

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

**Assistant Director of Commissioning:** Joanne Reed

✉: [joanne.reed@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.reed@lancashire.gov.uk)

☎: 01772 530897

**CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

16 out of 20 capital schemes, due for delivery in quarter 2, 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 2**

**A, B and C Roads**

- **Surface dressing works have been completed in the following areas:**
  - Slyne Road from Greenwood Crescent to Town End (Lancaster Rural North)
  - Hest Bank Lane from Lancaster Canal to Hasty Brow Road (Morecambe North)
  - Westgate to White Lund Road from Mellishaw Lane, and Westcliffe Drive to Morecambe (Morecambe South)
  - Brockhouse Road from Hornby Road to Lancaster Road (Lancaster Rural East)
  - Lodge Lane from Melling Road to Melling Moor (Lancaster Rural East)
  - Benthams Road from Old Moor Road to the boundary (Lancaster Rural East)
  - Warton Road from Main Street to Haws Hill (Lancaster Rural North)
  - The whole length of Proctor Moss Road (Lancaster Rural North)
  - The whole length of Postern Gate Road (Lancaster Rural East)
  - Cove Road from the boundary with Cumbria to Red Bridge Lane (Lancaster Rural North)
  - Kirkby Lonsdale Road from Borwick Road to Rabbit Lane (Lancaster Rural North)

**Urban Unclassified**

- **Surface inlay works have been completed in the following areas:**
  - Torrisholme Square from Lancaster Road to Slyne Road (Morecambe North)
  - The whole length Mattock Crescent (Morecambe North)

**Local Priorities Response Fund**

- **Footway improvement works have been completed in the following areas:**
  - Full length of Meeting House Lane (Lancaster Central)
  - Full length of Bellamy Avenue (Morecambe West)

**Bridges**

- **Skerton Bridge on Owen Road (Lancaster East)** – maintenance and pointing works have been completed on site.

**Footways**

- **Footway reconstruction work has been carried out to the full length of the road in the following areas:**
  - Torrisholme Square (Morecambe North)
  - Lonsdale Avenue (Morecambe North)

**Traffic Signals**

- **Kellet Road Canal Bridge (Lancaster Rural North)** – This area has been investigated and works to refurbish the site equipment have been programmed for quarter 3 2014/15

**Progress update on previously delayed schemes which are now progressing as planned**

**Bridges**

- **Artle Beck bridge on Brookhouse Road (Lancaster Rural East)** – the study to identify a maintenance scheme for the problem of scour at the bridge piers is in progress and will be completed by quarter 4 2014/15.

**PROGRESS NOT AS EXPECTED**

**Capital schemes carried over from previous quarters for delivery in quarter 2 2014/15 which are ongoing**

**Flood Risk Management and Drainage**

- **Old Post Office, Dolphinholme (Lancaster Rural East)** – drainage works have been delayed due to land access issues. This is being assessed and works are anticipated to be completed during quarter 3 2014/15.
- **River Keer, Carnforth (Lancaster Rural North)** – investigations works are still continuing and works to improve the drainage system are anticipated to take place during quarter 3 2014/15 once the full extent of the works have been identified.

**Road Safety**

- **Morecambe Greenway to the Retail Park (Morecambe South)** – the works to implement the cycle and pedestrian link path have been delayed due to on-going land negotiations with Morrisons. These negotiations are continuing and it is hoped that these will be resolved by quarter 4 2014/15.
- **Morecambe Road (Penhyrn Road Toucan) to Aldi (Morecambe South)** – the designs for the scheme have now been completed. Once legal clearance has been received it is anticipated that the scheme can be completed by the end of quarter 4 2014/15.

**Local Sustainable Transport Fund Update**

- **King Street/Market Street** – works to upgrade the crossing have started and should be completed during quarter 3 2014/15.
- **Common Garden Street** – cycle safety improvements are taking place in the area through the removal of an unneeded guard rail. This will be completed during quarter 3 2014/15.
- **City Centre** - rationalisation and decluttering of signage in the city centre is ongoing
- **Lancaster Rail Station** – We are awaiting sign off from Lancaster City Council on the maintenance plan to provide cycle parking and lockers at the railway station. Implementation of works are anticipated for quarter 3 2014/15.
- **A6 Lancaster University** – works to improve the university's entrance from the A6 has been completed.
- **Burrow Beck cycle path** – land issues to provide a cycle path have been agreed with Lancaster City Council and works will start during quarter 3 2014/15.

**Environment and Community Projects**

**Regent Park, Morecambe** - the first phase of the children's play area was completed in July 2014 and it has been very well received by the local community. Funding applications to complete the second phase of the children's play area have been submitted, and discussions for the second stage of the regeneration of the parks redevelopment are underway.

