

# PLACE SELECT COMMITTEE

Review of Highway Infrastructure

Asset Management

19<sup>th</sup> July 2021

# Key Lines of Enquiry

- How do SBC communicate and consult with residents about highways infrastructure asset issues? How is this information utilised? What is this telling us? How is this information used?
- How does SBC's highway infrastructure asset management practices compare with other Local Authorities?
- How has and how will climate change impact the condition of the Borough's highways infrastructure assets?
- To consider the processes undertaken on new developments, particularly regarding adoption of new highway infrastructure assets, as publicly maintainable and the potential future maintenance implications of these assets

## Queries Raised 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021 (1)

- How do we know if the reduction in the number of reports is due to SBC addressing the reported faults or is it due to a lack of response/action?
  - 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – 94.6% of reported street lighting faults rectified within 10 day limit
  - 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 = 98.1% of 2H defects rectified within 10 day limit and 95.9% of 2M defects rectified within the 28 day limit
- Can new materials deal with rising temperatures resulting from Global Warming?
  - Will be covered later under climate change



# Queries Raised 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021 (2)

- Where have alternative materials and processes been used within the Borough?
  - Surface Dressing – Hilton Area (From A1044 Low Lane to NYCC Boundary) – 2018
  - Micro Asphalt – Middridge Grove, Billingham and Thistle Road/Heather Close, Roseworth – 2015
  - Retexturing – Princeton Drive / East Drive Roundabout – 2019
  - Crack/Pothole Sealing – Church Road & Portrack Lane – 2021



# Highway Asset Communication – Pre Scheme (1)

- Communications carried out in advance of any pre-planned, SBC controlled, roadworks scheme
- Scale of communication is proportionate to the scale of the scheme
- Smaller Schemes – short duration, minimal disruption
  - Email – local Ward Members
  - Resident letter – all those in the immediate area
  - Advance notice boards



This document was classified as: OFFICIAL



working with

Dear Resident

2021/2022 Highway Maintenance Carriageway Resurfacing Works

On .....Date..... between .....Times..... we will be resurfacing the road at .....Name..... between .....area /numbers.....

This means that during this time there will be .....Traffic management..... in place.

The ..... Traffic management ..... be in place throughout the works and this is to ensure work can be completed safely.

During this time you will still have access to your property but the work may mean that, at times, there may be short restrictions.

To make sure we can work as quickly and as safely as possible, please make sure you remove any vehicles from the affected road by ...Time.....

The work should take ... xx... days to complete.

If you have any questions or concerns about this work please contact us:

Stockton Borough Council  
Steven Dodds - Principal Engineer 01842 526766 or 07909 688131

Tarmac  
Tony Burns - Site Supervisor 0191 4924008 or 07753 813202

Kind regards  
Steve Dodds

# Highway Asset Communication – Pre Scheme (2)

- Larger Schemes – medium / long term duration, potential for serious disruption

- Webpages
- Press releases / Social media
- Scheme leaflets
- Scheme boards
- Officer visits

- Mandale Road Bridge - road closed Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July. To date, only 3 'contacts' and these were on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday.

The collage consists of several elements:

- Website Screenshot:** A screenshot of the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council website. The header includes the council logo and navigation links: 'OUR COUNCIL', 'OUR PEOPLE', 'OUR PLACES', and 'OUR ECONOMY'. The main content area is titled 'Mandale Road Bridge' and features a photograph of the bridge. Below the photo is a red banner with a warning icon and text about coronavirus information. Further down, there is a paragraph about the bridge's importance and the planned works, followed by a 'Frequently asked questions' section.
- Graphic:** A green graphic with the title 'Mandale Road Bridge Improvement Works'. It includes the text 'Delivered by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council' and 'In partnership with Balfour Beatty'.
- Map:** A map showing the location of the Mandale Road Bridge and the surrounding area. It includes a legend for road closures and a note about the essential maintenance work.
- Photograph:** A photograph of the Mandale Road Bridge, showing the road and the bridge structure.
- Road Sign:** A photograph of a blue and white road sign for 'Mandale Road Bridge Repair Works'. The sign provides details about the scheme completion date (Spring 2022), road closure start and completion dates (4<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021), contact information (01642 526709, HTD@stockton.gov.uk), and a note about the inconvenience caused during the period. It also mentions the partnership with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, SCAPE Civil Engineering, Balfour Beatty, and ZER-HARM.



