

Highways report – Area East

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Purpose of the Report

Being the first report for the 2015/16 financial year, this report aims to give a brief of the highway works carried out last financial year in Area East and the proposed works programme for 2015/2016.

Recommendation

That the Area East Committee notes the content of this report.

Winter Maintenance

Somerset County Council salts over 1,400km (870 miles) of its roads in anticipation of frost, snow and ice. This is approximately 21% of its entire road network. The M5, A303 and the A36 are maintained and treated by the Highways Agency.

The winter period for 2014/15 was thankfully uneventful and slightly dryer than average. In summary, this average resulted in 70 F1 actions, one full F2 action and 5 occasions of snow on high ground (treated with increased salt spread rates and some in-house ploughing without the need to call on the farmers/agricultural contractors for assistance).

Surface Dressing

Surface Dressing is the practice of applying a bitumen tack coat to the existing road surface and then rolling in stone chippings. Whilst this practice is not the most PR friendly, it is highly effective in preserving the integrity of the road surface. This year we are Surface Dressing 53 sites across South Somerset, 13 of which are substantial lengths of A and B roads.

Sections of the A357 and B3145 were proposed to be Surface Dressed but the design stage identified that some sections were rich in bitumen from previous surface applications so a High Pressure water jet re-texturing process was applied week commencing 11th May to remove this excess and restore the texture depth to the surface aggregate for grip and skid resistance. It will remain monitored to study this methods effectiveness.

The Surface Dressing within South Somerset has already commenced and is due completion by the end of May but at the time of this report there is already a week's delay due to weather conditions.

Grass Cutting

Grass cutting is a difficult task to carry out to the satisfaction of all. The highway network exceeds 3,500km in length; therefore the size of the task is significant. Verge cutting of main A and B roads commenced 5th May which will be followed by the C and D roads as below table and then a further cut of the visibility splays on A

and B roads. The second cut to the A and B roads previously carried out by Somerset County Council has been removed on approval by the Council members.

Road Classification	Dates
A and B roads (including visibility splays)	5 May - 2 June
C and unclassified roads	3 June - 31 July
A and B visibility splays only	Mid to late August dependant on rate of growth
Environmentally protected sites	Usually at the end of the growing season

Schemes completed in 2014/15

Upper and Lower Woodcock St/Fore St/The Triangle/B3152	Castle Cary	Resurfacing
A357 Combe/Yenston Hill	Henstridge	Resurfacing
A359 Marston Magna Road	Marston Magna	Resurfacing
B3151 Bondip Hill	Kingsdon	Resurfacing
B3153 Somerton Road	Kingweston	Resurfacing
Stone Lane	Mudford	Footways
Reynolds Way Junction	Kingweston	Resurfacing
Wheathill Lane	Milborne Port	Drainage
Marsh Lane	Horsington	Drainage
Dancing Lane	Wincanton	Drainage
Barrow Water Lane	Charlton Musgrove	Drainage
A359 Quaperlake Street	Bruton	Drainage
RNAS Yeovilton Rd/Bridgehampton Rd	Yeovilton	Drainage
Green Acres Lane	Mudford	Drainage (Env Agency requirement)
High Street	Keinton Mandeville	Footways
Queen Street	Keinton Mandeville	Footways

Schemes proposed for 2015/2016

This year's structural maintenance budget remains similar to last year. The below table identifies significant schemes to be implemented in South Somerset and schemes proposed in Area East are highlighted;

Misterton	A356 School Hill and Mosterton Road	Resurfacing	
Crewkerne	A356 North Street	Resurfacing	
Charlton Mackrell	A37 Fosse Way	Resurfacing	Completed
Yeovil	A30 West Coker Road	Resurfacing	
Bruton	Plox/Silver Street	Resurfacing	Qtr 2
Castle Cary	Victoria Park/Greenway Road	Resurfacing	Qtr 3
Lopen	Lopen Head - Snap Ant	Resurfacing	

Merriot	Hitchen	Resurfacing	
Yeovil	Dampier Street	Resurfacing	
Yeovil	St John's Road/Northbrook Road	Resurfacing	
North Cadbury	Parish Hill	Resurfacing	Qtr 2
Ilminster	Ile Court	Resurfacing	
Charlton Horethorne	Clare Farm Stowell Hill	Resurfacing	Qtr 4
Queen Camel	Traits Lane	Resurfacing	Qtr 3
Somerton	Somertonfield Road	Resurfacing	
Huish Episcopi	Picts Hill	Resurfacing	
Chard	Avishayes Road	Resurfacing	
Chard	Helliars Road and Crimchard	Resurfacing	
Hinton St George	Lopen Road	Resurfacing	
Yeovil	Goldcroft	Resurfacing	
Yeovil	Hendford & High Street (The Borough)	Resurfacing	
Milborne Port	A30 Sherborne Road	Resurfacing (R+R)	
Charlton Mackrell	A37 Fosse Way	Resurfacing (R+R)	Completed
Henstridge	A357 High Street & Stalbridge Road	Resurfacing (R+R)	
Henstridge	A357 Templecombe Road	Resurfacing (R+R)	
Yeovil	A3088 Bunford Hollow Rbt	Resurfacing (Sections)	
Ilchester	B3151 Somerton Road	Resurfacing (R+R)	
Yeovil	Birchfield Road	Footways	
Yeovil	St Michaels Avenue	Footways	
Yeovil	Plantangenate Chase	Footways	
Yeovil	Roping Road	Footways	
Yeovil	Park Street	Footways	
Barton St David	Broadclose Way	Footways	Qtr 4
Bratton Seymour	Jack Whites Gibbet	Footways	Qtr 4
Somerton	Walnut Drive	Footways	
Castle Cary	Milbrook Gardens	Footways	Qtr 2
Tintinhull	St Margarets Road & Head Street	Footways	
Ilminster	Station Road	Drainage	
Closworth	Closworth Road	Drainage	
Closworth	Weston Lane	Drainage	
Bratton Seymour	A371 Cattle Hill	Drainage	Qtr 2
Alford	B3153 Cary Road and Church Lane	Drainage	Completed
Chard	A358 Old Town	Drainage	
Buckland St Mary	Fair End Lane	Drainage	
Muchelney	Thorney Road	Drainage	
Curry Rivel	Parsonage Place	Drainage	
Brympton	Thorne Coffin (Phase 1 & 2)	Drainage	
Pitney	Stowey Road	Drainage	
Yeovil Without	Yeovil Marsh Road	Drainage	
Fivehead	Ganges Hill	Drainage	
Yeovil Without	Yeovil Marsh Road (Eastern end)	Drainage	
Huish Episcopi	Meadow Close	Drainage	

Chilton Cantelo	Bridgehampton Road	Drainage	Completed
Maperton	Clapton Lane	Drainage	Completed
Bruton	Park Road	Drainage	Qtr 2
Rimpton	Pitfield Corner	Drainage	Completed
Haselbury Plucknett	Claycastle	Drainage	
Crewkerne	Cathole Bridge Road	Drainage	
Stoke Trister	Beech Lane	Drainage	Completed
Curry Rivel	St Andrews Close	Drainage	
South Beauchamp	Lambrook Road	Drainage	
Kingsbury Episcopi	East Lambrook Road (upgrade outfall)	Drainage	
Long Sutton	Shute Lane	Earthworks	
Tatworth & Forton	Bounds Lane	Earthworks	
Ansford	Ansford Hill	Earthworks	
East Coker	East Coker Road	Earthworks	