

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 12TH JULY, 2022

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 7TH JULY, 2022

“C38 HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE THREE YEAR PLAN 2022 – 2024 (NBS) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGNERATION) –

Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 detailed the Council’s legal duty as highway authority to maintain highways at public expense.

The Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan 2022 – 2024 provided the foundation for delivering a well-maintained and managed highway which was essential to sustain the Vale of Glamorgan's economic, social and transport needs.

The proposed Resurfacing Plan was attached at Appendix A to the report with priority roads identified by the Council's Highway Engineers as requiring treatment. All roads listed within the Plan for resurfacing had been assessed over the last 12 months in accordance with the 'Carriageway Resurfacing Prioritisation Scoring System' as detailed at Appendix B to the report and would be treated in financial year 2022/2023.

The roads listed for Micro Asphalt and Surface Dressing were preventative treatments determined by engineering assessment only and listed at Appendix A.

The allocation of the budget for 2022/23 would be spent on three carriageway treatment types, namely Resurfacing, Surface Dressing and Micro Asphalt works in line with the priority listing in the Plan. It was anticipated the available budget of £2.3million (2022/23) would enable the resurfacing of roads scoring a total of 210 points or above on the Plan for 2022/23.

Those roads listed within Appendix A that did not receive works this year would be planned for completion in the next financial year, subject to adequate funding. Those roads listed with no scores against them had been added to the Plan following on from stakeholder referrals and would be reviewed once assessed, scored and considered on review of the Plan.

Should the condition of any highway be such that it required immediate attention, it was suggested that the Director of Environment and Housing be granted delegated powers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, to amend the Plan.

The Cabinet Member added that areas on the Highway Maintenance Scoring Matrix with a score of less than 210 would still be looked at and reassessed to see what could be prioritised. Works were able to be reassessed as weather could have an impact on the condition of roads. The £200k revenue budget for footway repairs was important for promoting active travel within the community.

The Deputy Leader welcomed the inclusion of active travel as part of the three-year plan as it linked to the Council's Active Travel Plans.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and including the typographical amendment to Resolution (4)

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the contents of the Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan 2022 to 2024 as attached at Appendix A to the report be noted and the priority locations for resurfacing be agreed.

(2) T H A T the Director of Environment and Housing be authorised to amend the Plan, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood and Building Services, if urgent highway resurfacing priorities were identified.

(3) T H A T the matter be referred to the July 2022 Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

(4) T H A T, subject to no comments that would affect the Plan as proposed being received from the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, the Highway Maintenance Three Year Resurfacing Plan 2022 to 2024 be agreed.

(5) T H A T in future years, the criteria for road scoring be reviewed to better consider issues such as Active Travel and other routes that may be well used by cyclists.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To agree the Plan and priority locations in principle.

(2) To deal efficiently with changes in the Plan should other highway routes deteriorate more rapidly than expected or constraints dictate that a change in priority was required to ensure the most cost-effective use of the budget allocation in 2022/23.

(3) To ensure that the relevant Scrutiny Committee could consider the details of the Highway Resurfacing Three Year Plan 2022 to 2024 prior to it being formally agreed.

(4) To enable the final Plan to be approved following its consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee, should no comments that affect the Plan as proposed be received.

(5) To ensure that the future assessment criteria took into account all relevant highway use factors.”