

Cabinet Member for City Services

8th April 2019

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Ward(s) affected:

Bablake

Title: Petition – Derwent Road, Condition of Pavements

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

This report responds to a petition containing 51 signatures which was submitted to Coventry City Council and is supported by Councillor Birdi. The petition requests that the Council

‘investigate the state of the uneven paving slabs along either side of Derwent Road, as walking along the pavements is difficult for children, the elderly and disabled residents. The petition claims that this is a health and safety matter and requests that the council addresses this and makes the pavement surfaces safe to walk on.’

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to highway maintenance are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services.

The cost of carrying out highways maintenance, is funded from the Highways Maintenance and Investment Capital Programme budget.

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

1. Note the petitioners concerns
2. Approve that the pavements along Derwent Road be held on Coventry City Council's forward programme list and their condition continues to be monitored and scored against all other similar sites citywide. If a priority score is reached the pavements to be included in a future capital funded improvement programme, budget permitting, and until such time, continue to make safe any defects at or above the intervention level as identified.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Location Plan

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: Petition – Derwent Road, Condition of Pavements

1. Context (or background)

1.1 A petition of 51 signatures has been received requesting that the Council investigates the condition of the pavements Derwent Road. The petition is supported by Councillor Birdi.

1.2 The petition advises:

'The pavements are duly damaged by the constant parking of cars and HGV's. The damage is further compounded by the wet and rainy, frost and snowy weather when potholes and slabs get further damage inflicted on them. This makes it difficult for the children, elders and disabled residents to walk to their destinations safely. This is a health and safety matter and we request that the City Council addresses this to bring the footpath surfaces up to safety standards'.

1.3 Derwent Road is a local residential road and the footways provide access for pedestrians to and from properties and connects to Greycoat Road and Rylston Avenue. Some properties are served by the appropriate vehicle access arrangements but others are driving over the footway to access their frontage hard standing. A location plan is shown in Appendix A of this report.

1.4 In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to highway maintenance issues are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services.

1.5 Records show that the last annual programmed safety inspection took place on the 11th November 2018 at which time some of the paving slabs were identified as requiring removal and replacement with tarmac to provide a safe and sustainable repair, some further areas have been attended to in January 2019.

1.6 Following receipt of the petition an engineer made a separate visit (11th February 2019) to make an assessment of the construction and overall condition of the pavements. It was noted that the pavements are 1.8 metre in width consisting mainly of slab construction with some areas of bituminous material reinstatements. The pavements are somewhat aged and although not aesthetically pleasing at the time of inspection there were no intervention level defects identified.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 Following the engineer's assessment on the 11th February 2019, and given the current condition and usage the recommended treatment would be reconstruction of the pavements.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 No consultation has been undertaken.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 Future capital 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 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 the

carriageway or pavement when compared to other similar roads citywide. Therefore, the actual scheduling of the works is based on priority of the scheme and funds available.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services

5.1 Financial implications

Undertaking the reconstruction of the pavements would be funded from any allocated Highways Capital Footway repair budget and is currently valued at approximately £52,000

5.2 Legal implications

Pursuant to Section 41(1) 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 to ordinary traffic. The scope of the duty under S.41(1) Highways Act 1980 is based on an objective standard and depends on the level of use of the highway in question.

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 City Council's vision for better pavements and roads which is a key objective. Completing this work would contribute to this objective.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

Financial risks are managed through regular monitoring meetings with the budget holder and the capital finance team. Risk assessments are carried out as part of the design process to ensure that risks are designed out and that construction takes place by approved contractors in a safe way.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The work would be delivered using existing resources.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

No specific equalities impact assessment has been carried out.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

Positive impacts of carrying out Highway Maintenance schemes are to improve the road/pavement surface for driving or walking on.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None specifically but all road users of Derwent Road would benefit from the improvement to the pavement surface.

