, because no personal data is being processed.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and there are no adverse effects due to this policy.

10 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Well maintained highways contribute towards road safety.

11 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Failure to deliver a sustainable maintenance programme will lead to a decline in the

quality of the highway networks throughout Rutland, leading to reductions in the quality of:

- Transport links
- Access to safe and useable highways, footway and cycleways, thus promoting activities such as walking and cycling.

12 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 It is recommended that the capital highway maintenance programmes in Appendix A & B be approved to help deliver the Council's strategic aims of "sustainable growth" and to fulfil the Council's statutory duties with regard to highway maintenance and road safety as efficiently as possible.

13 BACKGROUND PAPERS

13.1 Report No 6/17 Highways Capital Programme

14 APPENDICES

14.1 Appendix A – Carriageway patching programme

14.2 Appendix B – Footway patching programme

A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.