



Doncaster Council

Report

Date: 7th January 2021

To Councillor Joe Blackham, Cabinet Member for Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services

**ACCEPTANCE OF: TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUND:
Local Transport Capital Block Funding (Pothole and Challenge
Fund) Specific Grant Determination (2020/21) No.31/5072**

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor J Blackham	Various	Yes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. To accept the additional grant funding in the sum of £5,145,047 from the Department for Transport (DfT) to undertake additional highway maintenance in accordance with the associated terms and conditions.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. No

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. It is recommended that the additional funding from the DfT be accepted and works programmed and undertaken. The decision will be signed off by Councillor J Blackham, Portfolio holder for Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services. The limit and extent of the work will be based on prioritised condition assessments of the highway assets across the borough and agreed by Councillor J Blackham. The works undertaken to assist in reducing the extensive accumulation of non-funded maintenance needs across the complete Highway network.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. This will help enhance the local environment and provide improvements across the highway and footway network.

BACKGROUND

- The DfT announced in June that extra funding would be made available to highway authorities for maintenance purposes. Confirmation of the funding was received on the 17 November 2020.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- There are no options in connection with this report. The additional funding has been granted for highway maintenance purposes.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

- To maximize the benefit available for the citizens of Doncaster from the additional investment by the DfT.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

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	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better access to good fulfilling work Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish Inward Investment 	<p>Will improve the environment and travelling facilities for people when travelling to work or to businesses in the areas where the highways are refurbished.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster More people can live in a good quality, affordable home Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	<p>The refurbishment of the highways will help to improve the aesthetic look in the local area; it will help to reduce the incidence of weed growth. Cleansing of these will also be easier.</p> <p>Will be more user friendly for active travel with better walking and driving surfaces.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children,</p>	<p>Will improve the driving and walking facilities for parents</p>

	<p>young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	<p>and children when travelling to and from school in the areas where works are undertaken.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	<p>Will improve the driving and walking facilities for parents and children when travelling to and from school in the areas where works are undertaken.</p>
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	<p>The additional money from the DfT will enable us to undertake additional highway maintenance works, thereby reducing ongoing risks associated with roads and footways that are in need of repair. There will be an improvement to the local environments meeting aspirations of residents. Supports both internal and external workforces in jobs to deliver the projects.</p>

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

9. There are minimal risks connected with the project, however the funding is minimal in terms of addressing the accumulation of underfunded highway maintenance needs, across the Borough. The extent of the works will be managed to remain within the funding available. There is a need to report spending back to SCR in time for the declaration to DfT by September 2021.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials SRF Date 23/11/20]

10. Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence to do anything that individuals may generally do. S111 Local Government Act 1972 further provides that a local authority shall have power to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions. As Highways Authority the Council has a statutory duty to maintain the Highway.
11. The monies must be used in accordance with any grant conditions provided. Any goods or services purchased using the funding should be done so in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and any other conditions prescribed by the funder

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials RT Date 26/11/20]

12. Doncaster will receive £5.1m of the total £13.6m which has been allocated to Sheffield City Region. The additional funding will be used alongside the existing LTP allocation and all expenditure will be in accordance with the terms of the funding.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials DK Date 19/11/20]

13. There are no direct HR Imps in relation to this report, but if in future staff are affected or additional specialist resources are required then further consultation will need to take place with HR.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials PW Date 19/11/20]

14. There are no technology implications in relation to this report.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials CT Date 24/11/20]

15. Public Health supports the recommendation to accept the funding from DfT and the programme of improvements undertaken. Good quality roads and pavements are an essential element in encouraging people to travel actively for both work and social purposes as well as ensuring the safety of all users.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials...LG. Date...02/12/20.....]

16. There are no equality implications associated with this decision. The highway network is maintained on a priority needs basis taking account of condition, usage, risk and affordability, therefore all demographic groups are inherently considered.

CONSULTATION

17. The portfolio holder, Councillor J Blackham, was fully briefed prior to taking this decision.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

DfT – Department for Transport

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