

19 March 2020**Agenda Item:4****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE****HIGHWAYS DRAINAGE – RECOMMENDATIONS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for officers from Via EM Ltd. and the County Council to pursue the recommendations set out in this report.

Information

2. The recommendations set out below arise from the deliberations of the Communities and Place Review and Development Committee which took place at its meeting on 30th January 2020.

Gully Cleansing

3. The following recommendations relate to gully cleansing.

Officers in Via EM Ltd. shall:

- Provide Members - *and parishes where applicable* - with advanced notification of the cyclical gully emptying activities which are programmed to take place within their Divisions.
- Provide Members - *and parishes where applicable* – with lists of the gullies which have been emptied within their Divisions and details of any problems encountered such as parked vehicles or drainage defects that require further investigation.
- Review the County Council's current cyclical gully cleansing arrangements to ensure that concerns about areas prone to flooding and repeat reactive visits are included in the decision making process about gully emptying frequencies.
- Ensure that any information relating to the County Council's drainage assets obtained during their works is recorded and made available for future use.

Communications with other Authorities

4. The following recommendation relates to communications with other Authorities:
 - Officers in both Via EM Ltd. and the County Council shall continue to build upon their partnership working arrangements with other agencies such as Seven Trent Water and the Environment Agency.

Communications with the Public

5. The following recommendations relate to communications with members of the public:

- Via EM Ltd. shall seek to improve the public's perceptions of its drainage works. This shall include the production of a number of short videos that will be available on-line. These videos shall explain how highway drainage systems work, the difference between cyclic & reactive drainage works, and address common misconceptions associated with highway drainage.
- Officers in both Via EM Ltd. and the County Council shall improve their communication arrangements with riparian owners to help ensure they are aware of their responsibilities, this shall include the proactive identification of watercourses where maintenance is required.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. The recommendations set out above have been arrived at following due consideration of the available options by the Committee.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. 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.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that the proposals contained in paragraphs 3 to 5 above, being the findings and recommendations of this Committee should now be reported to Communities and Place Committee for consideration.

Adrian Smith
Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Carnaffin – Contract Manager, Tel: 0115 9774229

Constitutional Comments (SJE 12/02/2020)

8. 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, including the management and maintenance of highways, and of flood risk management scrutiny, has been delegated.

Financial Comments (SES 11/02/2020)

9. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this 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.

- Nottinghamshire County Council's Highway Network Management Plan
<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/110443/highwaynetworkmanagementplan.pdf>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All