

Agenda Item	8.
Report No	CC/04/22

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Caithness Committee

Date: 9 February 2022

Report Title: Area Roads Capital Programme 2022/23

Report By: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report details the proposed 2022/23 Area Roads Capital Programme for Caithness Area.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to approve the proposed prioritised Area Roads Capital Programme for Caithness Area.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** – All work will be managed within budget allocations with the Council delivering its legal responsibilities.
- 3.2 **Legal** – The combined programme for Structural Resurfacing and Structural Integrity Improvements enables the Council to meet its duty under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 within the Local Committee area.
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island)** – This report recognises that the local road network serves both strategic traffic and local access to remote communities. Road improvement schemes are selected on both the strategic and local importance and the extent and severity of defects. Noting that funding falls short of addressing all of the known defects, low volume and rural routes may be disadvantaged as prioritisation of limited funding dictates.

- 3.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** – It is recognised that resurfacing operations do have a significant carbon impact. Consideration will be given to preventative maintenance techniques which includes recycling and surface dressing techniques, but the levels of defects often preclude such approaches.
- 3.5 **Risk** – The level of investment across Highland falls short of the budget requirements to maintain a steady state condition of the road network. Deterioration of the overall network will occur with a corresponding risk to the travelling public. An increase in damage claims can also be expected, as the road defects develop
- 3.6 **Gaelic** – This report has no impact on Gaelic considerations.

4. Background

- 4.1 This report outlines the proposed area road capital programme for 2022/23 in accordance with the approved capital budget.
- 4.2 Works are delivered through roads workforce, augmented as required by external contractors. Due to the inter-relationship between the capital and revenue budget to fund the roads workforce, prioritisation to internal delivery will be given, with the use of external contractor being limited to projects where such additional funds permit.
- 4.3 Additional engineering resources from the Project Design Unit are working with the Roads Operational Managers to plan and deliver the works.
- 4.4 It is recognised that the works necessary at any location may be a combination of works that are additional to the surfacing works.
- 4.5 Such surfacing works take time to plan and deliver and it is vital that the programme of works is agreed, as any delay in the agreed programme will impact on the construction programme, which is influenced by the availability of resources and also by the prevailing weather conditions – as summer delivery is more reliable and durable.
- 4.6 We also need to ensure that such works are coordinated with utility companies – so early uploading of the programme aligns with the necessary reporting requirements and allows the coordination of works.
- 4.7 Notwithstanding these works are as proposed in this report it is recognised that variation can be expected, and these will be agreed with members at ward business meetings to maintain a dynamic programme.

5. Budget Allocation

- 5.1 The local allocations capital budget for 2022/23 remains to be established which will be calculated from the approved capital budget allocation being adjusted for any acceleration or slippage in the previous financial year for each area allocation, and also analysis of the road condition survey results.

Consequently the 2022/23 area capital roads programme is based on the previous year's budget (as in **Appendix 1**), which is unlikely to vary significantly from the established budget that will not be determined until early Summer. Should the approved 2022/23 budget differ from the 2021/22 budget then the programme will be adjusted as appropriate.

The local allocations capital budget for 2021/22 for the Caithness Area consists of:-

Budget	Overlay/Inlay	Surface Dressing	Total
Baseline capital budget	£330,636	£261,946	£592,582
£10m Allocation	£230,379	£179,620	£409,999
Ward Allocation			£200,000

5.2 Note Appendix 1 identifies the Health and Prosperity budgets allocated in September 2021, this was front loaded in this financial year. Due to the works programme in 2021/22 being accelerated due to the condition of the network, available budgets for structural overlay and surface dressing have not been identified for 22/23, but this will be adjusted as final out-turn figures are known. Elements such as strip widening (which includes edge strengthening) and passing places have yet to be identified and will be agreed at ward business meetings.

5.3 The Ward Allocation budget is set to £100,000 per ward. Only road or road infrastructure schemes are eligible. Schemes are at Members' discretion.

6. Road Structural Maintenance Programme

6.1 Schemes were selected for inclusion in these programmes on the basis of need using the information gathered from the following sources and have been prioritised with the safety of the travelling public and sustainability of the road network as the main objectives:-

- Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS) data;
- Safety Inspections;
- Service Inspections; and
- Input and feedback from Members

6.2 The Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS) records data which is processed to show rutting, profile, cracking and surface texture. Surface texture is principally used in the preparation of surface dressing programmes. Rutting and profile data is used for surfacing programmes, while cracking data is used in both surface dressing and surfacing programmes.

