

Cabinet Member for City Services

28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

**Director approving submission of the report:**

Director of Transportation, Highways and Sustainability

**Ward(s) affected:**

Earlsdon, Whoberley, St Michael's & Sherbourne

**Title:**

Petition 12/23 - Condition of Pavements on Albany Road.

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**Is this a key decision?**

No

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**Executive summary:**

A petition bearing 93 signatures was received requesting that all the pavements on Albany Road be improved.

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to highways maintenance are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member had considered the petition prior to this meeting and 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 that we would continue to monitor and repair intervention level defects with reactive maintenance until such time as Albany Road is included in the yearly capital programme. The letter stated that we were unable to advise if Albany Road will be in the 2024/25 programme.

On receipt of the determination letter, the petition organiser requested that he wanted the issue to be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

**Recommendations:**

Cabinet Member for City Services is requested to:

- 1) Note the petitioners' concerns.
- 2) Endorse the actions confirmed by determination letter to the petition organiser as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of the report.

**List of Appendices included:**

The following appendices are attached to the report:

Appendix 1 - Site plan showing the length of footway

Appendix 2 - Photos showing the condition and types of footway

**Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it 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 12/23 - Condition of Pavements on Albany Road.

## **1. Context (or background)**

- 1.1. Albany Road Footways are 1.7km in length, based on our current rates for footway reconstruction it would cost £500k to replace the entire length, around half of the 2023/24 annual budget.
- 1.2. The Overall Condition Index (OCI) for the various sections of Albany Rd score between 12 and 39, for context our highest scoring OCI is 90. The higher the score the poorer the condition.
- 1.3. There are 314 worst footways in Coventry within our asset management system. We currently reconstruct around 0.25% of our entire footway length each year.
- 1.4. The footways had a Detailed Visual Inspection in 2021 and 2022, they will be due again in 2025 and 2026.
- 1.5. An officer of the City Council has assessed the construction and overall condition of the footways, and it is noted that it is a mixture of flagged footways with a tarmac strip adjacent to the kerb and fully tarmac footway all are in safe condition overall, with some minor defects that will be carried out with reactive maintenance.
- 1.6. The Highways Inspector also carries out an annual inspection, they didn't report Albany Road in their 10 worst footways for each ward during our annual review of Highway Inspectors Highway Condition data and top ten in December 2023.

## **2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 2.1. Following recent condition assessments, it is proposed to continue repairing intervention level defects safe in line with our asset management strategy.
- 2.2. We will continue to collect data and compare with other pathways in the City to determine suitability for the 2024/25 capital programme.

## **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1. There has been no consultation on this matter.

## **4. Timetable for implementing this decision**

- 4.1 Future capital highway maintenance programmes and the proposed treatments to carriageways and pavements are established on a "worst first" basis across all road categories. The decision for inclusion in next year's programme will be taken by Cabinet at their meeting in March 2024. It will also be dependent on the level of funding that is made available for Capital Highway maintenance next year and will further depend on the condition of this footway compared to other footways citywide.

## **5. Comments from Director of Finance and Resources and and Director of Law and Governance**

### **5.1. Financial Implications**

As covered in section 2, no approval is being sought for capital expenditure at this stage.

The scheduling of capital works is based on priority of the scheme and the funds available and is set out in the annual Transport and Highway Maintenance Capital Programme report. The estimated cost to replace all footpaths on Albany Road is £500k.

The repair of intervention level defects in line with the Council's asset management strategy is funded by the revenue patching budget.

### **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.

## **6. Other implications**

### **6.1. How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?**

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/one-coventry-plan>

N/A

### **6.2. How is risk being managed?**

We will continue to carryout safety inspections and repair defects.

### **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) climate change and the environment?**

None

### **6.6. Implications for partner organisations?**

None

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Rob Parkes	Team Manager	Law and Governance	8.2.2024	19.02.2024
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Councillor P Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	8.2.2024	9.2.2024

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