

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR BARROW
Meeting date: 15 November 2021
From: Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

BARROW LOCAL COMMITTEE PROVISIONAL DEVOLVED HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *This report seeks approval from Barrow Local Committee for the provisional devolved highways capital programme 2022/23 including funding allocated within the additional pothole fund stream, which will form the basis of the Local Committee's devolved highways capital programme for 2022/23 and provide a core programme for future years subject to annual review. The indicative allocation for 2022/23 is £991,000 for the devolved capital element and £728,000 for the additional pothole fund allocation. A further report will be brought before Local Committee in March 2022 when budget allocations have been finalised by full council*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *This report supports the aims and objectives aims of the Council Plan, Corporate Strategy and the Local Transport Plan through the efficient planning and delivery of the Highways and Transport Programme in the Barrow area.*

2.2 *The Programme complies with the Strategic Equality Assessments for the Highways and Transport Service. Individual schemes will be assessed against equality criteria as appropriate.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 *That Barrow Local Committee approve the provisional devolved highways capital programme and Additional Pothole fund for 2022/23 set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to this report, subject to final determination following the approval of the 2022/23 Council budget early in 2022.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 This report makes recommendations for the Local Committee's devolved highways capital programme 2022/23, including prioritised lists of schemes, which will form the basis of the Local Committee's devolved highways capital programme for 2022/23 and provide a core programme for future years, subject to annual review. The indicative allocation for 2022/23 is £991,000 (appendix 1). The allocation for 2021/22 shown for comparison in Appendix 1 is that agreed by Local Committee on 9th April 2021 and is before slipped and accelerated expenditure brought forward from 2020/21.
- 4.2 The recommendations in this report are based upon an indicative base allocation as laid out in the current medium term financial plan which sets out a base allocation for Barrow of £991,000 this amount takes no account of any accelerated spending or underspending that occurs by financial year end. This will be reported early in the new financial year. It should be noted by Members this figure is arrived at based on a percentage of network length. Barrow has 7% of the county network and thus gets 7% of the devolved capital funding allocation. It is also worth noting that this figure is based on the last year's allocation.
- 4.3 Members will have a further opportunity, once the annual budgets have been determined by Council in early 2022, to finally confirm the programmes based on the approved budget.
- 4.4 The proposed scheme list for the recommended devolved capital budget for 2022/23 is shown in Appendix 2.

Non-Principal Road (NPRN) Structural Maintenance Programme.

- 4.5 This programme is intended to maintain and improve the condition of the Non-Principal Road Network (NPRN), including:
- (a) Carriageway, drainage and surface treatment schemes;
 - (b) Footway and cycleway schemes,
 - (c) Minor structural maintenance works to support the work of the Better Highways Teams comprising programmed works for permanent repairs that enhance the life of the highway asset.
 - (d) Road lighting column replacement works.
- 4.6 As in previous programmes of NPRN work, it is intended to continue with carriageway patching and surfacing treatment work. Investing in a proportion of the network utilising the available funding and seal previously patched carriageways against deterioration due to weathering and the ingress of surface water. This is delivered through a surface dressing programme. The full list of proposed beds for 2022/23 are shown in Appendix 2. Defective areas of carriageway on these sites has been prepared during 2021/22 from the Pre Surface Dressing patching budget. This preparatory work includes hand patching, machine inlay and overlays and essential drainage work.
- 4.7 The proposed list of carriageway and footway structural maintenance schemes set out in Appendix 2 has been developed from local knowledge, condition surveys and Member and customer reports through our HIAMS system and has been prioritised in accordance with the Priority Assessed Schemes scoring system. This year as per previous recent years more focus

has been placed on footway maintenance. The reasoning for this is, the largely urban Borough area has an extensive footway network. Much of this is flagged in nature. Damaged sections of this can lead to an increase in claims against the authority and deterioration of surrounding areas. A more extensive replace or repair programme will reduce both of these occurrences with a resultant reduction in exposure of the Authority to potential claims.

- 4.8 The road lighting column replacement budget will be targeted at columns, particularly concrete columns and underground cable networks in poor condition requiring replacement. Additionally, we intend to look at the replacement of a number of heritage lantern fittings within the Borough and begin a process of upgrading and replacement as required. Again we will target some funding to the replacement of illuminated signs and posts in poor condition.

Annual Package of Measures Programme (APM)

- 4.9 This programme is for small highway improvement schemes (estimated cost less than £50,000), that will assist delivery of the County Council's wider transport objectives set out in the Cumbria Local Transport Plan.
- 4.10 Such schemes can be broadly classified as follows, though many schemes will target more than one of the various classifications, i.e.:
- (a) Public transport infrastructure schemes e.g. bus stop improvements; bus shelter grants to Parish and District Councils or bus priority measures.
 - (b) Local safety schemes i.e. schemes that will contribute to the County Councils objectives of improving road safety and reducing injuries caused by road traffic collisions.
 - (c) Walking and cycling schemes i.e. safer road crossings; new footways or cycle facilities, footway widening schemes, dropped kerbs to improve accessibility, removal of barriers to walking and cycling etc.
 - (d) Traffic management and traffic calming schemes, including traffic regulation orders, road widening, provision of passing spaces, etc.
- 4.11 Schemes have been prioritised in accordance with the methodology presented to Barrow Local Committee by the Transport Infrastructure Manager at its meeting in May 2012.

Additional Pothole Fund

- 4.12 In addition to the Draft devolved Capital programme I have also prepared a draft scheme list for the additional pothole fund that the county has received over recent years. This figure is based on last year's base allocation and so is potentially subject to change following the finalising of budgets early in the new year it is set at £728,000 for the purpose of this report. Schemes within this list are maintenance based schemes where deterioration has been accelerated by the action of water. Again, these are schemes which have been assessed using the priority assessed scoring system.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members may agree the recommendation or:
- 5.2 Members may suggest changes to the proposed programmes.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Highways capital budgets for works on the non-principal road network and additional pothole funding in Barrow is devolved to Local Committee allocate to programmes of work consistent with the Council's policies and the overall objectives as laid out in the current Local Transport Plan.
- 6.2 When allocating the Highways devolved capital budgets to programmes of work Local Committee should have regard to remaining within the overall budget.
- 6.3 Local Committee are recommended to agree a provisional allocation for planning purposes (recommendation 3.1). Once Council have agreed the devolved NPRN and Additional Pothole devolved budget allocations for 2022/23, a further report will be brought to Local Committee to consider any variation between the indicative and final allocations and any other changes that may be proposed at that stage.
- 6.4 As part of its regular review of budgets devolved to Local Committee, Local Committee are able to consider any changes in allocation of the latest budget. For example any carry forward of accelerated spend and slippage from 2021/22 to 2022/23 that is agreed and any other emerging issues.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 This report details the draft programmes of devolved Highways Capital works, under each of the different budget headings, for 2022/23 and the additional pothole funding stream for Barrow, and has taken account of this Local Committee's priorities in compiling this list.

Angela Jones
Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

October 2021

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 **2022/23 Devolved Highways Capital Programme Summary**

Appendix 2 **Proposed Capital Programme of Works and Additional Pothole Fund Schemes 2022/23**

Electoral Divisions: All Barrow

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

N.B. *If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.*

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS *[including Local Committees]*

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

Contact: Keiron Tetchner
01229 407283

keiron.tetchner@cumbria.gov.uk