**Lancaster Square Routes Project**

Street works to renew the paving in the city centre started in March 2014. Works to Cheapside, Horseshoe Corner, Penny Street, Lower Market Street and Market Square are substantially complete with only minor works left to be carried out. Works to the Market Square artwork centre piece are also complete.

All street lighting works are complete, and all power bollards, new route marker pillars, trees and seating have been installed. New highway signs will be installed during quarter 3 2014/15.

Works are continuing on the upper part of Market Street and at the rear of the museum, and it is anticipated that all works will be completed during quarter 3 2014/15.

**Trading Standards**

**Prosecution at Preston Magistrate's Court** - A Cumbria trader was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment after pleading guilty to one banned practice, two counts of fraud, and two counts of aggressive trading practices. He was sentenced for two offences brought by Trading Standards which were committed in Bolton-le-Sands, Lancashire.

The builder had turned up at an 82-year-old man's home unannounced and pressured him into lending the builder £740 to cover the cost of building materials. The builder only paid back £220, leaving his victim £520 out of pocket. He falsely claimed to be a member of the Federation of Master Builders and failed to provide consumers with statutory cancellation rights entitling them to a seven day cooling-off period, and also used aggressive trading practices to obtain money from customers.

The court also heard how the builder's aggressive practices, which included telling an elderly victim that additional work was needed to their roof, but then failed to provide any breakdown of costs, or provide the victim with the opportunity to consider the proposed work. The victim was pressured into agreeing to have work carried out and ended up paying £8,800 in cash. The court heard he also pressured a vulnerable woman with multiple sclerosis by threatening to hang himself in her garden if she did not pay.

**SERVICE UPDATE**

**Road and Street Maintenance**

Between April and Aug 2014/15, a total of 4,325 highway defects were identified by regular Highway Safety Inspections (HSI) or reported by the public in Lancaster. 1,932 (98%) of these defects were repaired within 20 working days. Performance has been consistently high for both carriageway and footway defect repairs with between 93 - 100% of carriageway defects and 96 -100% footway defects repaired within 20 working days throughout the year.

	2014/15	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	14/15 Overall (Apr - Aug)	14/15 Target
<b>Lancaster</b>								
Monthly % of potholes filled within 20 days	97%	98%	98%	96%	99%		99%	90%
Cumulative % of potholes filled within 20 days	98%	98%	97%	98%			Found 1950 Fixed 1932	
<b>Lancashire</b>								
Cumulative % of potholes filled within 20 days	94%	95%	98%	99%	99%		97% Found 31728 Fixed 30670	90%

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

**Heysham M6 Link**

The scheme has progressed well and the high risk areas such as the banks of the River Lune are quickly being moved out of as works are carried out. The good weather has helped production with the earthworks and drainage, and local people are generally showing patience with regards to the disruption whilst work is being carried out.

Around 8,000 cubic metres of material is moved around the scheme on a daily basis. Movement of 800,000 cubic metres is currently on schedule to be completed before the end of October 2014. To accommodate the construction of the new road there is a need to move over 12,000 metres of wired services such as British Telecom cabling, gas pipes and electricity wires. So far 8,000 metres of this work has been completed.

The archaeological field work has now finished, with the site at Valley Meadows being both the largest and most complex archaeological site. The analysis and reporting stage will take a number of months to complete.

For the Lune West Bridge, all piling works are now complete to the north abutment and the concrete base has been poured. Four shafts will be used to construct the bases and columns to support the bridge. During quarter 3 2014/15 the four reinforced concrete pier bases and columns will be completed within the shafts. On the South Bank all piling works are now complete to the abutment and piers. Reinforced concrete works have started on the south abutment. The production of the steelwork has started and is expected on site in March 2015.

Halton Road was opened to traffic in September under traffic light control, which was three months ahead of schedule. The permanent steel piles for Milestone Canal Bridge (Lancaster Canal) have been completed to both banks. The 30 metre arch beams that will span the canal are due on site in November 2014. Both the West and East abutment walls of Folly Railway Bridge (West Coast Mainline Railway) are over six metres tall with the next section progressing well. The beams will be lifted in to position in late November 2014.

**Community Rail Partnership (CRP) Programme Improvements**

The Cohesion Project was successfully completed in quarter 2. The CRP is now in negotiation with Network Rail and Northern Rail to enter into a tri-partite lease for the station building at Benthams. The CRP intends to use this facility to develop its community engagement work, particularly with local schools. The CRP has also been successful in winning the first prize in the recent Community Rail Awards for the Best Small Project (under £500).