6.3 All roads are inspected either monthly, quarterly or annually for safety hazards depending on their priority. Roads are also inspected in the course of preparing the works programmes. These inspections, together with specific concerns raised through Members and Community Councils, are considered for inclusion in the works programmes.

6.4 Prior to finalising the programmes, each site is again visited by experienced engineers to confirm the importance of the works against the network and the details of the designs. The current prioritised list is detailed within **Appendix 2**.

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

Date: 18 January 2022

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Appendix 2

2022/23 Priority	Activity	Ward	Route	Road Name	General Description	Average Road Width (m)	Scheme Length (m)	Estimated Cost to Lay
1	Inlay	2	U1865	Braal Terrace	From Junction to School	6	135	£14,580.00
2	Overlay	2&3	B870	Stanstill to Watten	Stanstill to Gersa	3	1500	£67,500.00
3	Inlay	2	U1755	Bowermadden to Gillock	Bower Primary school junction with B876	6	30	£3,240.00
4	Inlay	2	A836	Reay to Thurso	Alexanders at Reay village	6	300	£32,400.00
5	Inlay	2	U4080	Manson's Lane	Junction with Riverside road	6	50	£5,400.00
6	Overlay	2 & 3	C1033	Everley to Crockster Toll	Moss of Mey	3	2000	£90,000.00
7	Inlay	2	B874	Glengolly to Halkirk	Geise to Buckies	1.2	400	£8,640.00
8	Inlay	2	C1001	Isauld to Glengolly	Westfield Bridge	1.2	250	£5,400.00
9	Overlay	2	C1001	Isauld to Glengolly	East of Westfield Bridge	6	700	£75,600.00
10	Overlay	3	C1006	Wester Bridge to Greenland	Auckhorn	5	1000	£75,000.00
11	Overlay	3	C1065	Latheronwheel to Braehungie	Boultach	3	2000	£90,000.00
12	Overlay	2	U2220	Castletown to Stonegunn	Sibmister Bends	3.5	400	£21,000.00
13	Inlay	2	A836	Thurso to John O'Groats	Murkle Edges	1.2	1000	£21,600.00
14	Overlay	3	U1826	Harpsdale Township	Harpsdale loop South side	3	860	£38,700.00
15	Surface Dress	3	U1826	Harpsdale Township	Harspdale loop South west	3	1500	£67,500.00
16	Overlay	2	U1913	Plocan to Brawlbin	Loch Calder	3	1200	£54,000.00
17	Overlay	3	U1113	Achow to Osclay	300m at top of hill	3	300	£13,500.00
18	Overlay	3	U1113	Achow to Osclay	Bulreanrob Farm road	3	400	£18,000.00
19	Surface Dress	2	U4119	Pennyland Drive	Whole road	6	1080	£19,440.00

20	Surface Dress	2	U5493	Orkney View	Whole road	6	370	£6,660.00
21	Surface Dress	2	U5492	Murkle View	Whole road	6	220	£3,960.00
22	Surface Dress	3	U3547	Henrietta Street	Whole road	7.5	440	£9,900.00
23	Overlay	3	U1832	Torbuie	(Upper Achies, Harpsdale)	3	665	£29,925.00
24	Overlay	3	U1241	Newton Row	from Laggan to Virum	3	1080	£48,600.00
25	Overlay	2	U2893	Instack Road	Whole road	3	940	£42,300.00
26	Overlay	3	B874	Poolhoy to Watten Mains	Lynegar	3	500	£22,500.00
27	Overlay	2	U1759	Bowertower	Whole road	3	1920	£86,400.00
28	Overlay	2	U1917	Brawlbin to Shurrery	at Brawlbin Farm	3	1500	£67,500.00
29	Overlay	3	U1093	Burrigill Loop	West side	3	460	£20,700.00
30	Overlay	3	U1097	Mains of Forse	Whole road	3	420	£18,900.00
31	Overlay	3	B874	Lochshell Watten Mains	Watten Mains to Knapperfield	3	1600	£72,000.00
32	Inlay	3	A882	Wick to Georgemas	30 signs at Wick	6	30	£3,240.00
33	Inlay	3	A882	Wick to Georgemas	Milton to the 30 signs at Wick	1.2	250	£5,400.00
34	Inlay	3	A99	Wick to John O'Groats	High St / Bridge St	7	50	£5,250.00
35	Overlay	2	C1033	Everley to Crockster Toll	Instack Brae	3	608	£27,360.00
36	Overlay	2	C1048	Castletown Durrans Mains	Instack Brae	3.5	640	£33,600.00
37	Inlay	3	A99	Wick to John O'Groats	Stemster Road to John O'Groats Guest House	1.2	300	£5,400.00
38	Overlay	2	C1069	Poolhoy to Wester	East of Durrans Mains	3	84	£3,780.00
39	Overlay	2	C1069	Poolhoy to Wester	West of Durrans Mains	3	124	£5,580.00
40	Surface Dress	3	C1053	Lybster to Achavanich	Rumster Forest	3	2200	£19,800.00
41	Surface Dress	2	B874	Poolhoy to Watten Mains	Gillock to Faulds	3	1200	£10,800.00
42	Surface Dress	3	C1029	Occumster to Watten	Lower Camster to Camster Lodge		3500	£0.00

