

REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT

1. Decisions

County Road Highway Maintenance: Capital Budget and Progress on 2023/24 Schemes and Proposals for the 2024/25 Programmes and the On-street Parking Account 2024/25

The additional £10m of capital funding has been allocated to

Additional serviceability patching (£7.75m)
White lining maintenance (£0.25m)
Drainage improvements (£2m)

As of mid-August, over 16,000m² of serviceability patching has been laid, equating to over 315 locations.

Over the summer four white lining gangs have been working across the county to remark the following

- 145 mini roundabouts
- 30 compact roundabouts
- 197 zebra crossings

The funding will also allow approximately 10km of double white lines to be refreshed.

The programme of drainage improvements is being delivered through the Term Maintenance Contractor.

The additional funding provided by the DfT Traffic Signal Obsolescence Grant and Green Light Fund is enabling a range of sites to be renewed and reviewed to maximise efficiency.

Delivery of the Local Area Capital Program was delayed until mid-May due to the need for resource to be focused on the delivery of reactive pothole repairs following the challenging Winter and Spring. Delivery is now progressing well, with a large proportion of the works already completed or scheduled to be delivered ahead of winter.

The major resurfacing programme for the A-road network is now underway, with the surface dressing programme already completed.

Two rock face management schemes have already been completed this year, including Watersmeet nr Lynton following a slip. A bridge safeguarding scheme replacing the parapets at Lindridge bridge over

the A380 at Kingsteignton has also been completed (the works at Humber Lane bridge are later this year). Works have also started on the stabilisation of a large embankment failure using rock anchors and building a retaining wall on the A30 at Crawley.

Bridges and structures works currently programmed to start in this financial year include the refurbishment of the Collapark Railway Bridge in Totnes and the cutwater protection of the two Grade I Listed bridges at Greystone and Gunnislake.

Delivery of Parking Management Policy: New Pay and Display Schemes

To date the service hasn't received any alternative traffic management proposals that would address the parking issues in the communities put forward for the roll out of pay and display.

Blundell's Road Traffic Calming Phase 2a (Barberry Way to Gornhay Orchard)

The scheme commenced at the end of June and is progressing well. The Contractor has managed to incorporate new equipment for a statutory undertaker which will prevent future delays and disruption to the travelling public. The works are scheduled to complete in October.

South West Exeter Housing Infrastructure Fund Project update and Alphington enhancements scheme

Works commenced on the Alphington enhancements in early June and are currently ahead of programme with the civils works due to complete in mid September. The final resurfacing has been coordinated with the various other works taking place in the south-west Exeter area and will be carried out in October .

Devon Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans

Following the adoption of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans for the Heart of Teignbridge, Barnstaple with Bideford and Northam and Exeter a number of schemes are beginning to be developed for future delivery.

Two further Plans for Clyst Valley and New Communities and Cullompton and Tiverton been published for consultation, the feedback is being reviewed with a report to be submitted to the respective future HATOC.

Communities that are not represented by a specific geographic plan will be covered by a county wide plan that is currently being developed with the aim of publishing for consultation in Winter.

2. Meetings

Title of Meeting	Description of Outcome
Vision Zero SW	<p>Written to the secretary of state on behalf of both the Devon and Plymouth authorities. To impress the urgent need for granting of Moving Traffic Enforcement Powers to authorities outside of London.</p> <p>Written to the DfT Director General for the Road Transport Group. To lobby for key road safety issues to be recognised and addressed in response to the published Plan for Motorists.</p> <p>Approved funding in 24/25 and delivered new safety cameras at speed and red light collision sites across Devon.</p> <p>Approved funding for innovative behavioural science research and engagement projects. This work will help understand and target parental influence on younger driver behaviours. And to help target driver behaviours around cyclists at high-risk collision sites.</p> <p>Approved funding for the delivery in 24/25 of the first walkability pilot training programme to improve pedestrian safety skills for Devon's school children.</p> <p>Supported startup funding for the development of a Devon & Cornwall centre of excellence in post collision research and innovation. This will bring together experts in clinical care, operational delivery, data and behavioural sciences. It will be the first of its kind in the UK.</p>
PATROL	<p>Co-authored a letter to the new Secretary of State for Transport on behalf of the Joint Committee. The letter lays out the three key policy priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pavement Parking • Moving Traffic Offences outside London • Review of the level of civil penalty charges
Active Travel England	<p>Danny Williams the CEO of Active Travel England met with myself and officers from the CCET Directorate to highlight the great work that has been done to improve the options for active travel in Exeter and across Devon. Danny was clearly impressed with the level of ambition Devon is showing and highlighted the quality of the schemes delivered.</p>

3. Service Issues and Forthcoming Activities

The recently adopted Corporate Plan includes clear priorities for the Highways and Traffic Management Service. An investment strategy is

to be developed, conversations are ongoing with the provider of the asset management system to look at profiling various funding strategies and the likely outcome on the condition of the network and various asset types.

The Service had already been working closely with DALC to strengthen the relationship with Parish and Town Councils. More details are below.

4. Performance and Partnerships

The service has been working closely with DALC to build better relationships with our Parish and Town Councils. A programme of webinars has been established to provide an overview of the key areas of the service.

Roles and Responsibilities – 5th June 2024
DIY Highways - 15th August 2024
How are our Roads Maintained? - 18th October 2024
Understanding Roadworks - 5th December 2024
Investment in Highways Infrastructure - 6th February 2025
Highways and the Planning System - 3rd April 2025

The first events have been successful with over 80 people in attendance. The sessions are recorded and available for viewing via the DALC members website.

Following the initial Roles and Responsibilities event, an in-person workshop with a number of clerks was facilitated by DALC to address some of the concerns raised regarding the approach and consistency of communications between the Service and Parish and Town Councils.

The Town and Parish Council webpages are also going to be reviewed and brought in line with the information available through the Members portal.

Councillor Stuart Hughes
Cabinet Member for Highway Management