



<p><b>Name of the Officer</b> Paul Keeble</p> <p><b>Phone no:</b> 01633 6447733 <b>E-mail:</b> paulkeeble@monmouthshire.gov.uk</p>	<p><b>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</b></p> <p><b>Methodology for prioritising highway resurfacing and maintenance projects</b></p>
<p><b>Name of Service area:</b> Placemaking, Regeneration, Highways and Flooding</p>	<p><b>Date</b> 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021</p>

1. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Targeting highway maintenance programme on the priority routes and identifying the appropriate treatment will support older members of our community by providing better access to services and reducing trip hazards and other safety defects within the public highway. Trips and falls have a greater impact upon older people and by	None	There are no negative impacts. The undertaking of safety inspections followed up by responsive repairs will be carried out on priority routes including those providing access to hospitals, other key facilities and services. This will support our elderly residents and also younger age group as we encourage them to take AT options to travel to school etc.

	applying evidence-based method to prioritise repairs and works is a positive benefit of adopting this approach.		
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Disability	Targeting highway maintenance programme on the priority routes and identifying the appropriate treatment will support mobility impaired users of the community by providing better access to services and reducing trip hazards and other safety defects within the public highway.	None	Highways will undertake an “access audit” on the design of the schemes and incorporate any upgrades such as dropped kerbs and improved crossing points as part of the works. This will also offer a considerable saving over carrying out such upgrades on a separate and piecemeal basis.
Gender reassignment	No impact	N/a	N/a
Marriage or civil partnership	No impact	N/a	N/a
Pregnancy or maternity	Targeting highway maintenance programme on the priority routes and identifying the appropriate treatment will support pregnant users of the community by providing better access to services and reducing trip hazards and other safety defects within the public highway.	None	None
Race	No impact	n/a	N/a
Religion or Belief	No impact	N/a	N/a

Sex	No impact	N/a	N/a
Sexual Orientation	No impact	N/a	N/a
Welsh Language	All works carried out will comply with the the Welsh Language Act and bilingual signage in accordance with the guidance will be displayed at all sites.	N/a	Signage will be proportionate to avoid physical and visual clutter. Highway signs will be DfT approved and bilingual.
Poverty	Improved targeting of resources will offer savings on the council's overall budget and help to keep council tax charges as low as possible. Having a well-managed highway using evidence-based information to target treatment on our priority routes will help the local economy and support opportunities for jobs as well as access to key services.	None	Support for local economy and better employment opportunities etc.


**2. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?** Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. There's no need to put something in every box if it is not relevant!




Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<b>A prosperous Wales</b> Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	The efficient management of the highway network and applying asset management methodology offers value for money service delivery and also improve access to services and job opportunities. A well-managed highway will support a more prosperous Wales by creating an environment which supports	The improved targeting of resources based upon asset management methodology will only support a more prosperous Wales. There are no negative impacts of applying an evidence-based approach to


Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	retail, services, hospitality outlets which in turn attracts businesses and subsequent employment whilst adding to the general appearance of prosperity and vitality of the towns as well as the rural economy.	the preparation of the both the short and longer term highway works programme.
<p><b>A resilient Wales</b> Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	The proposals will seek to create a safer environment for all users of the highway and in particular place a higher importance on active travel by targeting resources on the priority routes. In addition, the identification of the appropriate treatments will reduce the impact upon the environment and all works will be carried out in accordance with methods which have the least impact upon the environment and support MCCs Sustainably and Climate Change Emergency Plan.	WG funding bids will be used in addition to MCC capital and revenue budget in a way which supports climate change objectives and limits the impact upon the ecosystem and natural environment.
<p><b>A healthier Wales</b> People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	The proposals will priorities expenditure on AT routes and therefore support pedestrians and cyclists as well as businesses. Active travel is being promoted and supported by government as a way to engender a heathier lifestyle and a well-managed highway applying asset management methodology will ensure that resources are targeted to those routes which support AT and public transport services.	WG funding bids will be used in addition to MCC capital and revenue budget in a way which supports Active Travel and other healthier choices such as public transport services.
<p><b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	The proposals to develop and apply an evidence-based programme will effectively target resources to keep the highway safe and attractive for residents and visitors. As well as improving the use and viability of the highway network, the programme will	All works will follow the recommendations of the code of practice and relevant design guides including New Manual for Streets and the AT Design Guide.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	establish schemes and treatments which will be sympathetic to the local environment and where possible look to enhance the attractiveness of places.	
<p><b>A globally responsible Wales</b> Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing</p>	<p>The project is about prioritising works in accordance with national and local strategic objectives as set out the MCC Highway Management Plan. This approach will deliver schemes which support the wider social, economic and environmental wellbeing objectives of the Future Generations Act and include improvements in pedestrian safety and active travel opportunities which will encourage people to adopt a healthier lifestyle through walking and cycling.</p>	<p>The improved targeting of resources based upon asset management methodology will only support a global responsible Wales. There are no negative impacts of applying an evidence-based approach to the preparation of the both the short- and longer-term highway works programme.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b> Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation</p>	<p>A well-managed highway network will offer opportunities by improving accessibility for the community to participate in sport, art and recreation activities in line with these wellbeing goal.</p>	
<p><b>A more equal Wales</b> People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances</p>	<p>Monmouthshire has a greater number of small businesses than any other county in Wales. By using asset management principles to make better decisions and target limited resources will held to creating an environment to support those seeking to invest or expand in with the area adding to the prosperity of our towns and rural community.</p>	