# Highway Asset Communication – Post Scheme

- Resident satisfaction questionnaires
  - Delivered to properties directly affected by the scheme
  - Questions based on before, during and after the scheme
  - Used for both footpath and road resurfacing schemes



**Dear Resident**

As you will be aware highway improvement works have recently been carried out in your street.

Your views and comments are very important to us and will help to enable us to continually improve and provide the highest level of service.

Therefore can you please spare a few minutes of your time to complete this questionnaire.

There is no need to supply a stamp or envelope, simply complete the questionnaire, fold, stick down and place in the letter box.

If you have any questions about this questionnaire please contact our Business Administration Team on 01642 526709 or email [egds@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:egds@stockton.gov.uk)

Thank you for your help

**Stockton-on-Tees BOROUGH COUNCIL** Economic Regeneration and Transport  
Big plan, for an outstanding Borough

Please tell us how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements about the recent road works on your street:

**Notice/Timing of Works**

I was kept informed about when the works would start and how long they would last.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

I was given information about the scheme in plenty of time.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

The work was completed promptly and efficiently.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

**On Site Arrangements**

The arrangements to guide motorists/pedestrians safely along the street during the works were satisfactory (e.g. signs, cones, barriers).

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

I knew whom to contact if I had a query or concern about the works.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

The site was left clean and tidy at the end of each day and at the end of the works.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

**Disruption**

I felt the disruption to me was reasonable.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

**Quality/Workmanship**

The works that have been carried out have made an improvement to the local environment.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

The finished work is of a satisfactory quality.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

**Employee Attitude**

The site staff were polite and courteous.

Strongly agree ☐  
Agree ☐  
Neither ☐  
Disagree ☐  
Strongly disagree ☐  
No view ☐

Overall how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the road works on your street?

Very satisfied ☐  
Fairly satisfied ☐  
Neither ☐  
Fairly dissatisfied ☐  
Very dissatisfied ☐  
No view ☐

If you have any other comments about this road works scheme, please give them below.

.....

What is your postcode: .....

If you would like a response to the issues you have raised please give your name and address below.

.....

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

# Roadworks – Coordination and Communication

- Permit Scheme – launched April 2020, coordinates all roadworks in the Borough to ensure disruption on network is minimised.
  - Allows conditions to be attached to a permit application.
  - For larger schemes - use similar communications methods as SBC
- Trunk Road (A19/A66) works – residual effect on our network
  - Coordination of works essential, adopt similar communication methods to us
  - SBC working on Trunk Road Network – application process to ‘book’ network space



# Stakeholder Satisfaction (1)

- National Highways and Transportation Survey (2019)
  - Ipsos MORI – 3,300 postal surveys of randomly selected addresses, July 2019, focus specifically on highway and transport services within the Borough
- Post scheme questionnaires (2019)
  - Postal survey of residents, carried out on completion of a road resurfacing or footpath scheme.
  - Road resurfacing satisfaction – 94%. Footpath scheme satisfaction – 90%

# Stakeholder Satisfaction (2)

- National Highways and Transportation Survey  
2019 – Snapshot of results
  - 39% satisfied with condition of roads (NHT average 36%) – ranked 39 of 111
  - 52% satisfied with footpaths (NHT average 55%) – ranked 83 of 111
  - 67% satisfied with street lighting (NHT Average 64%) – ranked 34 of 111



