

WIRRAL COUNCIL

CABINET – 4 FEBRUARY 2010

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIRS

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to confirm a one-off financial injection of £250,000 funded from balances to the Highway Maintenance Budget for this current financial year to facilitate a programme of emergency road repairs resulting from the recent extreme weather conditions.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members will be all too familiar with the extreme weather conditions suffered nationally and in Wirral. As a result of the poor weather and the continual gritting of the roads, Wirral is in a similar position to all other Authorities in the country in that a large number of road repairs are now required due to the rapid deterioration of the carriageway surfaces.
- 2.2 Members will also be aware that the existing Highway Maintenance budget at this stage of the financial year is substantially spent or committed to our strategic partner Colas for various programmes of work previously supported by Cabinet. At this late stage of the financial year it has not been possible to identify from within existing budgets the required finance to support the programme of emergency repairs. It is anticipated that the programme would require a figure of £250,000.

3.0 EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR PROGRAMME

- 3.1 The Technical Services Department is currently in the process of identifying the extent of these urgent repairs and already a partial programme has been issued to our contractor Colas who will initially carry out a temporary repair to pot-holes with a view to a permanent repair being carried out in the future. It is anticipated this emergency programme of repairs will allow all the pot-holes resulting from the recent adverse weather to be temporarily repaired thus protecting the Council from the potential of increased insurance claims. More permanent repairs will be carried out during the period March 2010 to April 2011 in a more systematic and programmed way to provide better value for money.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is proposed that the programme of road repairs described in this report will be funded from a one-off allocation from balances of

£250,000 to supplement existing Highway Maintenance Capital and Revenue budgets.

5.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Existing staff resources will be used to implement this additional programme of work.

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 There are no specific ethnic minority, elderly persons or equal opportunities implications arising directly out of this report. Maintaining the highways in good condition is of particular benefit for pedestrians who have physical disabilities.

7.0 HEALTH IMPLICATIONS/IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 A well-maintained highway has positive health implications in terms of ensuring the safe and efficient movement of traffic and pedestrians.

8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific community safety implications arising directly out of this report.

9.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A well-maintained highway has positive Local Agenda 21 implications in terms of ensuring the safe and efficient movement of traffic and pedestrians.

10.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no specific planning implications arising from this report.

11.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no specific anti-poverty implications arising from this report.

12.0 SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS

12.0 There are no specific social inclusion implications arising from this report.

13.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no specific human rights implications arising from this report.

14.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

14.1 The programme of additional work described in this report will be across all Wards.

15.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

15.1 No background papers have been used in the preparation of this report.

15.0 RECOMMENDATION

15.1 Cabinet is requested to approve a one-off financial injection of £250,000 funded from balances to the Highway Maintenance Budget to facilitate a programme of emergency road repairs resulting from the recent extreme weather conditions as described in this report.

DAVID GREEN
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