

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 8 November 2018

Report of the Head of Asset Management

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Transport Asset Management Plan

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Paul Binks, Tel: (01772) 532210, Highway Asset Manager,
paulbinks@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The Transport Asset Management Plan was approved by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport on 10 June 2014 and sets out the county council's investment strategy in respect of the maintenance of certain transport assets for the period 2015 - 2030.

The draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 data refresh document, which can be viewed [here](#) provides an update in relation to changes in service standards, performance and progress in a number of key areas in highway asset management over the past 12 months.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Note the update on progress on the draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 data refresh.
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Property Services to approve, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, the final version of the draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 data refresh document.

Background and Advice

Lancashire's transport infrastructure assets are the most valuable publicly owned resources managed by the county council, with a combined estimated value of £9 billion. These assets are fundamental in helping the citizens of Lancashire to not only access a range of county council services but also take advantage of the wide range of economic, health, social and recreational opportunities that are available to

them. Without this infrastructure Lancashire would not function as a place to live, work or visit.

The Transport Asset Management Plan sets out how the county council intends to maintain its publicly maintainable vehicular transport assets (i.e. A, B and C roads, unclassified road network, footways, street lighting, traffic signals and structures) over the period 2015/16 to 2029/30.

As the Transport Asset Management Plan is a 'live' document it is important that it is reviewed and refreshed on a regular basis. The refresh documents are intended to supplement the original plan, so that when they are read together they provide an up to date analysis of the condition of transport assets and information of any new pressures now being faced. The draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 refresh document can be viewed on the Highway Asset Management website [here](#).

The draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 refresh document gives details of performance with regard to the condition of highways assets over the period 2013/14 to 2017/18 and attached at Appendix 'A' is a summary of our performance over this period. This shows that over the past 12 months there has been:

- An overall improvement of our A, B and C roads of 3.84%, 4.5% and 5.49% respectively.
- The overall condition of structures has reduced very slightly over the past 12 months¹.
- There has been a slight deterioration with regard to street lighting assets¹.
- There has been a fall in the number of safety critical defects detected across our footway network¹.

(¹The migration from legacy data management systems to the Highway Asset Management System may account for some of these changes.)

The reduction in the condition of structures and street lighting assets, which are the focus of Phase 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan starting 2025/26 was anticipated and acknowledged when the Transport Asset Management Plan strategy was approved in 2014. Despite this reduction they are both considered to be in a 'good' condition.

In January 2018 the county council made a self-assessment evaluation of performance against the Department for Transport's self-assessment criteria. As a result of continued improvements, the self-assessment was a 'Band 3' status which keeps the county council in the highest banding and will result in the maximum permitted allocation from the Department for Transport Incentive Fund for 2018/19 being paid to the authority.

The draft refresh document also provides updates in relation to:

- The updated condition of all highway and transport assets covered by the Transport Asset Management Plan.
- Department for Transport Self-Assessment Questionnaire.

- Consideration of the 'Well Managed Highways Infrastructure Code of Practice'.
- Development of the revised Highway Management Plan.
- Risk based Inspections.

In addition, the draft refresh document also advises of future developments in relation to:

- Development of a Moss Road Strategy.
- Transport Asset Management Plan - Review of Phase 1 and consideration of funding profiles for Phase 2.
- Redefining the highway network hierarchy.
- Unclassified Road Service Standards.
- Footway Service Standards.

Once finalised, proposals for these items together with a proposed Highway Management Plan, will be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

The overall condition of highway and transport assets is still regarded as 'acceptable' which is no change from last year.

It is proposed that the Director of Property Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, is authorised to approve the final draft Transport Asset Management Plan 2018 refresh document.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Should a refresh document not be approved, the Transport Asset Management Plan would remain as it was refreshed in 2017. The refresh is also supporting evidence for the Department for Transport Self-Assessment which is carried out annually. The use of outdated condition information could result in not achieving a band 3 ranking which in turn would reduce the level of funding received from the Department for Transport by approximately £1.9m.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
-------	------	-------------

None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A