

Cabinet Member for City Services

8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

**Director approving submission of the report:**

Director of City Services and Commercial

**Ward(s) affected: Cheylesmore**

**Title: Petition 31/23 and E40/23 - Leaf Lane Resurfacing**

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**Is this a key decision?**

No

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**Executive summary:**

A petition bearing 30 signatures was received requesting that the footway on Leaf Lane be resurfaced.

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 Leaf Lane is included in the yearly capital programme. The letter stated that we were unable to advise if it will be in the 2025/26 programme at this juncture.

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

**Recommendations:**

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

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix A - Site plan showing the extent of the footway  
Appendix B - Photos showing the condition of the 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 31/23 and E40/23 - Leaf Lane Resurfacing**

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

- 1.1. Leaf Lane flagged footway between Bolton Close and Bigbury Close is 0.5km in length, based on our current rates for footway reconstruction it would cost £160k to replace this length, around 10% of the annual budget.
- 1.2. The Overall Condition Index (OCI) for Leaf Lane footway is 39, for context our highest scoring OCI is 90. We have over 270 sections of footway with a score of over 85, the higher the score the poorer the condition.
- 1.3. We currently reconstruct around 0.25% of our entire footway network (1447km) each year.
- 1.4. The footway had a Detailed Visual Inspection in 2021, it will be due again in 2025.
- 1.5. An officer of the City Council has assessed the construction and overall condition of the footway. Considering the age of the footway, it is still performing well, there is evidence of sideways movement of the paving flags, which has resulted in gaps, which now have vegetation growing in between, however, this appears to be solid and there is adequate space to walk to avoid the vegetation, there is also deformation which would create minor ponding during wet weather events, however, due to the gaps between the paving, and the grass verge, the water soon dissipates. There is root intrusion around Bigbury Close, although the surface is undulating, it is safe with no intervention trip hazards.
- 1.6. The footway is protected from vehicle overriding by linear bollards in the verge, this helps to protect the footway from damage and further deformation.
- 1.7. The Highways Inspector for the ward carries out an annual safety inspection. It is noted that they didn't report Leaf Lane in their 10 worst footways for each ward during our annual review of Highway Inspectors Highway Condition data in December 2023, this will be reviewed again in December 2024.

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

- 2.1. Following the recent condition assessment, it is proposed to continue repairing intervention level defects raised during safety inspections, in line with our asset management strategy.
- 2.2. We will continue to collect data and compare with other footways in the City to determine suitability for the 2025/26 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 which footways will be included in next year’s programme will be taken by Cabinet at their meeting in March 2025. 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 the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Law and Governance**

##### **5.1. Financial Implications**

The estimated cost to replace the footway on Leaf Lane is £160k.

##### **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

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

We will continue to carryout safety inspections and repair defects.

##### **6.2. What is the impact on the organisation?**

None

##### **6.3. Equalities / EIA?**

No specific equalities impact assessment has been carried out.

##### **6.4. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment?**

None

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

None

**Report author:**

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**Service Area:**

City Services and Commercial

**Tel and email contact:**

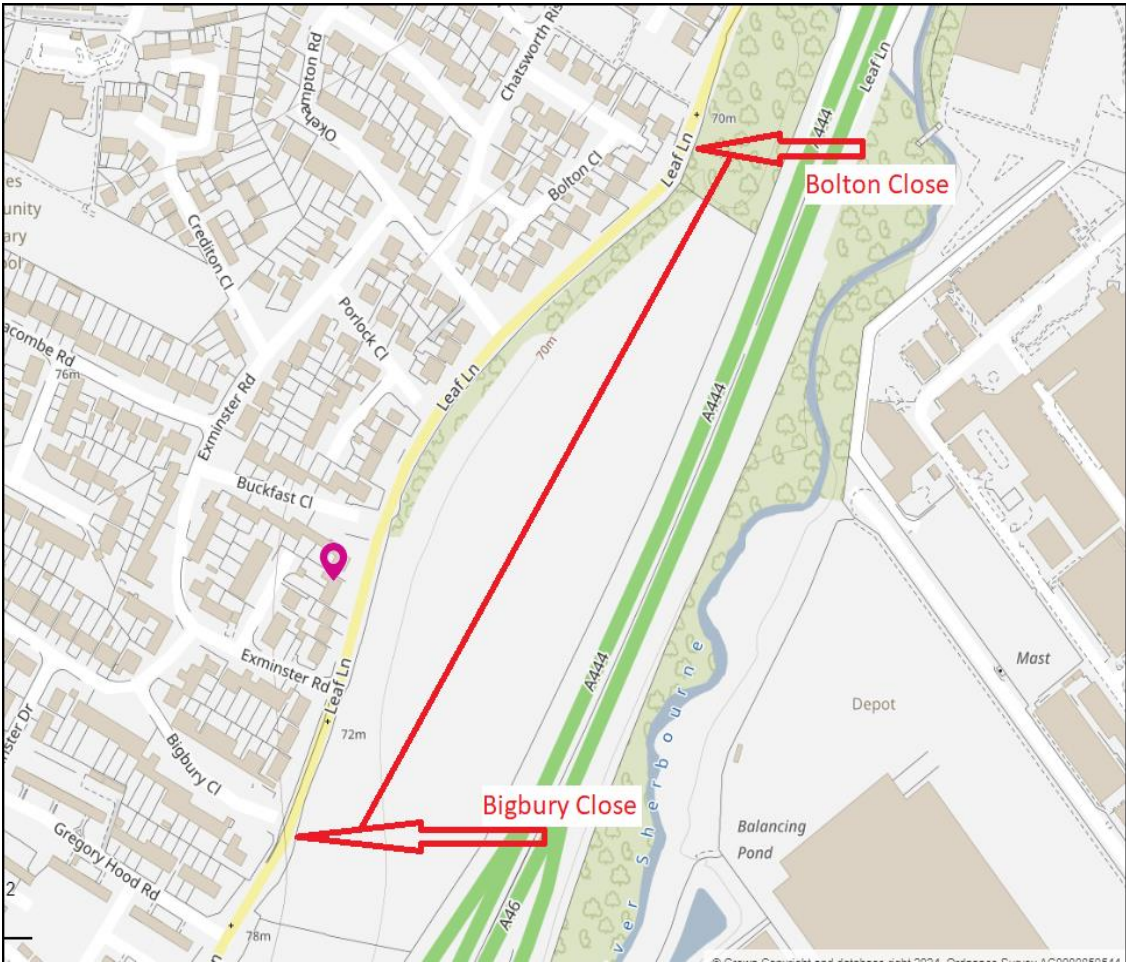
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Helen Williamson	Finance Manager	Finance and Resources	26/09/2024	30/09/2024
Rob Parkes	Team Manager, Legal Services	Law and Governance	26/09/2024	30/09/2024
Mark Adams	Strategic Lead for Highway Operations & Delivery	City Services and Commercial	26/09/2024	30/09/2024
Councillor P Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	26/09/2024	07/10/2024

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**Appendix A - Site plan showing the extent of the footway**





**Appendix B - Photos showing the condition of the footway**