# How do Asset Management Practices Compare

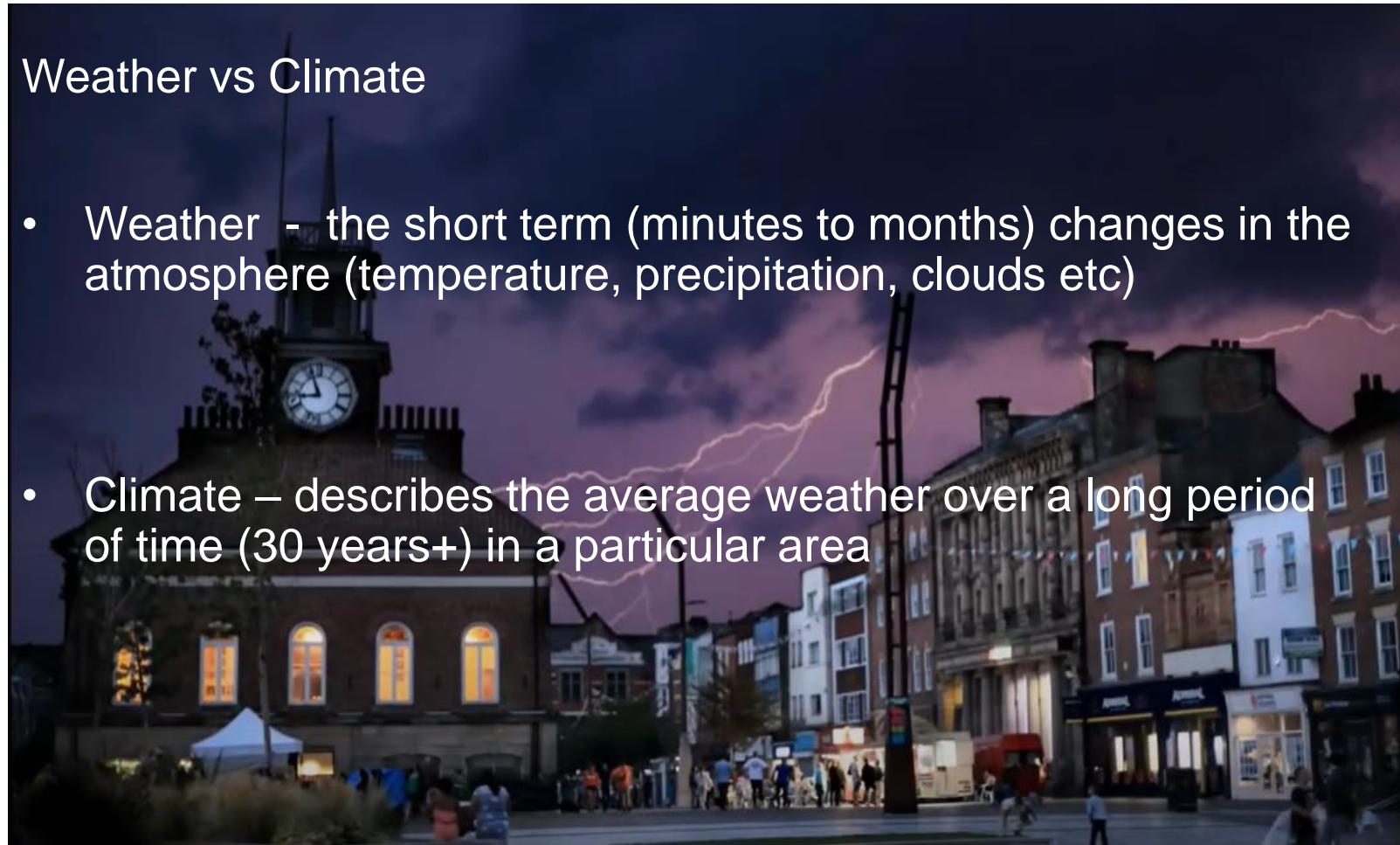
- Tees Valley Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Group – local collaboration on policies, procedures, best practice and funding bid opportunities.
- North East Highways Alliance – regional collaboration on sharing best practice and collaborative procurement.
- Collaboration nationally – Local Council Roads Innovation Group (LCRIG), Association of Public Service Excellence (Highways, Winter Service and Street Lighting Forum)
- Co-ordination of works, Liaison with Trunk Road Agencies (A66/A19)



