

ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES UPDATE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides an update on Roads and Infrastructure Service activities in recent months.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Area Committee note and consider the contents of this report.

3.0 DETAIL

Response to Covid

- 3.1 Roads and Infrastructure Services have spent the last year mostly operating to pre-Covid specification/schedule and timetables taking into account Covid secure measures as appropriate.
- 3.2 Since 26 April 2021, although Scotland is now out of Lockdown, guidelines in respect of safe working methods are still being adhered to. Wherever possible vehicle occupancy is being restricted to one person per vehicle. There are some exceptions where for operational reasons 2 people are sharing vehicles. In these exceptions method statements and risk assessments are in place to provide reasonable mitigations and control measures against the transmission of Covid.
- 3.3 Regular meetings continue to take place with Funeral Directors across the area to facilitate a constructive dialogue regarding managing the number of mourners attending burials and s. In

venue is in. Limited capacity at Crematorium limits this number to 18.

Capital Roads Reconstruction Programme

3.4 The proposed Roads Capital Programme was reported to the Environment,

weather, this saw an increase in pre-treatment runs as well as a greater amount of salt being used to ensure our road network remained safe for our communities and other road users.

Operations Works Programmes

- 3.10 Whilst works were scaled back significantly during the first lockdown at the start of the 2020/21 financial year, the majority of our cyclic activities have been fully delivered albeit with Covid secure specifications in place to ensure that both the workforce and members of the public remain safe. This means that road inspections, repairs, gully cleansing, ditching etc were carried out alongside winter maintenance, works to grasslands, cemeteries etc.
- 3.11 At the time of writing there has been quite a prolonged cold spell resulting in a slow growth of grass although the majority of amenity areas have received at least the first cut of the year. Roadside verges which receive a minimum number of cuts are likely to be commenced in late May/June depending on the rate of growth, these cuts being carried out largely for safety reasons to maintain visibility splays and also to stop grass growth encroaching onto the carriageway.

Cemetery Consultation

- 3.12 The purpose of the consultation was to seek community views on potential future cemetery provision across the Council area.

B8001 Road Subsidence

- 3.16 There has been ground movement on a section of the B8001 which has caused a section of the carriageway to tear resulting in surface unevenness and a very obvious crack along the carriageway. A permanent repair will be progressed through our Roads Capital Programme this year.
- 3.17 Ground investigation work has been completed which is being used to design a solution to resolve the movement and to enable the road to be permanently repaired. The permanent engineering solution is likely to involve using steel pile plates to tie the road together, as well as various drainage realignment and resurfacing works. Due to the lead in time for the specialist steelwork, the permanent solution is likely to be progressed late summer/autumn. This section of road is regularly monitored by our local team to ensure that good access is available.

Recycling in Kintyre

- 3.18 Following the decision by Council in February, officers are now working with KRL to bring the recycling collection services for the Kintyre area back in house.
- 3.19 Productive discussions are being progressing and orders are placed for blue bins to replace the bag system. The communication plan will ensure that residents are kept informed and updated nearer the time of service transfer in October.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 This report gives a general update to local members on recent Roads and Infrastructure activities.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy various policies referred to within the body of the report
- 5.2 Financial none
- 5.3 Legal none known
- 5.4 HR none known
- 5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: (please refer to guidance on Hub)
- 5.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics none known
- 5.5.2 Socio-economic Duty none known
- 5.5.3 Islands none known

5.6. Risk