

Highways Performance Dashboard

Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

1. Introduction

In response to the recommendations of the Planned & Reactive Maintenance: Potholes & Drainage Task Group presented to the Corporate, Infrastructure and Regulatory Services (CIRS) Scrutiny Committee in March 2019 an updated Performance Dashboard Report has been produced. The intention of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the performance of Devon Highways.

This report considers the following areas;

- Reactive works including potholes and drainage cleaning
- Ash dieback
- Delivery of planned works
- Winter service
- Carbon reduction
- Civil Parking Enforcement

2. Reactive Works

2.1 Cleaning

The gully cleaning programme is currently just ahead of programme. This work stream has been affected by Covid-19 but the gangs are working hard to maintain the programme. Additional resources are being planned for November to ensure it is completed within the financial year.

We are maintaining a high level of performance audits which is indicating an increase in the quality of the workmanship. This view is being backed up by feedback from the Neighbourhood Teams.

Additional resources are also being added to the grips, easements and buddleholes programme to ensure the works stay ahead of programme.

Further details can be found in Appendix A.

2.2 Safety Defects

The numbers of pothole defects identified this year has been consistently high compared to the three-yearly average so far through 2020/21. This is largely due to carriageway 8-10 inspections being brought forward to the summer months to support ash dieback and to free up inspection resource during winter. These inspections have now been completed, leading to much lower pothole numbers

being recorded in October compared to previous years. The additional resources will improve our ability to respond to increased enquiry numbers throughout the peak winter months.

3. Ash Dieback

As reported in the previous Dashboard Report the spread of Ash Dieback across the County continues at an alarming rate. Due to the risk to the travelling public we have increased the surveys of the 3-5 network to annual rather than every other year. In addition to twice the number of surveys the recorded number of infected trees in each district is significantly higher than previous years. As such the total number of trees recorded with ADB in 2020 will exceed 7,000 compared with only 9 in 2017.

Where infected trees lie within the public highway we aim to have them removed within 6 months of being made aware of the issue. This is presenting a significant challenge to the team due to the rapid increase in volumes. We are currently working with our private sector partner WSP to look at what support they can offer through the use of technology and additional staff resources.

The results of the surveys can be found in Appendix B

4. Scheme Delivery

Good progress is being made on delivery of schemes in the highway maintenance programme. The very welcome additional funding announced in last year's budget was confirmed in March and provides the largest annual programme ever. Due to Covid-19 no planned works were able to be undertaken in April or May so the highways team, and the supporting supply chains for design and delivery of the programme have had a busy summer and are currently on track to deliver the full value of the programme. However, there are more uncertainties than in a usual year in view of Covid-19 and a risk that a resurgence will have an impact. If any scheme slippage occurs these items will be included in the forward programme.

5. Winter Service

The winter season formally started on 15th October with daily assessment of the weather forecast and our contractor Skanska starting their standby arrangements. A contingency plan has been produced to attempt to mitigate risks presented by Covid-19. The new Network Operations Control Centre is now in operation having transferred from Lucombe House and will assist in an emergency response to severe weather. Winter training has been undertaken remotely.

6. Carbon Reduction

The Highways and Traffic Management team and Engineering Design Group have established a Carbon Reduction Board and project team in response to the County Council's commitment to become net-zero carbon by 2030.

The purpose of the team is to investigate, consider and embed new ways of working that help reduce the carbon output when designing and commissioning construction

works for new major capital projects and highway maintenance operations, this will consider the wider supply chain.

Work is ongoing on the collation of possible tools and processes available in the industry to assist with the assessment of carbon emissions. The project will develop an in-depth understanding of the different approaches before choosing the most appropriate for the Service. Emission calculations will be based on a 'whole life cost' approach – from sourcing primary materials through to their disposal at the end of a project's life. These calculations will help officers choose the most appropriate, sustainable repair.

A RAG system has been used to identify the top ten carbon emitting work types. Work has been ongoing to develop a benchmark for carbon output on these ten activities. This work continues, with assistance from our contractors and Exeter University.

The project has the potential for a significant change of working practice as well as a cultural change to how construction works are planned and designed.

7. Civil Parking Enforcement

We publish our parking ticket statistics showing how many tickets have been issued in each town. These figures are always published in arrears. Information for 20/21 can be viewed on the County Council's website.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/parking/how-parking-is-regulated/>

A copy of the table can be found in Appendix C.