**3. How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the sustainable governance principles in its development?**

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p>	<p>The proposals fundamentally support this principle and applying an evidence-based method will help to inform the medium term financial plan and other MCC high level policies and objectives. The handbook will allow the engineer to prepare a detailed short term and indicative longer term 3-year programme and also help in supporting future bids for addition capital funding from within the MCC internal capital programme &amp; asset management group as well as other grants such as those available from Welsh Government. The programme will offer some degree of flexibility in order to take account of changes in funding or external influences outside highways control such as unplanned utility works however the very fact of having a prioritised list of proposed works will allow substitute schemes to be found if required.</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p><b>Collaboration</b></p>	<p>The proposals are in line with the new Code of Practice “well managed highways” and the recommendations have broadly been adopted by MCC Highway Management Plan which establishes actions to ensure that full collaboration with other partners is followed as part of the development of the programme and follow-on works. The Traffic Management and New Roads &amp; Street Works Act are particular pieces of legislation with associated guidance which help to achieve this principle.</p>	<p>The development of the programme and MCC design process includes forums and a check list to ensure adherence to this delivery objective. In addition, the annual review of the MCC Highway Management Plan will allow monitoring of the performance of the programme and offer the opportunity to tweak or review in order to achieve continuous improvement.</p>
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p><b>Involvement</b></p>	<p>The proposals have been drafted in line with the recommendations of the new code of practice which is a collaboration of all local authorities and other partners which included Welsh Government, consultants, contractors and the utilities industry. .</p>	<p>The review of the MCC plan and future updates of the handbook will be adjusted to reflect the views of interested parties via customer feedback and future engagement with service users in order to meet changes in local need. In addition, amendments to the national code of practice will be considered and this document has been written in a way in which it can easily be updated as circumstances change ie best practice or new technologies.</p>
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p><b>Prevention</b></p>	<p>The underlying principles of evidence-based programming is to target resources and undertake work in a timely manner. Timely intervention will avoid failure of the infrastructure and allow more cost effective and appropriate treatments to be used which offer savings in the longer term and as well as value for money. In addition, asset management planning reduces the risk of defects thereby protecting users of the highway as well as strengthening the authority’s ability to defend 3<sup>rd</sup> party claims.</p>	<p>The review of the MCC plan and future updates of the handbook will be reviewed to ensure that it reflects new technology and best practice. It may also need to be adjusted to meet any future changes in legislation or corporate strategy and policies.</p>

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>The proposals will offer an evidence-based method of developing the highway maintenance programme which will offer the community with the benefits of an improved and sustainable service. In addition to offering the user and community a cost effective and sustainable service, asset management also considers the wider impact of works including other bodies who either use or are affected by the highway network. The prioritisation of the programme is based upon the combination of the highway network hierarchy and maintenance factors in order to ensure that these wider considerations are taking into account when preparing the programme.</p>	<p>The review of the MCC plan and future updates of the handbook will be reviewed to ensure that it continues to best reflect the need of users and other bodies who are affected by the highway network and proposed future maintenance works.</p>

**4. Council has agreed the need to consider the impact its decisions has on the following important responsibilities: Social Justice, Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding. Are your proposals going to affect any of these responsibilities?**

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Social Justice	<p>People experiencing poverty may not have access to regional or national services. The proposal offers them an opportunity to access local services via sustainable travel using a well-managed highway network. This will be picked up within the forthcoming local transport plan and further development of the AT integrated network and programme.</p>		



Safeguarding	Not applicable		
Corporate Parenting	Not applicable		

**5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?**

The principles of asset management for the development of maintenance programmes and longer term investment planning is a well-tested and successful method of managing national infrastructure such as the rail network and national grid along with the many other utility services. It is widely used in other countries and the commercial property sector. Local authorities have been working closely with Welsh Government and industry towards adopting asset management for highways and the County Surveyors Society have led on this project through the commissioning of consultants to form a standard framework for highway authorities to follow but with flexibility for it to be adapted to meet local needs and fit with community plans etc.

The method set out within the handbook follows the guidance and offers the most effective tool for managing the councils largest valued asset. The benefits of applying evidence based programme in order to carrying out the most appropriate treatment in a timely manner offers not only significant savings but also removes any subjectivity to ensures that all needs are considered and that the works plan is able to reflect both national and local objectives.

**6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?**

.The proposals will enable highways to deliver an evidence based and most effective highway maintenance service. The method is in line with the national recommended practice and best meets the sustainable agenda as well as other key local and national objectives. .

**7. ACTIONS: As a result of completing this form are there any further actions you will be undertaking? Please detail them below, if applicable.**

What are you going to do	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible
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Establish an evidence based one year firm and three year indicative highway resurfacing programme as set out within the handbook described within the report.	February 2022	Paul Keeble/ Sueanne Sandford
Review and update the programme annually with necessary adjustments to the one year programme and additions/ extension of schemes to prepare the 3 year indicative highway resurfacing programme as set out within the handbook described within the report.	February 2023	Paul Keeble/ Sueanne Sandford

**8. VERSION CONTROL: The Equality and Future Generations Evaluation should be used at the earliest stage, such as informally within your service, and then further developed throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process to demonstrate how you have considered and built in equality and future generations considerations wherever possible.**

<b>Version No.</b>	<b>Decision making stage</b>	<b>Date considered</b>	<b>Brief description of any amendments made following consideration</b>
1	EFGE update as highway maintenance programme is completed and approved. This will be required should any amendments be required.	February 2021	Review of highway maintenance programme