

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Agenda Item	6
Report No	BSAC/13/19

Committee: **Badenoch & Strathspey Area Committee**

Date: **19 August 2019**

Report Title: **Area Roads & Bridges Progress Report - 2018/19**

Report By: **Interim Chief Officer Resources (Community Services)**

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Area Roads & Bridges work undertaken in financial year 2018/19.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

3. Implications

- 3.1 Resource – No implications.
- 3.2 Legal – No implications
- 3.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) – No implications.
- 3.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever – No implications
- 3.5 Risk – No implications.
- 3.6 Gaelic – No implications.

4. Area Capital Programme

4.1 Finance

The capital programme for 2018/19 was approved at the Badenoch and Strathspey Area Committee on 13 February 2018. The programme was presented on the previous year's budget of £450,100.

The 2018/19 capital budget was then set at £486,263 - an increase of £36,163 on the previous year.

Care and Learning had a surplus of funds following the issue of Chromebooks to all Highland pupils. The surplus was allocated to the roads capital budget with £85,985 assigned to Badenoch and Strathspey.

The total capital budget for Badenoch and Strathspey for 2018/19 was therefore £572,248.

4.2 Surface Dressing Schemes

Pre-surface dressing patching started in May 2018 and was completed in June 2018. The patching was extensive due to the severe 2017/18 winter and included hot-tar patching on the A939 Dava brae as well as the usual tar and chip patching.

Surface dressing was undertaken in early August, by the Inverness DLO squad as usual.

Nine sites were surface dressed giving a total of 40,061 sq m covering 6.73 km. This represents 1.7% of the total Council road network in Badenoch and Strathspey.

Completed surface dressing sites are detailed in **Appendix A**.

4.3 Surfacing Schemes

In July and August 2018 outstanding resurfacing schemes were completed in Kingussie at King Street (inlaid) and Market Lane (overlaid), and in Aviemore at Dalfaber Industrial Estate road (inlaid). In total this comprised 2987 sq m covering 0.48 km, representing 0.12% of the road network in Badenoch and Strathspey.

4.4 Footway Schemes

Footway improvements were undertaken at Spey Street and King Street, Kingussie, with the renewal of numerous pavement cross-drains which serve to channel curtilage water from down-pipes and reduce surface water and risk of ice on the pavement in winter.

4.5 Spray injection patching Schemes

Two weeks of jet patching work were paid for from the area capital budget at the end of July and beginning of August 2018.

These sites are detailed in **Appendix A**.

4.6 **Drainage Schemes**

Drainage improvement schemes were identified at Shankland Court and Seafield Court, Grantown-on-Spey.

5. **Structures Assets**

5.1 **Bridges**

In Badenoch and Strathspey there are 116 bridges (60 with a span of over 5 metres, 56 under 5 metres), 15 culverts, and 23 retaining walls that are on adopted roads.

5.2 **Finance**

Structures maintenance and repairs are funded from the Badenoch and Strathspey Area Revenue Budget for which the 2018/19 structures budget was £36,544.

This can be supplemented on a priority basis by a Roads HQ Highland-wide Capital fund of £180,000 for 2018/19, or for large works or bridge replacements by the Highland Council Capital Programme.

5.3 **Bridge Inspection Programme**

All bridges receive General and Principal Inspections. General Inspections are undertaken on a risk-based inspection cycle of either two or three years, as approved at the November 2018 EDI Committee (report EDI/81/18). The risk-based inspection intervals are dependent on condition, exposure and risk of deterioration as set out in the guidance issued by the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS).

Principal Inspections are undertaken at 6, 9, or 12-year intervals.

An inspection programme for all other structures such as retaining walls is being prepared based on a three-yearly cycle of inspections. This inspection programme will be implemented in phases from 2019/20.

5.4 **Bridge General Inspections are undertaken by Area staff.**

This now includes a bridge inspector - Members agreed at the November 2017 EDI Committee (report EDI/23/17) to approve the recruitment of 4 additional Structures Technicians, one for each operational area, i.e. one for the whole of Lochaber, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey. The cost of this is allocated from within the existing area roads maintenance revenue budget.

Area staff duties include the following:-

- Ensuring all General Inspections are undertaken in accordance with the programme
- Compiling a list of all works to be undertaken
- Designing and supervising minor repairs and maintenance works
- Approving design work
- Award of contract for any works externally sourced

- Compliance with Quality Assurance procedures

5.5 2018/19 Bridge General Inspection Programme

Good inroads were made into the back-log of general inspections in 2017/2018.

