

Summary: Environment Directorate progress against delivery of the Commissioning Plan for Lancaster in the first quarter of 2014/15

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CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

10 out of 15 capital schemes, due for delivery in quarter 1, have either been completed or are progressing as planned, and are detailed below. For details of the remaining schemes, please see the 'Progress not as expected' section.

PROGRESS AS EXPECTED

2014/15 Capital schemes programmed for delivery in quarter 1

Urban unclassified

- **Westbourne Road (Lancaster Central)** – surface inlay work has been completed.

Local Priorities Response Fund

- **Westbourne Road (Lancaster Central)** – additional resurfacing work has been completed.

Rural Unclassified

- **Crag Bank Road (Lancaster Rural North)** – surface overlay works have been completed.

A, B and C Class Roads

- **Helks Brow, Roeburndale (Lancaster Rural East)** – surface overlay work has been carried out to the full length of the road.
- **Surface course inlay work has been completed in the following locations** - A589 Morecambe Road from Penrhyn Road to Carlisle Bridge (Morecambe South) and the A589 Marine Road West from Bold Street to Albert Road (Morecambe West).

Flood Risk Management and Drainage

- **Michaelson Avenue (Morecambe South)** – flood relief and drainage improvement work involving a CCTV survey and the de-silting of the culvert are now complete.

Bridges

- **Greyhound Viaduct (Skerton)** – works to protect the corrosion of the bridge have been completed.
- **Artle Beck Footbridge, Brookhouse Road (Lancaster Rural East)** - the study to provide an optimum maintenance scheme for the problem of scour at the bridge piers is underway. The progress of the study will be reviewed in quarter 2 2014/15.

Capital schemes carried over from previous quarters for delivery in quarter 1 2014/15

Road Safety

- **Marine Road Crossing (Morecambe North)** – the installation of a zebra crossing at Marine Road East of Central Drive roundabout is complete.
- **Penrhyn Road Toucan from Morecambe Road to Aldi Supermarket (Skerton)** – a report for the footway conversion to a shared cycle and footpath is due to be considered for approval in September 2014. The progress of the scheme will be reviewed in quarter 3 2014/15.

PROGRESS NOT AS EXPECTED

Capital schemes programmed for delivery in quarter 1 which have now been delayed

Footways

- **Ambleside Road (Lancaster East)** – scheme currently being reassessed to determine the most effective treatment.

Capital schemes carried over from previous quarters for delivery in quarter 1 2014/15 which are ongoing

Road Safety

- **Morecambe Greenway to Retail Park (Morecambe South)** – the works to the cycle and pedestrian link path have been delayed due to on-going land negotiations with Morrisons. The scheme will be reviewed again in quarter 2 2014/15.

Flood Risk Management and Drainage

- **Slyndale Culvert (Morecambe North)** – extensive investigation and survey work is continuing in order to develop a bid for funding for the site works. This scheme is being designed and coordinated alongside the Heysham to M6 Link works and therefore delivery is more complex than originally anticipated. The scheme delivery will be reviewed again in quarter 3 2014/15.
- **River Keer, Carnforth (Lancaster Rural North)** – investigation works into the remedy of the flooding from the river onto the A6 are still continuing due to the complexity of the works. The progress of the investigation works will be reviewed in quarter 2 2014/15.

Environment and Community Projects

Beyond the Castle - A pop-up shop, organised by Beyond the Castle, appeared in St Nic's Arcade between 4 and 12 June. Situated in a unit opposite Next, around 890 people visited the shop to look at the emerging results from the geophysical survey which electronically maps the archaeology on site - a technique often seen on the TV history programme Time Team. The shop also gave the opportunity for people to find out more about the wider Beyond the Castle project, meet the archaeologists leading on the geophysical survey and take part in other activities such as Roman pottery making.

Lancaster Square Routes Project

Street works to improve the city centre started in early March 2014. Cheapside and Horseshoe Corner are now effectively complete and work has now commenced on Penny Street. These works will continue south towards the junction with Common Garden Street.

Re-paving works in Market Square were largely completed in June in time for the works to install the new centrepiece featuring an iguana.

Across the areas, there is still some work to do regarding the wall-mounted LED street lighting but much of this is now complete along Cheapside and Penny Street. Underground power supplies will soon be put in place at Market Square and Horseshoe Corner for use by stalls and events. New highway and pedestrian signs will also follow in due course.

Once the above areas are complete, works to the rest of Market Street and New Street Square will follow from August 2014 onwards. This will include re-paving and new seating consistent in style to the already completed works. The exact programming of these works is in the planning stage however the works are anticipated to be completed during October 2014.

SERVICE UPDATE

Road and Street Maintenance Repair

2014/15	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	13/14 Target
Lancaster													
Monthly % of defects filled within 20 working days	97%	98%											90%
Cumulative % of defects filled within 20 working days		98%											
Lancashire													
Cumulative % of defects filled within 20 working days	94%	95%											90%

Between April and May 2014/15, a total of 1,515 highway defects were identified by regular Highway Safety Inspections (HSI) or reported by the public in Lancaster. 98% of these defects were repaired within 20 working days.

Community Rail Partnership (CRP) Programme Improvements

The Cohesion Project has been successfully completed. The CRP is now in negotiation with Network Rail and Northern Rail to enter into a tri-partite lease for the station building at Bentham. The CRP intends to use this facility to develop its community engagement work especially with local schools.

Heysham M6 Link

From June 2014 major road works started on the roundabout at the junction of Morecambe Road and the A683 (end of Lancaster – Morecambe Bypass). Four phases of construction will be used, to reduce the impact on road users and in order to keep the traffic flowing. The first phase will be in place for the majority of 2014 before it moves into the next phase. The major changes are that Lancaster - Morecambe Bypass will only allow one-way traffic from Lancaster on a single lane carriageway from the Morecambe Road Junction to the Mellishaw Lane roundabout. Traffic from the Lancaster – Morecambe Bypass will be diverted at the Mellishaw Lane roundabout and sent along Ovingale Road.

A visitor centre is now open to the public on Lancaster Road in the former Broadoak sales office. Visitors are welcome to meet members of the Contractors Community Relations Team on Monday's (1-5pm), Wednesday's (3-7pm) and Fridays (8am-1pm)

It is anticipated that 700,000 cubic meters of earth will be moved between June and October 2014. Temporary bridges have been installed over the A6, which will help to maintain traffic flow, and over the Lancaster Canal, to move material from the East of the A6 to the West. A new bridge over Halton Road is taking shape as precast concrete units are moved into place. A high pressure gas main diversion has been completed and other service diversions are continuing.

Trading Standards

Eastern European Foods from Eastern European shops - there is a growing number of Eastern European shops opening around the county. These shops often stock goods which do not comply with labelling requirements, as they are labelled in a language other than English. Samples will be taken and checked for compliance with labelling rules, and any compositional or nutritional checks will be made. In Lancaster 16 samples were taken in quarter 1 in support of this work.

■ = Progress as expected
■ = Progress not as expected
■ = Issues identified
■ = Information