

Cabinet Member for City Services

26th June 2017

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor J Innes

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Ward(s) affected:

Wyken

Title:

Report – Petition, Carriageway Resurfacing Adjacent to the Caludon Park Apartment Block

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

A petition of 8 signatures has been received advising of residents' concerns regarding the deteriorated condition of the carriageway outside the Caludon Park apartment block and that this is allegedly causing the block to 'shake' when heavy traffic passes by.

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to road safety and maintenance are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member had considered this petition prior to this meeting and in response to the issues raised requested that the petition was dealt with by letter (determination letter), rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently.

The determination letter advised of the action proposed and approved in response to the issues raised. On receipt of the determination letter the petition spokesperson advised that they did not wish the petition to be progressed by letter and wanted it to be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

1. Note the petitioners concerns
2. Endorse that the actions confirmed by determination letter to the petition spokesperson (as detailed in paragraph 1.6 of the report) are undertaken.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Location Plan

Appendix B – Determination Letter

Background Papers

None

Other useful documents:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Report - Petition – Carriageway Resurfacing Adjacent to the Caludon Park Apartment Block

1. Context (or background)

A petition of 8 signatures has been received advising of residents' concerns regarding the deteriorated condition of the carriageway outside the Caludon Park apartment block and that this is allegedly causing the block to 'shake' when heavy traffic passes by.

1.1 The petition advises:

'I am writing to bring to your kind attention my petition in support of the resurfacing of Attoxhall Road adjacent to block of apartments Caludon Park. The 3-storey block consists of 12 apartments (4 on each floor) and was built in spring 2015. Since moving to the property in May 2015 it was noticed that the block shook slightly each time that heavy traffic drove over the many recesses on Attoxhall Road. This has escalated greatly over time and is now making the block shake more vigorously causing much annoyance and distress. This can be felt in areas all over the block. We ask for the immediate entire resurfacing of Attoxhall Road to remedy this'

1.2 Attoxhall Road is a relatively busy single carriageway road which runs from Harry Rose Road to Belgrave Road. There are a number of cul-de-sacs and a couple of through roads which adjoin Attoxhall Road. Traffic levels on this road are moderate. However, there is a busy articulated bus service to Walsgrave hospital every 15 minutes during peak time.

1.3 An officer of the City Council made a site visit to establish the condition of the carriageway and the following observations were made at that time:

Carriageway Type – The section from Belgrave Road to Axholme Road was resurfaced approximately 10 years ago and is bituminous construction, this section is in good condition. There are 2 pairs of failed utility trenches outside the block of apartments (Caludon Park) which appear to be causing the issue that the petition mentions with regard to the claim that this is the cause of the block shaking. I observed articulated buses traveling in both directions outside the block of apartments, there didn't appear to be movement in the rigid road construction. However, there was an issue with the bus bumping into the level difference of the failed utility trench, although the level difference is not an intervention level.

1.5 In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to road safety and maintenance are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member considered the petition prior to this meeting and in response requested that the issue was dealt with by determination letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently.

1.6 The determination letter (copy in Appendix B) advised of the action proposed and approved in response to the issue raised. These actions were:

An engineer has been out to make an assessment of the current condition of the road and investigations show that the majority of it is in reasonable but safe condition. I hope you will be pleased to know that the section directly outside Caludon Park is already on our programme for repairs in the coming financial year 2017/18. Like all roads in the city we will continue to monitor the condition of Attoxhall Road. We invest heavily in the repair and maintenance of Coventry's roads - our programme for the next year is £6.4 million. And we have a very robust process which involves regular assessments across the city to ensure we repair on a priority basis.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The recommended proposals in regard to the issues raised have already been approved and are detailed in the determination letter (attached as Appendix B to the report) and paragraph 1.6. of the report.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 No consultation has been undertaken

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 The implementation of the recommended proposals is dependent on funding and prioritisation with competing locations; therefore the implementation of the recommendations is on-going.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services

5.1 Financial implications

Future capital highway maintenance programmes and proposed treatments to carriageways and pavements are established on a 'worst first' basis across all road categories. The decision for inclusion in any year's programme will be taken by Cabinet at their meeting in March of any given financial year. It will also be dependent on the level of funding that is made available for Capital Highway maintenance in that year and will further depend on the condition of this carriageway when compared to other similar roads citywide. Therefore the actual scheduling of the works will be based on priority of the scheme and the funds available

5.2 Legal implications

Under section 41 of the Highways Act 1980, the Council has a duty to maintain those adopted highways that it is responsible for to a standard where they are reasonably passable for ordinary traffic. Any major contracts will be approved by the Procurement board and let under the usual contract rules

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

Highway maintenance is part of Coventry's vision for better pavements and roads which is a key objective. Completing the carriageway maintenance work would contribute to this objective.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

None

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

None

6.4 Equalities / EIA

No specific equalities impact assessment has been carried out.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

Report author(s)

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Directorate:

Place

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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Colin Knight	Director (Transportation and Highways)	Place	05/06/2017	06/06/2017
Neil Cowper	Head of Highways	Place	05/06/2017	06/06/2017
Liz Knight/ Michelle Salmon	Governance Services Officer	Place	05/06/2017	06/06/2017
Names of approvers: (Officers and Members)			05/06/2017	
Graham Clark	Lead Accountant	Place	05/06/2017	05/06/2017
Rob Parkes	Place Team Leader	Place	05/06/2017	07/06/2017
Councillor J Innes	Cabinet Member for City Services		05/06/2017	12/06/2017

This report is published on the council's website: moderngov.coventry.gov.uk

Appendix B – Copy of Text of Determination Letter

Attoxhall Road Resurfacing Request – Petition Response

I am writing to you with regard to the above petition and your request 'that Attoxhall Road be resurfaced'

The matter was discussed with Councillor Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, who has requested that this be dealt with by way of letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a future meeting so that this can be dealt with more quickly.

One of our engineers has been out to make an assessment of the current condition of the road and investigations show that the majority of it is in reasonable but safe condition. I hope you will be pleased to know that the section directly outside Caludon Park is already on our programme for repairs in the coming financial year 2017/18.

Like all roads in the city we will continue to monitor the condition of Attoxhall Road. We invest heavily in the repair and maintenance of Coventry's roads - our programme for the next year is £6.4 million. And we have a very robust process which involves regular assessments across the city to ensure we repair on a priority basis.

I would be grateful if you could please confirm in writing, either by email or letter, as soon as possible, that you agree that the petition be progressed in this way. If you do not agree, a report responding to your petition will be prepared for consideration at a future Cabinet Member meeting. You will be invited to attend this meeting where you have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the petitioners.

I'd like to thank you for caring about the condition of the city's roads. Local people can be our additional eyes all over the city and we always welcome any additional information. If you spot something in the future you can report it simply, by emailing us at:
customer.services@coventry.gov.uk