No GIs were undertaken in 2018/2019 due to conflicting pressures of work.

With the appointment of the new area Structures Technician, and their general inspections commencing in Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey from May 2019, the new Area General Inspections programme is now well under way. Also, further progress has been made with the back-log of general inspections, with the hope that the back-log will be completed by the end of 2019/2020.

Ad-hoc inspections also occurred throughout 2018/2019, whether in response to complaints, or in conjunction with other site visits, for asset management, work programming, or related to weather events for example.

The bridges inspected are listed in **Appendix B**.

5.6 2018/19 Bridge Principal Inspection Programme

Principal Bridge Inspections (PIs) are undertaken on bridges with spans of greater than 5m by the Development and Infrastructure Structures Team based in Alness, costing the Roads areas revenue budget £100,000 in total to undertake Highland-wide. They also undertake General Inspections for larger bridges, with spans of greater than 20m.

There were no PIs programmed for Badenoch & Strathspey for 2018/19. At the end of March 2019, for larger bridges with spans of greater than 20m, 10 bridges were inspected.

The bridges inspected are listed in **Appendix B**.

5.7 2018/19 Bridge Maintenance Programme

The following repairs were undertaken in 2018/19:-

- Broomhill Bridge, River Spey
 - Timber cutwater repairs – replace with replica
 - Timber parapet repairs – strengthen with L-braces
 - Bridge deck pothole repairs – tar & chip patching
- Various minor works to bridges
 - Masonry parapet pointing
 - Steel railing parapet repairs
 - Bridge deck weeding
 - Bridge deck drainage cleaning
 - Bridge deck pothole patching

Designation: Interim Chief Officer Resources (Community Services)

Date: 23 July 2019

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Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey

Background Papers: Committee [Report](#) - Road Maintenance Programme 2019/20
Committee [Report](#) - Road Structures Annual Report
Committee [Report](#) - Road Structures Annual Report

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Completed Capital Schemes

Surface Dressing Sites

- A939 Castle Gant East Lodge to snow gates
- A939 Brae above north snow gates to Moray bound
- B9152 Grampian Road, Aviemore
- B970 Loch an Eilein to Boat house road end
- Grant Road, Grantown-on-Spey
- Chapel Road, Grantown-on-Spey
- East Terrace, Kingussie
- Tait's Brae, Kingussie
- A939 Dava, Heatherbell to Lochanellan, south bound carriageway only

Resurfacing Schemes

- King Street, Kingussie
- Market Lane, Kingussie
- Dalfaber Industrial Estate road, Aviemore

Footway Schemes

- King Street & Spey Street, Kingussie

Jet Patching Schemes

- Braes of Castle Grant, Grantown-on-Spey
- Old Spey Bridge, Grantown-on-Spey
- Laggan – Garvamore – Melgarve
- Dalfaber Road, Aviemore
- Finlarig road
- B970 Ruthven – Insh
- B970 Inshriach – Inverdrurie
- Achlean
- Dunbarry Road, Kingussie
- Gynack Road, Kingussie
- Grantown – various roads within town

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Completed Bridge Inspections

Principal Inspections

Structures Section

No PIs programmed.

General Inspections

Structures Section - over 20m span:

U21040040	GARVA
U21040030	SHERRAMORE
U21040010	SPEY DAM
C11190010	BALNAAN
B91780010	DULNAIN
B91020040	STRAAN
B09700200	NETHY
B09700130	SPEY
C11520010	CROMDALE
F00000280	OLD SPEY

Area Team

Ad-hoc inspections*:

C1139 Broomhill Bridge	Nethy Bridge
C1132 Spey Bridge	Kincraig
A939 Dava	Dava snow gates
A939 Bridge of Brown	Dirdhu
C1126 Glenmore	Rieunachan
B9152 Raitt's Burn	Lynchat
Gynack Bridge, Spey Street	Kingussie
B970 Feshie Bridge	Feshie
B970 Tromie Bridge	Tromie
B9102 Culfoich	Strathspey
U2379 Anaboard Burn	Dava

* on-site inspections in conjunction with other site visits such as responding to a complaint, for asset management purposes, work programming, or related to weather events for example