

21 March 2019**Agenda Item:4**

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE HIGHWAYS INNOVATION

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Members' approval for the programme of innovations proposed by the County Council and its contractor Via EM Ltd.

Information

2. This meeting will build upon the information previously presented to the Communities and Place Review and Development Committee.

Highway Innovations to be Presented at this Meeting

3. The topics which will be presented to Members at this meeting will be:
 - Artemis, claims recovery service
 - Recycling of highway waste and arisings
 - Salix bid for replacing street light lanterns with LEDs units
 - Additional and improved road repair techniques

Artemis, Claims Recovery Service

4. Via EM Ltd. has engaged Artemis to assist in the recovery of costs associated with damage to highway assets as a result of third party incidents on the network. Artemis provides a team of damage recovery professionals who have extensive experience of working with insurance companies to agree and to settle damage claims. Working collaboratively with Artemis, Via EM Ltd. has reviewed its cost recovery strategy and its methods of capturing evidence with a goal of maximising the amounts that it recovers.

Recycling of Highway Waste and Arisings

5. Via EM Ltd. generates construction waste in various forms as part of its highway works, currently this waste is either taken directly to licensed tips for disposal or is temporarily stored at highway depots.
6. Waste at the depots is recovered by Via EM Ltd.'s waste collection contractor as unsegregated waste and taken to their own recycling facilities or disposed if this cannot be easily reprocessed. It is recognised that there is an opportunity to explore more cost effective and

environmentally friendly ways of recycling these materials. A working group has been established within Via EM Ltd. to progress this initiative.

Salix Bid for Replacing Street Light Lanterns with LEDs Units

7. Salix Finance Ltd provides interest-free Government loans to the public sector to improve its energy efficiency, lower its carbon emissions and reduce its energy bills. The savings generated by reducing energy consumption are then used to pay back the loan.
8. The County Council has made use of this funding opportunity to replace over 55,000 traditional sodium lamps which had become expensive to illuminate and repair with LED alternatives. These replacement lanterns have saved approximately £7,500,000 and 14,000 tonnes of carbon.
9. The LED replacement programme has targeted the oldest low-pressure sodium lanterns first because they are the least energy efficient and replacing them generates the greatest savings however, funding has now been secured to target the remaining high-pressure sodium lanterns and works are due to start in the Broxtowe and Ashfield areas after April 2019.

Additional and Improved Road Repair Techniques

10. County Council officers have worked with Via EM Ltd. to review the various road repair techniques available and concluded that the following are most appropriate for Nottinghamshire:

Spray Injection Chip Patching is road repair system which is a non-invasive treatment similar to surface dressing, it seals the area treated by filling cracking and removing localised surface irregularities including small potholes, whilst restoring the surface texture.

Mechanised Patching is a road repair system which combines small scale surface planing and hand lay patching repairs into a rapid repair solution utilising 'hotbox' material storage and direct material placement. This treatment is ideal for any patching and small scale structural repairs, particularly around junctions and those areas that suffer from increased loading (e.g. bus stops, junction approaches).

11. Although the two techniques are quite different they both seek to introduce mechanisation allowing larger patches to be undertaken which will reduce the 'patchwork quilt' appearance produced by our current repairs.

Other Innovations

12. The Committee's works programme indicates that the meeting on the 21st of March 2019 will conclude its review of highways innovations however, if Members wish to explore additional topics these can be considered at future meetings

Other Options Considered

13. Failure to innovate will result in the County Council being unable to make use of new materials, new ways of working and new technologies, this will prevent improvements being made to the delivery of highway services and these service's value for money.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

14. The proposed programme of highways innovations will improve the value for money and quality of highway services delivered to the people of Nottinghamshire.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

16. The innovations presented to the committee will improve the productivity and value for money achieved by Via EM Ltd. on behalf of the County Council.

Implications for Service Users

17. Successful innovation will allow the County Council to make use of new materials, new ways of working and new technologies, this will allow improvements to be made to the delivery and the value for money of highway services.
18. Successful innovation will enhance the County Council's reputation amongst the residents of Nottinghamshire.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommend that Members consider the topics presented and approve the future programme of innovations proposed by the County Council and Via EM Ltd.

Adrian Smith
Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Gary Wood, Group Manager Highways and Transport, Tel: 0115 9774270 / Martin Carnaffin, Contract Manager, Tel: 0115 9774229

Constitutional Comments [SJE 18/02/2019]

19. This decision falls within the Terms of Reference of the Communities & Place Review & Development Committee to whom responsibility for the review and development of all functions falling under the remit of the Authority's Communities & Place Committee has been delegated.

Financial Comments [RWK 13/02/2019]

20. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 16 of the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All