# Climate Change

## Weather vs Climate

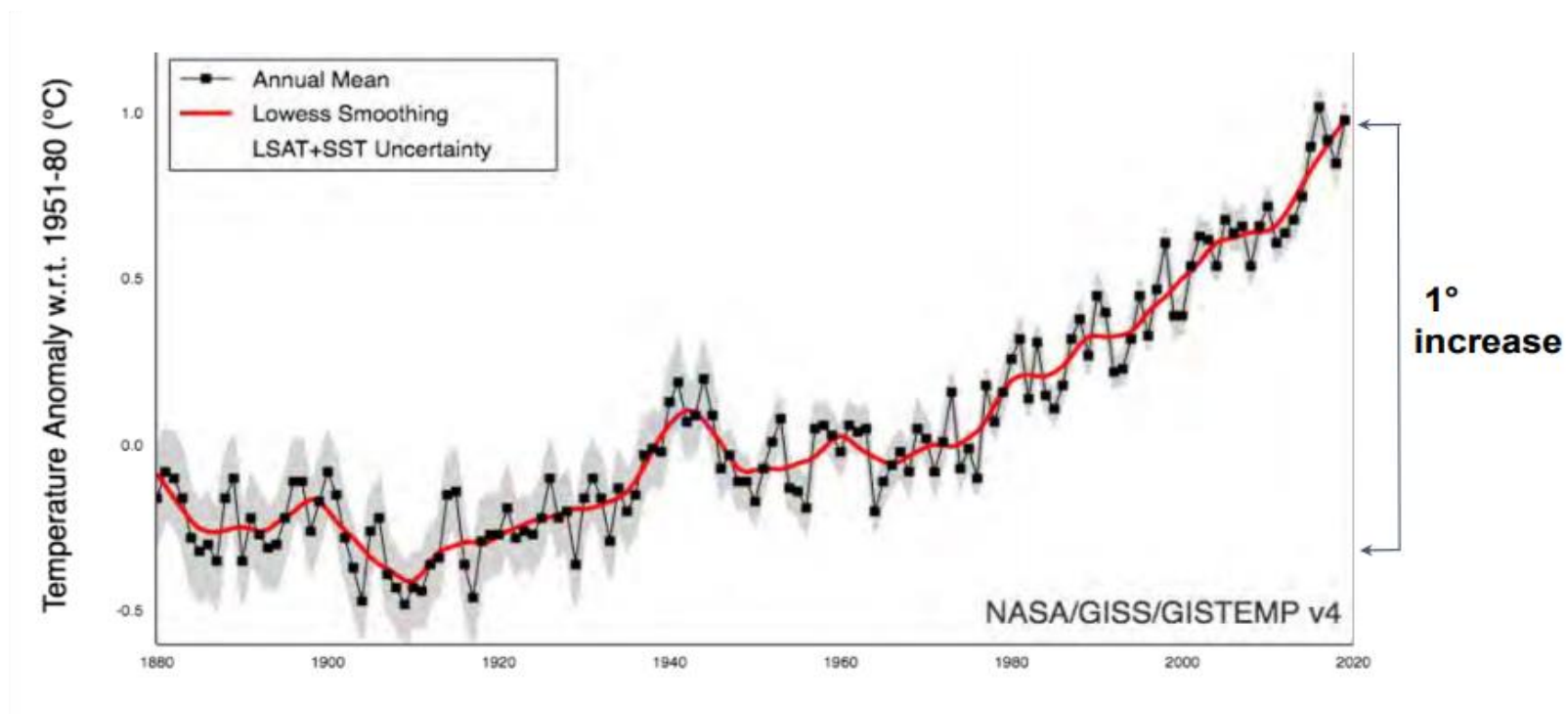
- Weather – the short term (minutes to months) changes in the atmosphere (temperature, precipitation, clouds etc)
- Climate – describes the average weather over a long period of time (30 years+) in a particular area



