

24 April 2014.

Agenda Item:

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

Purpose of the Report

1. This report notes the additional funding for highway maintenance allocated to Nottinghamshire and proposals to target this further investment in good quality first time permanent carriageway patching repairs.

Background

2. The Government announced in March that it was making available £183.5m nationally to help local authorities repair local roads damaged by floods and other extreme weather conditions over the last few months. In total, Nottinghamshire County Council will receive £1,565,207 – split £574,388 capital and £990,819 revenue. There is also a requirement for the Council to report on its web site how this funding has been spent to provide additional repairs to road surfaces
3. In the budget government also announced a further £200m for Councils for highway maintenance during the financial year 2014 to 2015. Further details are yet to be announced by government but there is an indication that local councils will have to bid towards an allocation of this funding.
4. Nottinghamshire has over 2,500 miles of road to maintain and spring is one of the busiest times of year, repairing the damage caused by the winter weather. As it is water that causes the damage to road surfaces, the number of pot holes forming this year is very similar to previous years, even without snow this winter.
5. A review is already underway regarding the balance of temporary repairs to first time permanent repairs and where it is reasonable repairs will be put into a planned programme to deliver a higher quality first time repair. This may take a few weeks to deliver rather than the few days needed to undertake a temporary repair. This programme will complement a new approach to repairing potholes of 'find and fix' using new techniques and materials which are quick to apply and give a permanent repair for smaller potholes.
6. A programme of surface dressing, to help stop potholes forming in the first place by water-proofing 100 miles of road surfaces every summer, and a programme

of resurfacing worn out roads was approved by this Committee in February. Councillors and members of the

Public can now find details of our resurfacing programme through an interactive search on the Council's web site.

Other Options

7. The funding is provided for highway maintenance with specific reference to road surfaces. The funding could therefore alternatively provide additional investment in resurfacing or surface dressing.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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

9. This funding will increase the highways capital and revenue budgets by £1,565,207 – split £574,388 capital and £990,819 revenue - for 2014/15 only.

Implications for Service Users

10. Improved condition of road surfaces.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that this report is noted.

Andrew Warrington
Service Director, Highways

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Andrew Warrington ext. 74681

Constitutional Comments

11. Report for information

Financial Comments (TMR 26/03/2014)

12. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 9 of the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All