

3rd October 2013**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS****PERFORMANCE REPORT – HIGHWAYS****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report provides information to the Committee on the performance of the Highways Division – specifically this report covers April, May and June – Quarter 1 of 2013/14 although some are based on annual indicators.

Information and Advice

2. The Highways Division of Nottinghamshire County Council provides services to the County's residents, visitors, businesses and road users which directly affect lives, prosperity and wellbeing on a daily basis.
3. There are a range of performance measures which support performance management within the Division and these cover the large range of services provided, including road maintenance, casualty reduction, congestion and traffic management, street lighting, development control as set out in the Appendix scorecard to this report.

Analysis

4. The following analysis highlights key performance indicators:
 - i. Highway Safety
The effective work undertaken by the highway safety team and staff delivering all aspects of the highway service continues to drive good performance and achievement of our highway safety targets
 - ii. Street Lighting
The Highways Division is successfully implementing more efficient business processes across many areas of the service including the repair of street lights. In this case an above target performance has been transformed to a below target performance – the target being number of days to repair a street light. This has been achieved with no additional resources.
 - iii. Road Condition
The highways division continues to provide an effective maintenance programme with the condition of the County's A roads well above target. The condition of B and C roads shows is showing a deterioration away from target whilst unclassified roads

show an improvement towards the target whilst still above target.

- iv. It is noted that the staff in the highways development control team continue to perform close to target with increasing enquiries and reduced resources. It is also noted that the Local Improvement Scheme delivery performance is consistent with previous years.
5. Highway Safety - despite anticipated quarter on quarter variation, the overall trend in the numbers of people and children killed or seriously injured in road accidents is still downward. The annual results continue below interim target levels, and long term the Council is well on course to achieve the 2020 target for this indicator.
6. Street Lighting - A total of 3258 street lighting faults were reported in the 1st quarter which is a reduction from the previous quarter. The average repair time has fallen by 2.16 days to 5.60 days. Automatic email warning information is now sent to the responsible engineers to allow them to take prompt corrective action and along with awareness raising sessions there is an improved response. Further improvements are expected as the new processes are consolidated.
7. Road Condition – These are annual indicators which are produced utilising condition data for the highway network collated from a number of sources to nationally recognised standard processes. The trends reflect the current and historic investment in highway maintenance through both the highways capital programme in resurfacing, surface dressing and footway renewal, and through the highways revenue programme in patch repairs, pot hole and drainage repairs. Whilst the condition of A roads is deteriorating it does remain above target whilst B and C roads are deteriorating below and away from target whilst the Unclassified network has improved due to investment over recent years following a number of severe winters but is still below target.
8. The quarterly indicators monitor the processing of development control applications and pre-applications with targets set at 95% and 90% of all enquiries being dealt with within 21 days. Results for both indicators are close to target.
9. Traditionally the delivery of the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) programme is largely dedicated to scheme design and consultation, hence first quarter figures are always low.

Other Options Considered

10. None – this is an information report.

Reasons for Recommendations

11. None – this is an information report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service

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

12. The monitoring of service performance will ensure that the Highways Budgets will be used efficiently and effectively.

Implications for Service Users

13. The continued monitoring and management of performance will ensure that quality standards are maintained and appropriate services provided to meet local needs.

Recommendation

1. That Committee note the contents of the report.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments

None – report for information.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Divisions

All