Date Revised Date Approved Summary of Changes Author



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| **Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council** |
| Highway Asset Management Policy |
| **August 2022** |

**Introduction**

Our highways connect people to jobs, education, shopping, recreation, and services. They are an essential part of the overall transport network, and we need to maximise their potential to connect people to places in a safe and sustainable way.

The highway network is an essential and valuable asset; in fact, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) is the Highway Authority responsible for

the maintenance of 739 miles (1189km) of roads, 1,046 miles (1,683 km) of footway and 258 miles (415 km) of public rights of Way. 153 highway structures, bridges, and subways, (greater than 1.5m span), 115 signalised junctions and crossings – Pelican, Toucan and Puffin activated 35,216 street lighting columns and 45,880 road gullies, grids and soakaways.

The Council has calculated the total asset value in accordance with

requirements of the whole Government accounts to be gross replacement cost £1.843 billion and the depreciation replacement cost to be £1,563 billion. The Highway Asset is most expensive asset the Council owns.

Note**:** The Department for Transport also manages some roads in the Borough - the combined 16 miles (25km) length of the M1 and M18 Motorway network.

**Corporate Priorities**

Rotherham Council places great significance on the management of its highway network.

The Council Plan 2022 / 2025 includes in the Theme: EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING with a commitment to improve roads and repair potholes as part of our “£24 million to 2024” roads programme.

* The Council Plan 2022 / 2025 includes a Performance Measure to improve the proportion of the local road network classed as ‘green status’ (do not require repair)
* The Councils Year Ahead Delivery Plan includes in the Theme: EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD THRIVING - Repair an estimated 595 estate roads (137.7km) (between April 2020- March 23) through the “£24 million to 2024” roads programme.

**Statutory Obligation**

In addition to meeting our corporate priorities, the Council also has a statutory duty under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 to maintain our highway network.

**Policy Statement**

The Council believes good asset management is essential to effectively deliver highway services to achieve its long-term corporate priorities. Through well managed and maintained highways we will keep people and goods moving effectively, providing a resilient network to enhance productivity and support economic growth.

Our primary objective is to keep Rotherham’s roads and footways in a safe condition and to nationally recognised standards for all our users.

The Council will follow good asset management principles which will enable informed decisions to be made about long-term investment and maintenance funding. Resources will then be prioritised and targeted at where they are most effective.

**Highways Asset Management Plans**

The UK Government recommends local highway authorities to publish a Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP) to set out a strategy to show how their statutory duty will be met and to show how the highways network will be managed and maintained. The Council published a new HAMP and Strategy in 2015, which is updated annually, and sets out how we intend to:

* + Adopt a systematic approach which takes a long term view of how we maintain and manage highway assets.
  + Take into consideration whole life costs when maintaining assets through detailed knowledge of the size, safety, condition and value of our highways asset.
  + Using our Corporate Priorities as a lead, establish and define what level of service we need from each asset taking into consideration customer expectations.
  + Use life cycle planning to monitor and anticipate the future condition of assets and to know when we need to maintain or replace it.
  + Optimise assets by the use of a robust evidence based decision making process for the prioritisation of work.
  + Adopt a continuous improvement approach to asset management policies and practices to ensure best value for money is achieved to maximise our available funding.

**Consultation and Engagement**

Engagement has been carried out with key stakeholders on the strategy for managing our highway assets and our decision-making process.

**Communicating the Policy**

This policy is published on the Councils website (www.Rotherham.gov.uk) along with the associated Highways Asset Management Strategy and Plan. The Rotherham Highways Communication Strategy details the method of informing and notifying stakeholders of our proposed highway asset maintenance.

[https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/transport-streets/rotherham-highways-communications-strategy/5](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rotherham.gov.uk%2Ftransport-streets%2Frotherham-highways-communications-strategy%2F5&data=04%7C01%7CRichard.Jackson%40rotherham.gov.uk%7C62fd2887a53247faa91208d9f7881b64%7C46fbe6fd78ae47699c1dbcea97378af6%7C0%7C0%7C637812986208266242%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=9atQiHFrfxu%2FWBh5k8TJJpiMuPDNfKLVKmOUNInrNzs%3D&reserved=0)

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| 26/08/2022 |  | Annual Update | Andy Saxton |
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