# Climate Change

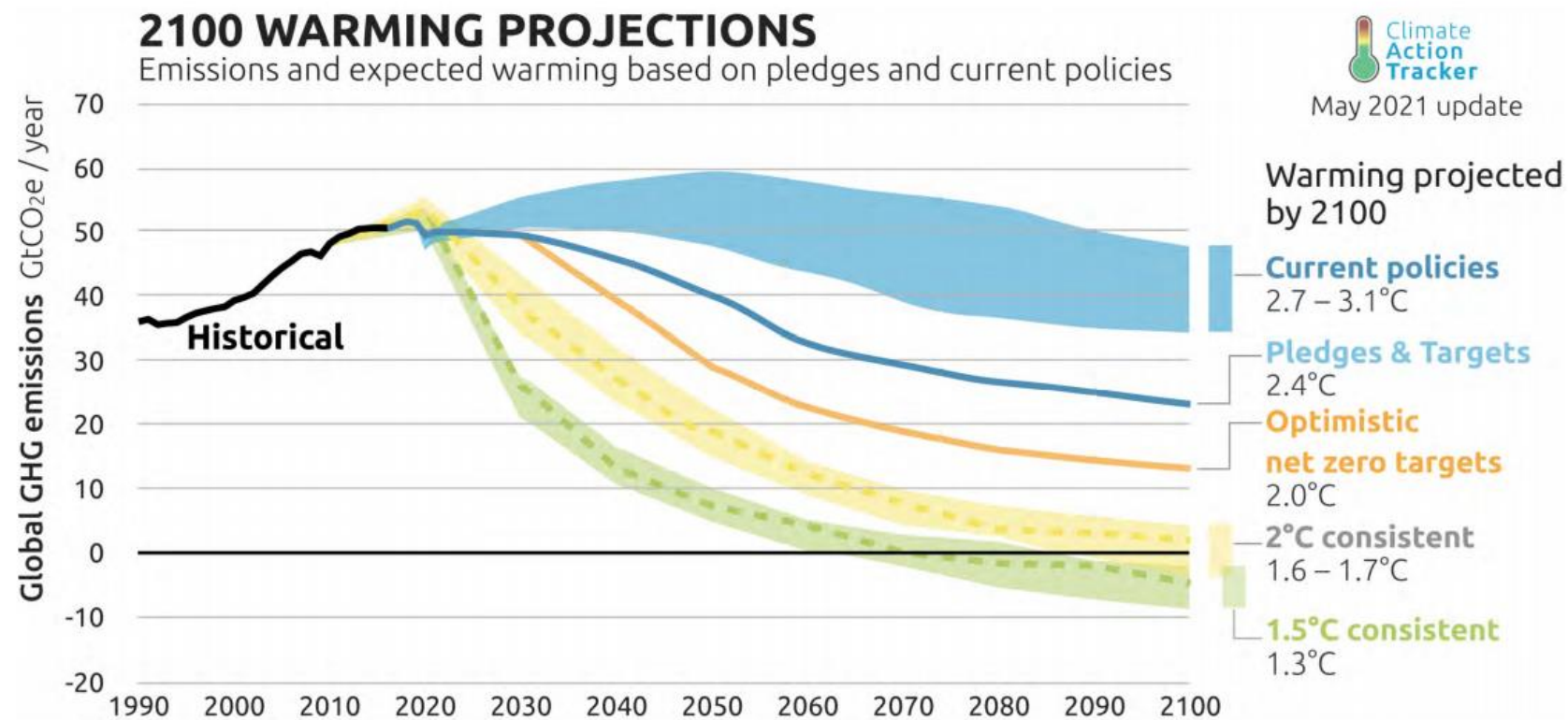
## What has happened

### Global Average Temperature Change 1880 - 2020



# Climate Change

## What is predicted



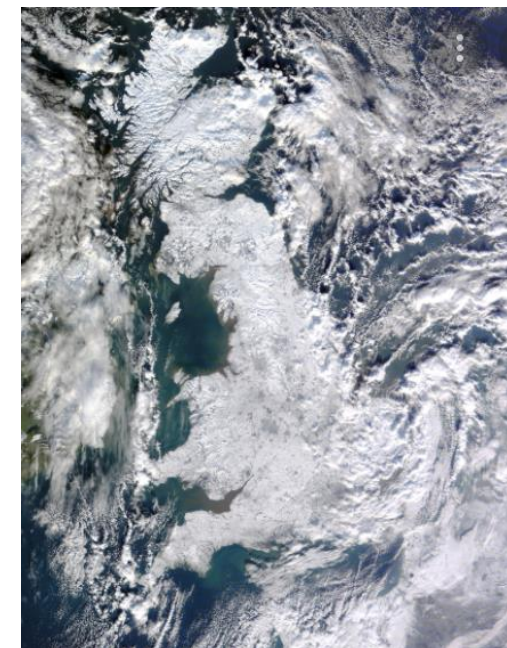


# Climate Change

## Predicted effects on weather

Within UK it is likely we will experience

- Hotter Summers
  - Droughts
  - Heatwaves
- Wetter winters
  - More frequent intense downpours – Flash flooding
  - Short periods of intense cold spells

