

# North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 12th November 2012

## ITEM 7(c)

Title: Highway Asset  
Management Plan 2012-  
2017 Annual Information  
Report

Portfolio(s): Transport and the  
Environment

Cabinet Member(s): Councillor Ed  
Hodson

Report from Directorate: Chief Executive's Office

Report Author: Ken Wilson – Head of Regeneration,  
Development and Regulatory Services (Tel: 0191 643  
6091)

Wards affected: All

### PART 1

#### 1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present to Cabinet the Council's Highway Asset Management Plan (HAMP) Annual Information Report.

#### 1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 1) Note the content of the HAMP Annual Information Report at Appendix 1; and
- 2) Consider the challenges of maintaining the highway network as described in this report and the Annual Information Report.

#### 1.3 Forward plan:

This report appears on the Forward Plan for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

#### 1.4 Council plan and policy framework

The HAMP Annual Information Report is not specifically referenced within the Council Strategic Plan 2012 to 2015 but the maintenance of the highway network is complementary to a number of the key priorities set out in the Plan.

#### 1.5 Information:

The Council's Highway Asset Management Plan (HAMP) includes a commitment to provide Cabinet with an annual information report outlining the progress and key issues associated with the maintenance of the Council's public highway network. The report

has a particular emphasis around the condition of the network and the resources required to maintain it effectively.

It is acknowledged that, like in many other local authority areas across the country, there is still general dissatisfaction with the condition of roads and pavements, nevertheless the Area Forum budget provision has made a contribution to estate road improvements and the condition of our main classified roads compares favourably to the national picture.

Further, the government published in April 2012 the Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme (HMEP) Pothole Review which sets out best practice, and the Council has already implemented many of the recommendations and indeed the Council has been complimented by the Chair of the HMEP Board on its approach.

However we continue to face many challenges, which are set out in the attached Highway Asset Management Plan, to bring our highway network up to an acceptable standard.

Cabinet is not required to make any decisions around the HAMP Annual Information Report and is only required to note the content. The report will be used as the basis for ongoing discussions about the challenges of maintaining the highway network. The report is aimed at supporting those discussions so that any decisions about potential changes in highway maintenance priorities and resources can be made in an informed manner.

Cabinet members have each been provided with a copy of the HAMP Annual Information Report. The report can also be viewed on the Council's website and copies have been placed in each of the member group rooms.

## **1.6 Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1:

- 1) Cabinet should note the content of the HAMP Annual Information Report; and
- 2) Consider the challenges of maintaining the highway network.

## **1.7 Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is the only available option as no direct decisions by Cabinet are required in relation to content of the HAMP Annual Information Report. The report is for information purposes only.

## **1.8 Appendices:**

Appendix 1: North Tyneside Highway Asset Management Plan 2012-2017 Annual Information Report

## **1.9 Contact officers:**

Mark Newlands, Highways & Infrastructure Manager, tel (0191) 643 6129  
Alison Campbell, Finance Business Manager, tel. (0191) 643 7038

## **1.10 Background information:**

None.

## **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING**

### **2.1 Finance and other resources**

There are no immediate financial and resource implications directly arising from this report. However, there are a number of issues contained in the HAMP Annual Information Report which do themselves have long term financial implications for the Council if they are to be addressed. The report suggests that there is a significant backlog of highway repairs that cannot be addressed appropriately within current resources. It is anticipated that this issue will be discussed further in due course and that Cabinet will be asked to consider whether additional resources should be allocated as part of the 2013-15 Financial Planning and Budget setting process.

### **2.2 Legal**

There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

### **2.3 Consultation/community engagement**

There are no immediate consultation or community engagement implications directly arising from this report. However, community engagement is a prominent feature of the HAMP Annual Information Report and it is expected that any decisions around changes in maintenance priorities will take into account the needs of customers (in accordance with the findings of the resident survey described in the report).

### **2.4 Human rights**

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

### **2.5 Equalities and diversity**

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

### **2.6 Risk management**

The risks associated with this report will be managed in accordance with the risk register set out in the Highway Asset Management Plan 2012 to 2017.

### **2.7 Crime and disorder**

There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

### **2.8 Environment and sustainability**

There are no environment and sustainability implications directly arising from this report. However, the report informs Cabinet of the condition of the built environment with regard to the highway infrastructure.

### **PART 3 - SIGN OFF**

- Chief Executive  X
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)  X
- Chief Finance Officer  X
- Monitoring Officer  X
- Strategic Manager for Policy and Partnerships  X