

(viii) Mr A Jarvie

To the Chair of the Economy and Infrastructure Committee

The most up to date figure show that roughly 15% of the roads maintenance budget has been spent so far. Will this be spent in full this year or will our roads be underinvested in?

The figures provided so far are based on the spend in the financial ledger as at the end of July and this spend is shown as just under £7M. However, there is up to a 6-week time lag between when works are undertaken and the costs of these appearing in the financial ledger, therefore this figure is understated. This figure also does not take into account any activity during the month of August which is when most surface dressing operations are carried out. It is considered that an up-date on Capital Roads spend at the end of October will provide a more accurate position of progress in achieving this year's spend.

It is the case that some of the Strategic Roads Projects (e.g., Infirmary Bridge) we are not able to complete this year but will be carried forward to 22/23. This is also the case for the recent additional award of £9M from the Health & Prosperity fund, which may require to roll forward to 22/23 due to the timing of this financial year and the availability of contractors and materials. The Council is committed to achieving full spend and realising the increased investment in roads and any underspends in this year's allocations will be carried forward into the next financial year.