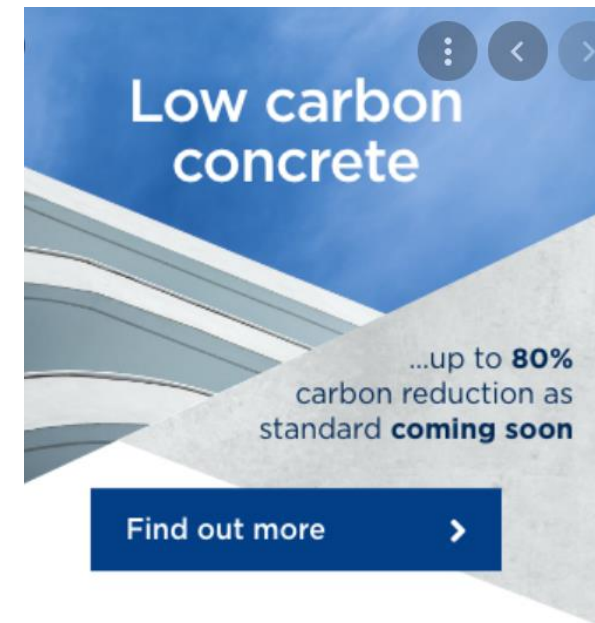
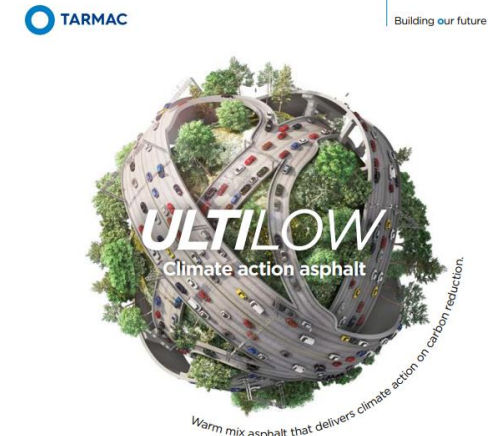


# Climate Change

## What can we do to mitigate impacts (1)

Prevention is better than cure

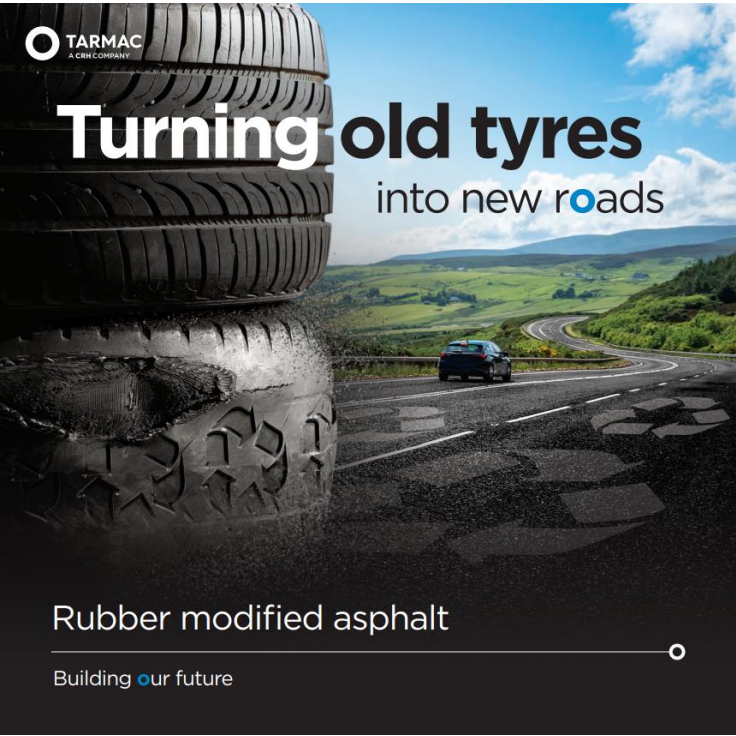
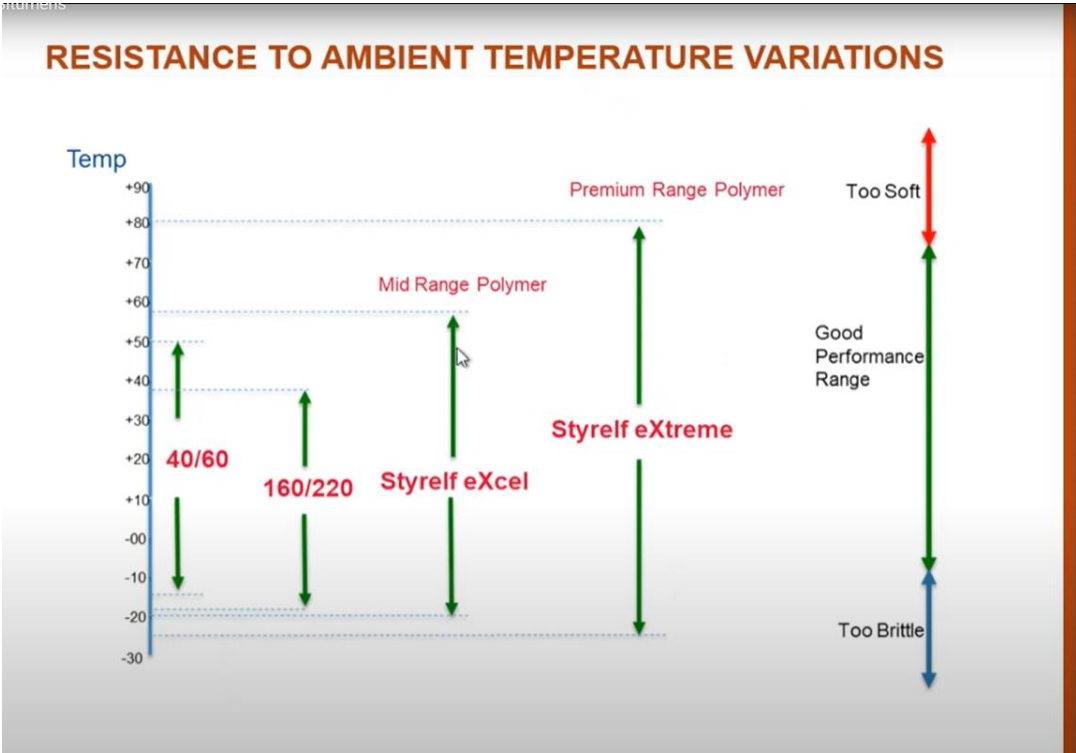
- Contribute towards decarbonisation of the highway construction and transportation sector through;
  - Use of alternative materials – Warm mix asphalts, low carbon concrete.
  - Collaboration with and learn from the supply chain.



