

Area North Committee – 27 November 2013

9. County Highway Authority Report – Area North

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Purpose of the Report

The Report is to inform members of the work carried out by the County Highway Authority and the remaining proposed work programme for the year 2013/2014.

Surface Dressing

The weather this year has allowed a productive season of Surface Dressing and early indication is that the treatment has been successful. It was envisaged that the failed sites from 2012 would receive remedial works during this season's program but this has not been achievable, therefore the remedial works will be prioritised within the 2014 Surface Dressing season.

Surface Dressing is the practice of applying a bitumen tack coat to the existing road surface and rolling in stone chippings. Whilst this practice is not the most PR friendly, when carried out correctly it is highly effective and can bring significant cost saving improvements to the highway infrastructure.

Verge Cutting

Grass cutting is carried out between the months of May and September on a network exceeding 3500km in length.

The County Council policy and procedures in place are to ensure the work is carried out in the most safe, effective and economic way. In a world of ever increasing risk assessment and claim/liability scenarios, the policy must take into account the range of road classifications across the network and prioritises them accordingly.

We were able to carry out 2 cuts on A and B roads together with one cut on C and D class roads this year. The complexity of judging when to commence grass cutting, to achieve the most benefit, always proves difficult. Flexibility in this maintenance type meant that the programme of cutting was started later than normal and proved to be successful.

Winter Maintenance

The preparation for this year's winter maintenance programme has commenced and the salt supply for the upcoming season has been delivered to the depot.

Local parishes will again be invited to collect their allocation of ten 20kg grit bags.

To provide efficiencies in resource time for filling the parish grit bins, a request has been submitted to the parish clerks to identify, check and inform SCC of the current situation with regards to accessibility and filling requirements for their grit bins.

Many of the structural maintenance schemes for this year have been completed and are listed below:

Structural Schemes Completed 2013/14 (Area North)

Langport Road	Somerton	C'Way Resurfacing
Prigg Lane	South Petherton	C'Way Resurfacing
Bow Street	Langport	Drainage
Yeovil Road	Tintinhull	Drainage
Wearne Corner	High Ham	Drainage
Bow Street	Langport	Footways
Playses Green	Hambridge	Footways
Knightstone Close	Kingsbury Episcopi	Footways
East Street/Eastfield	Martock	Footways

Outstanding Structural Schemes 2013/14 (Area North)

Hanging Chapel Road	Huish Episcopi	C'Way Resurfacing
Market Place	Somerton	Footways
Meadow Close	Langport	Drainage
Dyers Road	Curry Rivel	Drainage
Lambrook Road	East Lambrook	Drainage
New Cross Hill	Kingsbury Episcopi	Drainage

DfT funding 2013/2014

As stated in the April 2013 report, Somerset County Council received additional funds from the Department for Transport to undertake highway maintenance 2013-2015. In order to achieve the aims and conditions of the grant to improve the highway network and to reduce congestion SCC proposed that the grant be used to address the following two issues.

- Deterioration of the highway carriageway surface resulting in pothole formation.
- Damage caused to the highway by flooding events.

Schemes include

Highway Road	Martock	Drainage
Wickmoor	Curry Rivel	Drainage and surfacing
Ilford Bridges	Puckington	Drainage
Manor Lane	Muchelney	Drainage
Park Lane	Pitney	Drainage
North Street	Langport	Resurfacing

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