

North Yorkshire Council

Executive Members

25 September 2023

Highways Capital Programme

Report of the Assistant Director Highways and Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek agreement from the Corporate Director for Environment in consultation with Executive Member for Highways and Transportation, to authorise additions to the Highways Capital Forward Programme (HCFP) for Structural Highway Maintenance identified since the last Highways Capital Programme report dated 25 August 2023

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report identifies schemes that are being added to the Highways Capital Forward Programme (HCFP) for future delivery.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Highways Capital Programme is made up of four specific elements; these are Street Lighting; Bridges and Structures; Integrated Transport and Structural Highway Maintenance. Each of these elements is subject to prioritisation methods based upon an assessment of the required outcomes.
- 3.2 Environment Executive Members will be aware that usual practice is to present three main reports per year; one in the Spring outlining expected headline allocations for the following year, one in the summer identifying schemes to be added to the HCFP; followed by a report in Autumn confirming the schemes to be delivered in the following year's annual programme.
- 3.3 In line with 3.2 above, the report was considered at the Environment Executive Members meeting held on 25 August 2023 outlining schemes to be added to the HCFP and a further report will be presented in November 2023 confirming schemes to be delivered in 2024/25.
- 3.4 Although advanced planning is maximised through the implementation of a three-year rolling capital works programme, there are occasions when it is necessary, for sound operational reasons, to introduce new schemes into the forward programme.

4.0 SCHEMES ADDED TO THE HCFP

- 4.1 It is proposed to add three new schemes, with a combined value of £275,000 to the Highways Capital Forward Programme. As discussed at the Environment Executive Members Meeting on 25 August 2023, entry on to the forward programme does not guarantee delivery in a specific year, however as these schemes are linked to improvements to ensure the safety of specific assets, it is envisaged that they will be delivered in 2023/24. Schemes not delivered in 2023/24 will remain on the HCFP for future year's delivery.

- 4.2 The proposed schemes were identified through ongoing asset condition and engineering assessments carried out since the forward programme was approved on 25 August 2023. Details of the schemes are provided in Appendix A.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Any additional costs associated with implementation of the schemes named in Appendix A will be accounted for as part of the routine strategic management of the Highways Capital Works Annual Programme for the year in which the schemes are added to.
- 5.2 The programme is kept under regular review to ensure that total annual expenditure is within the limits of available grant funding for that year plus a drawing down of up to £2m from the following year's grant allocation as arranged with the Corporate Director of Resources. The contents of this report do not adversely impact upon that position

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council, in its capacity as the Local Highway Authority, Street Authority and Local Traffic Authority must act in accordance with a wide range of statutory powers and duties imposed by legislation.
- 6.2 The proposed schemes to be added to the HCFP have been developed and prioritised in line with the relevant legislation such as the Highways Act 1980, the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Transport Act 2000, the Traffic Management Act 2004 and the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse equality impacts arising from the recommendations. The principles and documents discussed in this report are recommended for use in the Well-managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice. Officers consider that there are no adverse impacts arising from the recommendations in this report.
- 7.2 A copy of the 'Record of Decision that Equality Impact Assessment is not required' form is attached as Appendix B.

8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 A climate change impact assessment has been carried out, see Appendix C. This has identified that the development of a forward programme will help to improve efficiency of delivery, reducing waste and emissions through improved coordination and planning of works.

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The recommendations will enable Council officers, working alongside NYH and partner organisations to develop designs and deliver the schemes listed in Appendix A the 2023/24 annual programme

10.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 It is recommended that the Corporate Director Environment in consultation with the environment Executive Member Highways & Transportation
- 10.2 Authorises the additions to the Highways Capital Forward Programme for Structural Highway Maintenance identified since the last Highways Capital Programme report dated 25 August 2023

APPENDICES:

- Appendix A Details of Schemes
Appendix B Equalities Impact Assessment
Appendix C Climate Change Impact Assessment

Barrie Mason
Assistant Director
Highways and Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds
County Hall
Northallerton

Report Author – James Gilroy – Team Leader Highways Asset Management
Presenter of Report – James Gilroy – Team Leader Highways Asset Management

Background documents: None

Schemes to be added to Highways Capital Forward Programme

Area	Scheme name	Town / Village	Scheme Cost
1	Muker Beck Retaining Wall	Muker	£150,000
1	Ivelet Retaining Wall	Ivelet	£50,000
1	Hildyard Arms Retaining Wall	Colburn	£75,000

Equality impact assessment screening form (As of October 2015 this form replaces 'Record of decision not to carry out an EIA')			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	Environment		
Service area	H&T		
Proposal being screened	Environment Executive Member Report – Highways Capital Programme September 2023		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	James Gilroy		
What are you proposing to do?	Agree additions to the Highways Capital Programme in advance of the next scheduled capital programme Environment Executive Member report.		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	Minimise the duration between scheme identification and agreement for inclusion on the agreed capital programme.		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No, the proposal will result in reprioritisation of the current allocations to enable the additional schemes to be delivered.		
Is there likely to be an adverse impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC's additional agreed characteristics? As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? 			
If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be a significant adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.			
Protected characteristic	Yes	No	Don't know/No info available
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex (Gender)		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
NYCC additional characteristic			
People in rural areas		✓	
People on a low income		✓	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		✓	

Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	No		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No. The report focuses on the overarching capital maintenance funding position.		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	The allocation of funding is based on the "Manage, Maintain and Improve" (MMI) hierarchy set out in Local Transport Plan 4, which has been the subject of an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA). This concluded that the introduction of fewer improvement schemes may have a greater impact on people with mobility difficulties or without access to a private vehicle as there will be fewer new facilities provided e.g. pedestrian crossings, dropped kerbs, bus stop accessibility improvements; however, it is also considered that prioritising maintenance, particularly for footways, through the MMI hierarchy is likely to produce a net benefit for people with the same protected characteristics; particularly in terms of age and disability.		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Barrie Mason		
Date	15/09/23		

Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	Highways Capital Programme Headline Allocations 2023/24
Brief description of proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorises the additions to the Highways Capital Forward Programme for Structural Highway Maintenance contained in Appendix A identified since the last Highways Capital Programme report dated 25 August 2023
Directorate	Environment
Service area	Highways and Transportation
Lead officer	James Gilroy
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	
Date impact assessment started	14.09.2023

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

The other option that was considered was to plan based on a lower value of DfT funding at £40M

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

The points raised in respect of profiling the capital programme enable scheme delivery to match available DfT funding. The proposal is cost neutral

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>	
<p>Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.</p>	Emissions from travel		x		Repairs to existing infrastructure		
	Emissions from construction			x	<p>Some emissions from construction vehicles</p> <p>Emissions associated with construction materials etc</p>	<p>Where possible – ensure that vehicle mileage is reduced by planning vehicle movements / diversion routes etc</p> <p>Look to use more recycled material in construction and through the selection of lower carbon techniques</p>	
	Emissions from running of buildings		x				
	Other		x				

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>	x			<p>Establish the use of more sustainable construction techniques</p>		<p>Look to use more recycled material in construction and through the selection of lower carbon techniques</p>
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		x				
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>		x				
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>	x			<p>Delivery of retaining wall schemes to help reduce severance issues</p>		
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>		x				

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>x</p>				
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		<p>x</p>				

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

N/A

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

Steps will be taken to ensure that construction emissions are reduced as far as possible.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	James Gilroy
Job title	Team Leader Highway Asset Management
Service area	Highways and Transport
Directorate	Environment
Signature	J Gilroy
Completion date	14.09.2023

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Barrie Mason

Date: 15/09/23