



Engineering and
Highways

**Highway
Infrastructure
Asset
Management
Policy**

Foreword

The purpose of this **Highway Asset Management Policy** is to set out the main asset management principles that we will adopt as a Council. It describes our commitment to asset management in how we manage our highway infrastructure, and how this approach can help support our corporate policies.

Our aim is to provide a reliable, safe and efficient network and in doing so optimise the available resources, provide value and accountability. To do this the culture of the highway services we provide will need to adapt so that our systems, procedures, and methods of working are fully coordinated.

Document Information

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Author	Michael Kay / XAIS
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Document History

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Introduction

This overarching policy statement is aimed at Council Members and key service stakeholders and it outlines the principles adopted in shaping a Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy which is effective in supporting Redcar & Cleveland's Corporate Priorities, statutory duty and obligations under the Highways Act 1980 and in alignment with the risk based guidance provided in the Highways Code of Practice 'Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure' October 2016.

Statement:-

It should be noted that we are currently working within the provisions of the Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management 'Well-Maintained Highways' July 2005 pending our full alignment to the 2016 COP for which we are working towards and expect to be compliant by April 2022.

Linked to this all roads are presently allocated to a designated 'Hierarchy' in accordance with the 2005 Highways Code of Practice which is primarily based on traffic volumes and road characteristics. We are working towards redefining the highway network in line with an entity referred to as 'Maintenance Hierarchy' which better reflects the usage, importance and risks associated with different road types, this will come into play once the 2016 Highways COP is fully adopted in 2022.

Corporate Plan:



Redcar & Cleveland's Highway infrastructure Asset Management Policy and Strategy is supportive of the Corporate Plan 2021-24 it is subject to periodic review. These are aimed at improving the quality of life for people living and working in Redcar & Cleveland and those visiting and investing in the area.

The overall vision of Redcar & Cleveland's Corporate Plan is to help lead the Borough through the Covid pandemic and beyond. The actions and projects set out will support communities and the local economy as we emerge from Covid and provide confidence that we are investing for the long-term future of the people and place of Redcar & Cleveland. We recognise and value the excellent support from communities, voluntary groups, businesses and others and we will continue to work in is to ensure that it is a thriving place to learn, work, live, care and connect partnership to use our resources wisely and complement each other. In summary, we are committed to:

- Tackling climate change and enhancing the environment
- Meeting our residents' needs
- Improving the appearance of the Borough and enhancing prosperity,
- Investing public money wisely for the long term

Our policy is to support the corporate plan in achieving the commitments above where ever possible within the management of the infrastructure assets.

Local Transport Plan

Redcar & Cleveland's local transport plan is set to deliver a sustainable life blood is through its strategic and local transport links which is the main focus of the LTP, the document sets out strategies to address the five national transport goals identified in the strategy document "Delivering a Sustainable Transport System" (DaSTS). These are:

- Reduce Carbon Emissions
- Support Economic Growth
- Promote Equality of Opportunity
- Contribute to Better Safety, Security and Health
- Improve Quality of Life and a Healthy Natural Environment

The LTP has been developed in partnership with key stakeholders and neighbouring authorities to reflect the external factors that are affecting service delivery.

This policy helps support and deliver the Local Transport goals as highlighted.

The Vision

Redcar & Cleveland's life blood is through its strategic and local transport links which supports regional growth, and commerce, a manufacturing and engineering base, an evolving tourism industry and the welfare of its residents in going about their daily business and life activities. This places great significance on the need to effectively coordinate, manage and maintain the highways and transport infrastructure assets with the LTP and the Corporate Plan

In support of this, we will invoke strategic Highways Infrastructure Asset Management process and practices that provides a holistic approach that encompasses all facets for the delivery of highways and transportation services and we will engage with key stakeholders in order to communicate and help identify the priority needs of the service.

Highways Infrastructure Asset Management underpins the delivery of most other Council delivered and externally delivered services in Redcar & Cleveland by providing a safe, serviceable and robust highways and transport infrastructure that is the foundation stone and platform upon which Redcar & Cleveland operates.

Service Standards and Maintenance Priorities

The Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (HIAMP) is being developed in which service delivery targets for the highways infrastructure assets will be set at a level that equals or betters the national average asset condition where national data is available, and these shall be monitored and reviewed annually.

Highway Infrastructure Asset Maintenance priorities and investment needs shall be determined through a process of "Condition Appraisals" and "Value Management" and shall take account of risk and lifecycle planning principles in order to realise annual and future funding needs and to identify affordable and timely maintenance solutions.

Council Engagement & Stakeholder Consultation

We will continually engage with the senior decision makers within the Council to adopt the principles of highway infrastructure asset management as the basis for the determination of priority works programmes and investment. This will be achieved through a process of approval with the Highways Portfolio and with Council Cabinet to seek agreement to the proposed annual asset maintenance service delivery programmes, investments and funding.

The opinion of Key stakeholders will be sought and considered as to the objectives and strategic direction that we propose to adopt for the implementation of the Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy for the delivery of highway and transport services.

Commitment to Continuous Improvement

Redcar & Cleveland is committed to seeking continuous improvement in its asset management practices by incorporating a holistic and coordinated approach to service delivery through:-

- Adopting a strategic, affordable and sustainable approach to highways infrastructure asset maintenance.
- The monitoring of annual condition trends through asset performance indicators thereby driving forward targeted asset improvement measures within affordable funding limits.
- The asset management principles adopted shall be risk based, support affordable and sustainable maintenance solutions, take account of whole life value appraisals, be customer focused and be socially inclusive, they shall operate within the limitations of funding and resource availability.
- The skills and competencies of staff in asset management roles will be continually assessed and development action plans developed accordingly. Vocational, educational and professional training identified in the development action plans will be funded appropriately.