

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
CRAMLINGTON, BEDLINGTON AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA
COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the **Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Committee** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF on Wednesday 20 February 2024 at 5:00 pm.

PRESENT

M Swinburn (Chair)

MEMBERS

L Bowman
E Chicken
W Daley
C Dunbar
P Ezhilchelvan

D Ferguson
B Flux
S Lee
M Robinson
C Taylor

OFFICERS

H Bowers
A Craig

R McCartney

Public: 1

Democratic Services Officer
Programme Officer (Highways
Maintenance) Environment & Transport
Infrastructure Manager, Environment &
Transport

60. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wilczek.

61. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Local Area Committee held on Wednesday, 24 January 2024 as circulated, be confirmed as a true record, and be signed by the Chair.

62. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRAMME AND HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE INVESTMENT IN U AND C ROADS AND FOOTWAYS PROGRAMME 2024-25

The report set out the details of the draft Local Transport Plan (LTP) and Highway Maintenance Investment in U and C roads and footways programmes for 2024-25. Final approval of the programme would be made by the Executive Director for Place and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Improving our Roads and Highways taking into consideration the actual level of funding received from Department of Transport (DfT) and feedback from the Local Area Committees.

Members were asked to comment on the proposals so that comments could be considered in the finalisation of the LTP 2024-25 programme.

R McCartney, Infrastructure Manager, introduced the report advising that the draft LTP programme for 2024-25 was based on a settlement from the DfT from which a sum would be retained by the North East Joint Transport Committee to cover central transport costs. The Council had therefore developed a £26,193,624 LTP programme which consisted of improvements and maintenance schemes over the four key areas of sustainable transport; safety; roads; and bridges, structures and landslips. The full details of the draft programme were set out in Appendices A to D of the report. The Council was also intending to carry out an additional £4,450,000 of highway maintenance investment in U and C roads and Footways programme utilising Council's capital funding with the details set out in Appendix E. The funding for the programme would be subject to approval of the Council's Capital Programme at the County Council meeting on 21 February 2024.

Priorities for the 2024-25 programme had been invited from County Council Members and Town and Parish Councils during 2023.

In response to members' questions/comments, the following information was provided:-

- Mr Craig would clarify whether the address in Burnside was in Bedlington.
- Schemes for U roads would depend on the volume of traffic on the road
- Mr McCartney would investigate the issued of the road at Netherton Lane and respond separately.
- The issues regarding lack of traffic lights at the top of Hartford Road East, Glebe Bank on the Red Lion roundabout and the roundabout by Lidl on Schalksmuhle Road would be looked into separately. The 20 mph traffic signs from the Red Lion to Ridge Farm were in progress.

- The concerns regarding drainage and slippage on Mayfield Road were taken on board however, other roads became priority if there was bad weather. There was current work programme of drainage issues.
- Work approved by the Design Office was entered into the Central System and dates and other information was provided on a monthly basis. Mr McCartney took on board the comments about the spreadsheet.
- With response to the comments regarding blocked gullies in south east Cramlington, work approved, and completed, and lack of communication, Mr McCartney responded that members should email Stephen Sams, Senior Programme Officer with any concerns. He added that the best reporting mechanism was to email Highways Programme as a monthly performance was carried out.
- In relation to the suggestion of suspending the backlog, Mr McCartney stated officers were in regular contact with Road Safety Teams, reviewing and discussing the correct process.
- Area Managers worked alongside Highways Programme Officers for a cross over of work and any areas flagged up.
- Parish and Town Councils were consulted on their priorities for the programme which put forward and assessed on needs.
- The comment on the safety Klondyke Bridge would be looked into.
- In response to measurement of speed on Dudley Lane, mud falls and the conditions of road surfaces, the improvements for Cramlington in the programme would cover the above projects.
- It was requested for more detailed information and a greater level of detail for each LAC area.

All the issues raised would be taken away and looked at.

In discussion, a professionally lead report was suggested with a work strategy meeting for a particular priority, it was stated that if there were any concerns these should be highlighted and reported to councillors, in addition there were other routes to go along, eg, petition.

RESOLVED that:

- a. The report be received and noted.
- b. Members' comments be considered in the finalisation of the LTP Programme and the additional £4.45 million Highway Maintenance Investment in U and C Roads and Footways programme for 2024-25.

63. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19 March 2024.

CHAIR

DATE