Meg Booth
Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Electoral Divisions: All

Cabinet Member for Highway Management: Councillor Stuart Hughes

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Reference
Nil		

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Appendix A to HIW/20/44

Gully Cleaning Programme

As of 9th October (52% through the financial year)

	Total to be cleaned	Attended	Cleaned	left to attend	% Complete Overall
Honiton	26,519	13,557	12,520	12,962	51%
Exeter	39,117	12,371	11,227	26,746	32%
Rydon	19,256	12,236	11,776	7,020	64%
South Hams	18,509	12,730	11,488	5,779	69%
Okehampton	13,767	10,874	10,552	2,893	79%
Merton	16,815	9,740	9,424	7,075	59%
South Molton	25,431	12,694	11,703	12,737	50%
Sub Contract 1		5,031	4,408		
Sub Contract 2		4,206	3,790		
	159,414	84,202	78,690	75,212	53%

Grips, Easements and Buddleholes Programme

As of 9th October (52% through the financial year)

	To be Cleaned	Cleaned	Left to Attend	% Complete	Programmed (m)	Cleaned (m)	Additional Cleaned (m)	Total Cleaned (m)
South	16856	8023	8833	48%	54,599	28,815	3,194	32,010
West	35990	15435	20555	43%	114,481	46,565	3,473	50,037
North	5402	4836	566	90%	14,314	13,715	1,115	14,830
Mid Devon	7403	2079	5324	28%	18,758	8,476	3,492	11,968
East	34135	25763	8372	75%	86,135	63,827	7,600	71,426
	99,786	56,136	43,650	56%	288,288	161,398	18,874	180,272

Appendix B to HIW/20/44

Results of Ash Dieback surveys on the 3-5 network

	2017				2018				2019				2020			
	No. of ADB locations	Est no. of trees with ADB	Total no. of defect locations (all species)	% of locations with ADB	No. of ADB locations	Est no. of trees with ADB	Total no. of defect locations (all species)	% of locations with ADB	No. of ADB locations	Est no. of trees with ADB	Total no. of defect locations (all species)	% of locations with ADB	No. of ADB locations	Est no. of trees with ADB	Total no. of defect locations (all species)	% of locations with ADB
<i>T'bridge</i>									18	61	68	26%	146	500	165	88%
<i>S Hams</i>					8	28	32	25%					190	1037	216	88%
<i>W Devon</i>	3	3	46	7%					37	121	52	71%	204	815	237	86%
<i>Exeter</i>					1	1	59	2%					14	64	69	20%
<i>E Devon</i>	0	0	51	0%					9	10	50	18%	80	312	105	76%
<i>M Devon</i>					92	341	122	75%					191	1342	211	91%
<i>Torrige</i>	2	6	52	4%					16	24	35	46%	145	1763	153	95%
<i>N Devon</i>					46	75	99	46%					122	1106	135	90%
TOTAL	5	9	149	3%	147	445	312	47%	80	216	205	39%	1092	6939	1291	85%

Appendix C to HIW/20/44

Number of Penalty Charge Notices issued by community

Community	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOT
Appledore		2	5	2	1		2						12
Ashburton	3	14	16	22	31	30	24						140
Aveton Gifford				1									1
Axminster	1	12	9	4	14	4	28						72
Bampton						5	3						8
Bantham		1	2										3
Barnstaple		36	165	128	166	181	93						769
Beer	1	3		7	1	17	2						31
Bere Alston				4			1						5
Berrynarbor													0
Bickington				1	1								2
Bideford		80	101	93	61	59	21						415
Bishopsteignton			7	2	1	3	1						14
Bishops Tawton													0
Bovey Tracey	1	7	13	15	14	25	22						97
Bow	2	3	3		2	4	1						15
Bradninch													0
Braunton			6	2	7	6							21
Brixton													0
Broadclyst													0
Buckfastleigh		8	6	10	24	29	11						88
Budleigh Salterton	2	6	27	10	14	8	15						82
Chagford	2		28	39	17	6	15						107
Chillington													0
Chudleigh	5	6	25	29	11	19	9						104
Clovelly			6	8	7	1							22
Clyst Honiton		1					8						9
Clyst St Mary			1	5	6	5	7						24
Colyton	3												3
Combe Martin			11		12	8	13						44
Copplestone			2			3	1						6
Crediton	20	19	73	55	16	59	79						321
Croyde		4	3	6	2	2							17
Cullompton	15	13	24	19	12	40	26						149
Dartington													0
Dartmouth	10	5	133	131	250	160	136						825
Dawlish	3	13	76	83	74	38	133						420
Dawlish Warren			1										1
Down Thomas				3									3
East Budleigh			1				3						4

Woodbury			2	3		3	2						10
Woolacombe		138	38	35	14	7							232
Yealmpton		1	1	6		1	6						15
Yelverton				4	1								5
Totals	653	2185	4772	4837	4200	4715	4928						26290