



**8<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Agenda Item: 4**

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS**

### **Horizons Pavement Management System - Presentation**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. For Committee to receive a presentation on the new method for the identification and creation of a rolling programme of Highway Maintenance schemes utilising pavement management software.

#### **Background**

2. 'Horizons' is a visualised Pavement Management software product created and licensed by Yotta. It utilises data collected annually as part of the scheduled road condition surveys. Horizons is designed to take the complicated and vast amounts of road and footway condition data and display it in a visualised format using maps, graphs, pie-charts and video. This enables the information to be presented to a wider audience, which may or may not have technical experience.
3. The software factors in a multitude of parameters including existing road condition, anticipated rate of deterioration, cost of repair and appropriate timing of repair, to produce a 5 year rolling works programme. This programme seeks to maximise value from the investment and so will not necessarily produce a worst first list.
4. It should also be noted that the programmes are 'live' and as such road lengths subject to their rate of deterioration can 'accelerate' up the list.
5. This will produce scenarios whereby road lengths which are deemed to be in relatively poor condition, and thus, more expensive to repair, may remain untreated for a period of time, provided they remain in a safe and serviceable condition. The equivalent costs can then be spent on alternative treatments at numerous other locations to prevent those sites from falling into the same poor condition themselves. Eventually, the poor condition roads have to be treated but by adopting Asset Management Principles, the continuing cycle of 'worst-first' maintenance will ultimately reduce the number of poor roads.

6. This will replace the previously used methodology which whilst being a technical assessment did not provide the rolling programme of works and could not predict future funding requirements and modelling.

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