Report author(s)

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Place

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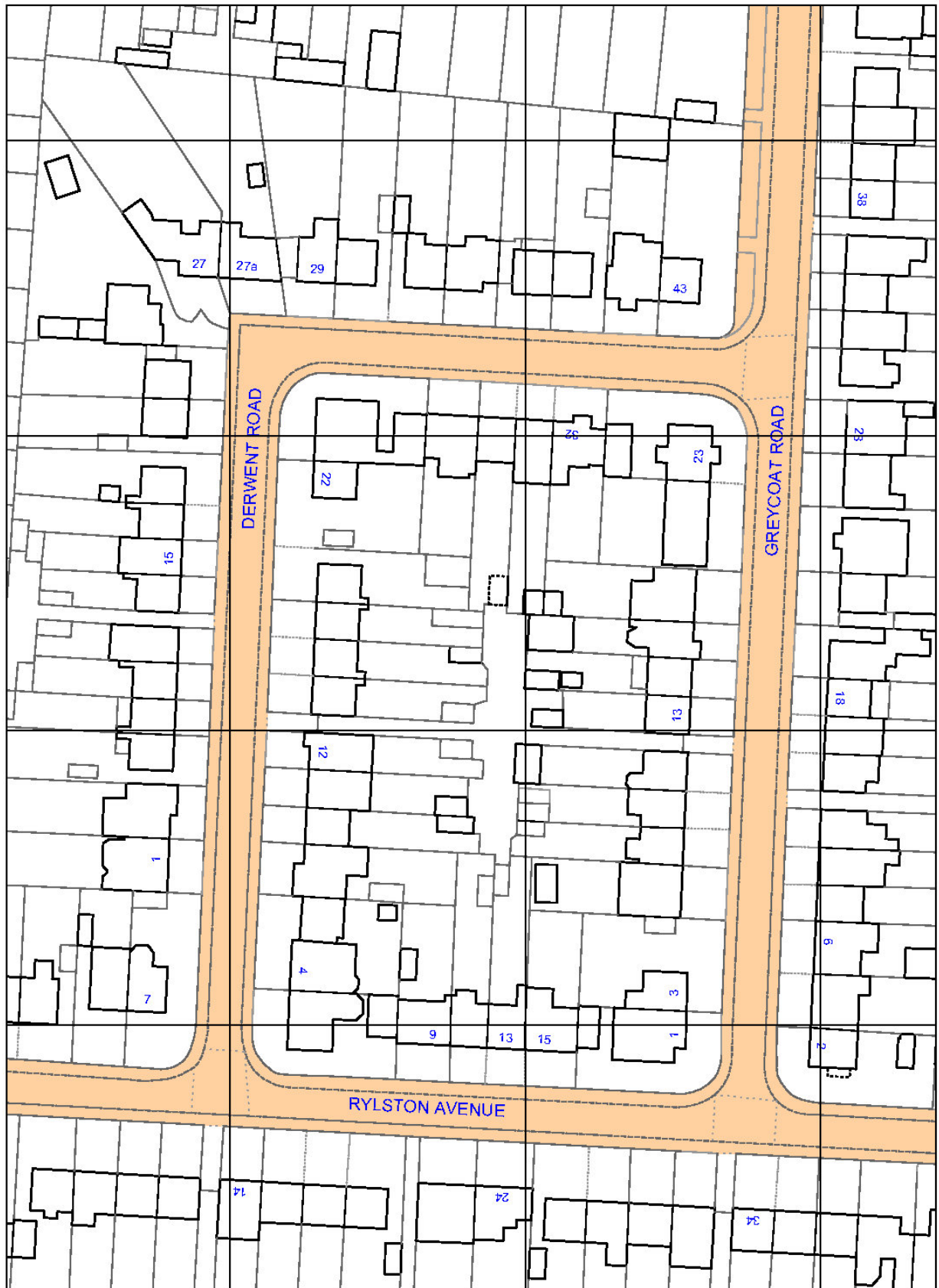
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Enquiries should be directed to the above person

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Councillor P Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	25/3/19	25/3/19

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Appendix A – Location plan



prepared 14th March 2019

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City of Coventry Highways Adoptions

Derwent Road

