

Cabinet Member Briefing Note

Report Title	Climate Transport and Environment PDS
Cabinet Member	Manda Rigby
Sponsor Director	Chris Major
Meeting Date	2 nd May 2024

1. Update from last meeting:

General update

Whilst the weather over the last period was slightly improved, the ground remained sodden in many areas which continues to present operational issues for some teams including PROW.

We are now moving into the delivery of the extended highway improvement scheme and highway maintenance programme. The extended programme of works will be ongoing through the year.

Significant works over the next period include the closure of North Parade Bridge for a period of 8 weeks from 20th May for bridge deck water proofing and resurfacing works. This will generate some disruption on the network, we communicate using VMS and digital media.

The submitted bid to DfT for traffic signals maintenance funding to help address aging and obsolete traffic signals infrastructure referred to within the last update was unfortunately unsuccessful. We have requested feedback, but the bid-based funding approach does require significant resource, and this is challenging when unsuccessful.

- Traffic management, Network Management, road safety
 - We continue to progress the Data transition for the implementation of the new digital systems for managing Traffic Regulation Orders. The new system will increase accessibility for all members of the public to the proposals. This is a requirement for all Local Authorities as set out within the Kings Speech.
- Local Highway Improvement Programme
 - Significant programme to deliver. We are continuing to seek additional resource but recognise that qualified staff within this field are scarce and it is difficult to find suitable candidates.
- City Centre Security

- Upper Borough Walls location is progressing well. We undertook significant utility diversion to progress the works. All works are on programme to complete in late May / June.
- Highway Maintenance
 - CAZ funded resurfacing improvements around Queen Square, Old King Street and Queens Parade Place completed.
 - Footway paving improvements in Queen Square in progress.
 - Significant Capital programme progressing well this includes street Lighting, footways, drainage, carriageways and structures.
 - Continued investment in pavements with 60% funding increase year on year
 - Winter maintenance and gritting work completed–
 - Our 9 gritters completed 50 runs spreading nearly 2000 tonnes of road salt this winter.
 - Operational procedures progressing for new salt barn at Pixash HWRC which has been filled with road salt stocks in line with DfT best practice.
- Parking
 - Informal TRO work underway for parking charging proposals
 - New Pay & Display machines installation close to completion - replacing our end-of-life technology and adding card readers.
 - National Grid works needed for final two machines.
- Liveable Neighbourhoods delivery
 - Work completed on Sydney road ETRO
 - Some issues with inconsiderate drivers mounting the pavement to go around the bollards
 - Work progressing with Lyme Gardens/Charmouth Road scheme
 - Letter issued to residents and webpage made live

2. Forward plan of work for next period

- Traffic Management, Network Management, road safety
 - Complete procurement of temporary additional staff resource to enable delivery of 24/25 programme.
 - Procurement of new bus stop maintenance contract
 - Action plan for Vision Zero
 - Continue delivery of the challenging Local Highways Improvement programme - £2.8m of work (compared to usual £1.1m)
 - City Centre Security complete Upper Boroughs Wall and move to Lower Boroughs Walls in May / June.
- Highway Maintenance
 - Delivery of the Capital programme during summer and autumn.
 - Significant programme of resurfacing across the area
- Parking
 - Public consultation on new parking charges to launch in June, with proactive comm to support.
 - Implementation of outcomes.
 - Progress continuing with implementation of Moving Traffic Enforcement.
 - More interviews being arranged for CEO applications, 6 candidates for 5 remaining posts.

- Response for Government's call for evidence on "Restricting the generation of surplus funds from traffic contraventions".
- Liveable Neighbourhoods delivery
 - Monitoring of Sydney Road scheme to continue
 - Progression of Lyme Gardens scheme proposals