# Climate Change

## What can we do to mitigate impacts (2)

Research and development of materials to withstand changes in climate





# New developments and Asset adoptions

- Planning stage – approval of general layout, flood risk mitigation measures.
- Pre-construction technical approval – approval of detailed design for layouts, materials, streetlights, drainage and surface water retention.
  - Where possible minimise use of special or bespoke materials in favour of standard materials to reduce future maintenance liabilities.
  - If this is not possible then consider commuted lump payments from developers
- Construction Phase – monitor site during and post construction to ensure everything is up to standard

# Commuted Lump Sum

- Allows us to ask a developer for a contribution towards the future maintenance cost of new or bespoke assets.
  - Calculated on the difference in cost of maintaining the bespoke assets over and above the cost of standard materials
  - Maintenance term is dependent on the asset type (street lights 60 years, bridges 120 years)
- Process is currently undergoing review

# In Summary

- How do SBC communicate and consult with residents about highways infrastructure asset issues? How is this information utilised? What is this telling us? How is this information used?
- How does SBC's highway infrastructure asset management practices compare with other Local Authorities?
- How has and how will climate change impact the condition of the Borough's highways infrastructure assets?
- To consider the processes undertaken on new developments, particularly regarding adoption of new highway infrastructure assets, as publicly maintainable and the potential future maintenance implications of these assets

# Looking Forward (1)

## Final Evidence Session – Key Lines of Enquiry

- How is funding allocated for highways infrastructure asset management? How has this funding changed over previous years? What is the projected condition of the highway if the budget remains the same over the next five years?

Asset Type	Required Steady State Funding (£)	Funding 2020/21 (£)	Funding 2021/22 (£)
Carriageway	£3,200,000	£1,864,086	£1,576,996
Footway	£562,000	£500,000	£460,000
Structures	£4,150,000	£1,944,005	£1,393,792
Street Lights	£1,156,000	£585,050	£384,548
Traffic Signals	£483,000	£587,755	£364,807
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,551,000</b>	<b>£5,480,936</b>	<b>£4,176,143</b>



# Looking Forward (2)

## Final Evidence Session – Key Lines of Enquiry

- What could be done if SBC were provided with additional funding to repair/maintain highway infrastructure assets? What are the opportunities for ‘invest to save’?
- What are the highway infrastructure asset priorities moving forward and how can the Committee help to deliver on them through their recommendations?