

CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

8 out of 12 capital schemes, due for delivery in quarter 3, have either been completed or are progressing as planned, and are detailed below. For details of the remaining scheme, please see the 'Progress not as expected' section.

PROGRESS AS EXPECTED

2014/15 Capital schemes programmed for delivery in quarter 3

Urban Unclassified

- **Cedar Grove (Skelmersdale West)** – carriageway microasphalt work has been completed.

Rural Unclassified

- **Meadow Lane from Bleak Lane to Prescott Bridge (West Lancashire East)** – carriageway re-tread work has been completed.
- **Straight Up Lane from Wyke Lane to New Lane (West Lancashire North)** – carriageway re-profiling work has been completed.
- **Hunters Lane from Blackgate Lane to Legh Lane (West Lancashire North)** – carriageway re-tread work has been completed.

Traffic Signals

- **Liverpool Road, Ormskirk (West Lancashire South)** – work to refurbish the traffic signal equipment in the area has been completed.

Capital schemes carried over from previous quarters now ongoing

Bridges

- **Tarleton, Liverpool Road (West Lancashire North)** – the repointing work is substantially complete with only minor works outstanding. Traditionally the exterior and underside of the bridge would have been accessed using a vehicle mounted underbridge unit stationed on the highway during a lane closure. Given the critical sensitivity of the A59 at this bridge, where daytime lane closures cause severe traffic delays, the work was conducted using access equipment mounted on a pontoon in the river. This method enabled access to most of the bridge except the areas above the cutwaters. The intention is to return to the bridge to conclude this work using vehicle mounted access equipment in summer 2015, when longer daylight hours will enable the works to be executed during Sunday morning lane closures, which should eliminate traffic delays.

During the recent work, a vehicle collided with the north parapet wall causing extensive damage. The damage was repaired promptly but there were inevitable traffic delays because of the need to deploy temporary safety barriers in the highway.

- **Claytons Farm on Lord Sefton Way (West Lancashire South)** – renewal works to the bridge have commenced. The progress of works has been delayed slightly due to traffic now being allowed to use Lord Sefton Way. A progress update on the scheme will be sought at the end of quarter 4 2014/15.

Flood Risk Management and Drainage

- **Skelmersdale Subways – upgrade drainage (various divisions)** – CCTV surveys and investigations have been undertaken and are being reviewed to identify which subways require works to be carried out. A programme of works is being established and is anticipated to commence during quarter 4 2014/15.

PROGRESS NOT AS EXPECTED

Capital schemes programmed for delivery in quarter 3 which have now been delayed

Footways

- **Footway improvement works at the following locations have commenced and are due for completion during quarter 4 2014/15.** Completion has been delayed due to other works in the district taking longer than expected as a result of poor weather conditions not permitting various treatments to be carried out:

- Marlborough, full length (Skelmersdale West)
- Trusscott Road, Hesketh Road, Furnival Drive, Pickles Drive, Alexandra Road (West Lancashire West)
- Ellerbrook Drive estate (West Lancashire West)
- Weaver Avenue/Trent Close (West Lancashire West)

Trading Standards

Food Safety

Letters have been sent out to all caterers and all manufacturers regarding the new food information regulations, offering advice, guidance and assistance in complying with the new regulations.

2 premises in West Lancashire were visited in the run up to Christmas where complaints had been received about substitution of vodka for a cheaper brand. One sample was found to have been substituted; the matter is currently being investigated.

Environment and Community Projects

VISIT Project: Wildlife surveys and community consultation on the works have been completed. The majority of the funding has been secured, in preparation for the towpath upgrading along the Rufford Branch Canal between the Rufford marinas and Sparks Lane. This part of the VISIT project will enable safer walking and cycling along the towpath. The project is managed by the Canal and River Trust.

Ormskirk Bus Station Refurbishment

Plans for a new bus station have been considered and discussed with the borough council. Lancashire County Council has clearly indicated that proposals that included a bus station as a minor part of a larger, mixed use development are not acceptable. Plans have been prepared for a small bus station and these have previously been shared with the borough council. The borough council have recently indicated that they would be willing to consider meeting appropriate revenue costs for the smaller bus station.

Skelmersdale Rail Link Feasibility Study

The feasibility study for the Skelmersdale Rail Link commissioned from Network Rail by the County Council and its partners Merseytravel and West Lancashire Borough Council has now been completed. The County Council also commissioned its framework consultants Jacobs UK Limited to undertake an assessment of the likely value for money and wider economic benefits of the proposal. The work undertaken to date has demonstrated that it is technically feasible to construct a heavy rail link into Skelmersdale town centre in the corridor identified in the adopted West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan, and that the project could deliver value for money. The County Council is currently establishing appropriate governance and working group arrangements to oversee the future development of the project once a formal commitment to fund the next stage is made. This will include preparation of a Strategic Outline Business Case for submission to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership together with the next stages in Network Rail's Guide to Rail Investment Process (GRIP) covering option selection and single option development. A further update will be provided at the end of Quarter 4 2014/15.

SERVICE UPDATE

Road and Street Maintenance

2014/15	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	14/15 Overall (Apr - Nov)	14/15 Target
West Lancashire										
Monthly % of potholes filled within 20 days	84%	96%	99%	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	96%	90%
Cumulative % of potholes filled within 20 days		90%	93%	95%	96%	97%	97%	97%	Found 4977 Fixed 4773	
Lancashire										
Cumulative % of potholes filled within 20 days	94%	95%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	97%	90%
									Found 45981 Fixed 44791	

Between April and November 2014/15, a total of 4,977 highway defects were identified by regular Highway Safety Inspections (HSI) or reported by the public in West Lancashire. 4,773 (96%) of these defects were repaired within 20 working days between April to November.

Ormskirk Town Centre

United Utilities completed their works on Moor Street as programmed in November 2014. Detailed design of the works are now completed and procurement of materials and sub-contractors is underway for an anticipated start on site in February 2015. The works will take up to six months to complete, and throughout this period, traffic will be prevented from accessing Moor Street. Officers are currently working on publicity and communications for the project.

Road Safety

The Cottage Lane Residents' Association in Ormskirk have reluctantly had to cease deploying their own SpID due to lack of suitable volunteers. SpID's are a useful and effective tool for speed management in Lancashire. The local Neighbourhood Police Team who helped the residents set up the scheme did not want to see this resource lost so have asked that several of their team be trained by LCC to deploy the SpID in the area. By supplying this two hour training session SpID deployment can continue at no cost to LCC.

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