

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....12th March 2015

1. Title of Item/Report

Scrutiny Review of Road and Footpath  
Investment Opportunities

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented the Regeneration and Transport Select Committee findings following the Scrutiny Review of Road and Footpath Investment Opportunities.

Surveys indicated that footway and highway maintenance remained high on Stockton Borough residents' agenda, both in terms of what single one area the Council need to improve upon (42% - Residents Survey 2012) and what was the most important factor in determining whether a location is a good place to live (22% - Residents Survey 2012).

The Regeneration and Transport Select Committee was asked by Cabinet to consider the priorities for additional funding allocated for roads and footpaths with the aim of determining:-

- Where the investment should be targeted.
- What additional resource can potentially achieve.
- The level of investment required in future years.
- What else could be achieved?

RESOLVED that:-

1. Officers develop a business case to determine the viability and value of purchasing a vehicle to deliver a velocity patching service in-house or in collaboration with other Tees Valley local authorities.
2. The consideration of a high profile marketing campaign to highlight the work of the Council in its repair of footpaths and highways as well as to improve the reporting of potholes.
3. The Council publishes an article in Stockton News to inform residents of the alternative repair techniques being used and the levels of savings being achieved as an authority.

4. A 6-year highway maintenance programme be formulated to reflect the new funding period.

5. Officers liaise with other local highway authorities to identify areas of best practice that may develop further efficiency opportunities.

3. Reasons for the Decision

Highways are our most valuable asset and are vital to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the borough. Surfaces are generally deteriorating faster than authorities can make repairs and increasing spells of extreme weather, from cold snaps to flooding are only making the situation worse. A variety of innovative techniques are now being used or piloted by officers to ensure that value for money is maximised. Efficiency savings are or can be made thus enabling more to be delivered across the borough ensuring as far as is practicable a highway network that is in the best possible condition given the resource constraints.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on Friday, 20th March 2015

Proper Officer  
16 March 2015