

Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on 15 January 2016

Electoral Division affected: ALL

Our Journey So Far and Why – A Greater Understanding of the Changes Affecting Highway Authorities

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The report provides a greater understanding of the changes affecting highway authorities highway maintenance funding. The presentation identifies the key challenges facing highway authorities on its journey to implement asset management principles to support better highway maintenance. This information will be made available in the form of a presentation to the meeting.

Recommendation

That the contents of the report and presentation be noted.

Background and Advice

Managing our highways is now a critical challenge to local highway authorities, who have to manage an ageing network with high public expectations for safe, reliable and comfortable travel. At the same time resources are reducing, with less funding available and increased pressure for other local government services.

Asset management promotes a business-like way to highway maintenance. It makes better use of limited resources and delivers efficient and effective highway maintenance. It takes a long term view of how highways may be managed, focusing on outcomes by ensuring that funds are spent on activities that prevent expensive short-term repairs. This makes the best use of public money whilst minimising the risk involved in investing in highway maintenance.

The presentation will set out what is influencing the Government's approach to local roads maintenance; outline the Highway Maintenance Efficiency Programme (HMEP); changes to funding; Whole of Government Accounts (WGA); discuss the self-assessment questionnaire funding implications and the adoption of asset management principles by Lancashire.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

N/A

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
insert details	insert date	insert details

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A