

Cabinet Member for City Services

2nd December 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:

Woodlands

Title: Petition – Replacement of the pavement surface at Ross Close, Coventry

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

This report responds to a petition dated 28th August 2019 containing 21 signatures which was submitted to Coventry City Council and is supported by Councillors Ridley and Lepoidevin. The petition requests that the Council:

‘Replace the pavement with a safer and more suitable surface.’

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 Transportation and Highway Maintenance Capital Programme budget.

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

1. Note the petitioners concerns.
2. Approve that the pavements at Ross Close be held on Coventry City Council's forward programme list and their condition will continue to be monitored and scored against all other similar sites citywide.

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 – Replacement of the Pavement Surface at Ross Close.

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 A petition dated 28th August 2019 containing 21 signatures has been received requesting that the Council reviews the condition of the pavements at Ross Close. The petition is supported by Councillors Ridley and Lepoidevin.
- 1.2 Ross Close is a local residential cul-de-sac, which serves 14 properties and is situated off Sutherland Avenue. A location plan is shown in Appendix A of this report.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 Records show that the last annual programmed safety inspection took place on the 22nd August 2019, at which time four intervention level defects were identified, all of which have now been repaired. There have also been no customer enquiries made in the last 12 months.
- 1.5 Following receipt of the petition an engineer made a separate visit (4th September 2019) in order to complete an assessment of the construction and overall condition of the pavements. The pavements are of a slab construction. Both the road and 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, and given the current condition and usage the recommended treatment would be to take up the slabs and replace with a bituminous surface. This treatment would only take place if a priority score is reached by the Council's Asset Management System, they will be included in a future capital funded improvement programme, budget permitting. Until such time we will continue to make safe any defects at or above our intervention levels as identified.

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

There are no immediate financial implications of the recommendation. If a priority score is reached the repairs would be included in a future capital improvement programme, budget permitting. Repair is currently valued at approximately £18,000

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 passible 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) Climate Change and 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 Ross Close would benefit from the improvement to the pavement surfaces.

Report author(s)**Name and job title:**

Tracy Cowley
Highways Technical Services Manager

Directorate:

Place

Tel and email contact:

Tel: 024 7697 7035

Email: tracy.cowley@coventry.gov.uk

Enquiries should be directed to the above person

Contributor/ approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Colin Knight	Director (Transportation and Highways)	Place	4/11/19	5/11/19
Neil Cowper	Head of Highways	Place	4/11/19	12/11/19
Liz Knight	Governance Services Officer	Place	4/11/19	5/11/19
Names of approvers: (officers and members)				
Graham Clark	Lead Accountant	Place	4/11/19	5/11/19
Rob Parkes	Team Leader, legal services	Place	4/11/19	8/11/19
Councillor P Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	11/11/19	11/11/19

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Appendix A – Location plan

