

29 November 2018**Agenda Item:5**

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE

HIGHWAYS REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek endorsement of the detail of the work programme connected with the review and development of aspects of the highways service.

Information

2. There is a high level of public interest in many of the services which fall under the remit of this Committee as the majority are council wide and universal services that everyone living, visiting or working in Nottinghamshire benefits from. This is particularly the case for the highway service. The Council and individual Councillors receive more queries about highways issues than any other area of the Council's work.
3. The highway network is a vital asset for:
 - The transport of people and goods
 - The provision of access to homes, businesses and other premises.
 - The provision of space where people shop, socialise and relax.
 - Support to the local and regional economies
 - Allowing space for infrastructure that provides communications and services / utilities which underpin our society
4. It is proposed to review a number of key aspects of the highways service in-depth with a view to improve service provision. Recommendations and findings from this committee will be presented to the Communities and Place Committee for final consideration.
5. Currently, the Highways service takes part in the activities of the Midlands Service Improvement Group and is a member of a number of other bodies to try to ensure that best practice is shared across Highway Authorities. The key tests are around providing both an efficient and effective service. In addition the service reports quarterly to Communities and Place Committee on key metrics and performance measures

Proposed Work Programme

6. It is proposed that the work programme for the review of key aspects of the highways service consists initially of four elements. These are:
 - Innovation

- Road Safety
- The Integrated Transport Measures Programme
- Highways Asset Management including highway inspections and repair criteria

7. The key elements of the proposed review strands are expanded in paragraphs 8 to 14 below.

Innovation

8. To review the current use of information and communication technology in the highways service including use of the Highway Asset Management System, data collection systems, communication interfaces and reporting / feedback mechanisms.
9. To review the use of the latest plant and materials in delivering the highway service including the use of new repair techniques, data capture at point of service delivery and use of recycled materials.
10. To review our approach to other areas of innovation and to consider the County Council's approach for bidding for funding for the trialling and testing of new innovations in the highway sector.

Road Safety

11. To review our current approach to casualty reduction through education, engineering and enforcement.
12. To provide information on and review our current road safety education programme strands and explore how these can be extended to incorporate the adult cohort and Occupational Road Risk.
13. Consider progress towards the road casualty reduction targets set nationally and locally for 2020 and explore the vision beyond 2020 for Nottinghamshire

The Integrated Transport Measures Programme

14. To review the current elements of the programme in terms of demand, programme inclusion and delivered outcomes.
15. To consider how the future elements of the programme align with the Local Transport Plan and the ambitions of the County Council.
16. To review our approach to joint funding of projects and working with key partners.

Highways Asset Management including highway inspections and repair criteria

17. To consider the County Council's Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan and use of the Asset Management System to include a review of highway surveys used for road condition performance indicators and the County Council's Highway Inspection and Risk Manual.
18. To review the current elements of the capital programme in terms of demand, programme inclusion and delivered outcomes.

19. To review our approach to the DfT's incentive fund and future developments in Highway Asset Management, including how we communicate our approach to the local community.

Financial Implications

20. The cost of the individual reviews will be accommodated within existing staffing budgets. Any financial implications arising from reviews will be considered as part of the review outcomes and reports to relevant Committees.

Other Options Considered

21. Other aspects of the highway service were considered for inclusion, but these are the key elements to review subject to member endorsement.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

22. The review of these functional areas supports the work of the Communities and Place Committee and provides an opportunity to review and develop the service to match the ambitions of the County Council and to ensure the right services are being delivered in the most cost effective way.

Statutory and Policy Implications

23. 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

It is **recommended** that Committee:

- 1) Endorses the detail of the work programme connected with the review and development of aspects of the highways service as set out in the report.
- 2) Endorses that the reviews are carried out individually in the order shown in the report starting with Innovation.

Adrian Smith
Corporate Director, Place

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

Constitutional Comments [SJE 25/10/2018]

24. 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 24/10/2018]

25. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 20 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