43	Surface dress	3	U5637	Swanson Avenue	Whole road	6	560	£10,080.00
44	Surface dress	3		Coghill Street	Willowbank to John Horne Drive	6	70	£1,260.00
45	Overlay	2	U1755	Gillock to Bowermadden	Hall to Bradsterdorran	3	690	£31,050.00
46	Surface dress	3		John Horne Drive/ Doocot View		6	210	£3,780.00
47	Surface dress	3	U1121	Cairnroich to Achnacraig	Whole road	3.5	900	£9,450.00
48	Surface dress	2	B874	Glengolly to Halkirk	Buckies to Aimster	5	900	£13,500.00
49	Surface dress	2 & 3	B876	Reiss to Castletown	Killimster Moss	6	1200	£21,600.00
50	Overlay	2	U1871	Halkirk to Plocan	Sour Hill to Plocan	3	800	£36,000.00
51	Overlay	3	U1823	Westerdale to Lochmore	Westerdale to Strathmore Lodge	3	5600	£252,000.00
52	Overlay	3	C1029	Occumster to Watten	Lower Camster	3	1100	£49,500.00
53	Overlay	3	U1113	Achow to Oslay	Bulreanrob		400	£0.00
54	Overlay	3	C1029	Occumster to Watten	West Clyth Farm	3	750	£33,750.00
55	Inlay	3	A882	Wick to Georgemas	Oldhall to West Watten	1.2	800	£17,280.00
56	Overlay	3	U1113	Upper Lybster	Ploverhill Junction to Newlands of Lybster Junction	3	200	£9,000.00
57	Overlay	3	U1165	Occumster harbour	Whole road	3	620	£27,900.00
58	Overlay	3	C1053	Lybster to Achavanich	Castleheather to Egnal	3	600	£27,000.00
59	Overlay	2	U1874	Gerston Farm	Whole road	3	480	£21,600.00
60	Overlay	2	U2052	Forss Achreamie	at Achreamie	3	200	£9,000.00
61	Surface Dress	2	U4057	Heathfield	Whole road	6	350	£6,300.00
62	Surface Dress	2	U4038	George Crescent	Whole road	6	185	£3,330.00
63	Inlay	3	U1360	Reiss to Sibster	Near playing field	5	100	£9,000.00
64	Overlay	2	U1300	Halcro to Faulds	at Bower Junction	3	300	£13,500.00
65	Overlay	2	U1727	Reaster to Bowermadden	Auchorn to Murza 2 bits	3	180	£8,100.00

66	Overlay	2	U1731	Lochside to Hunster	above Granton Mains	3	377	£16,965.00
67	Overlay	2	C1069	Poolhoy to Wester	at Tister Bends	3	600	£27,000.00
68	Overlay	3	C1033	Everley Crockster Toll	at Phillip Mains	3	100	£4,500.00
69	Overlay	3	C1247	Whitebridge Scarfskerry	Harrow Harbour	3	670	£30,150.00
70	Overlay	3	C1021	Balnabruich Braemore	A couple of sections on the road	3	1767	£79,515.00
71	Overlay	2	B870	Plocan to Westerdale	Frameside	3	1100	£49,500.00
72	Overlay	3	B874	Watten Mains to Lochshell	Lower Gillock to Lochshell	4.5	1100	£74,250.00
73	Surface Dress	2	C1025	Sordale to Bishopshill	at Bishopshill Junction	3	230	£2,070.00
74	Surface Dress	2	C1069	Poolhoy to Wester	Durran Mains to Hoy Farm	3	1090	£9,810.00
75	Surface Dress	3	U1113	Achow Osclay	Whole road (exception Overlays above)	3	3700	£33,300.00
76	Surface Dress	3	U1109	Achcastle Shore	Whole road	3	854	£7,686.00
77	Surface Dress	2	U2110	Lythmore	Junction to just over bridge	3	706	£6,354.00
78	Surface Dress	3	U1629	Mey Foreshore	East Junction to Highmeat House	3	1060	£9,540.00
79	Surface Dress	3	U1629	Mey Foreshore	West junction to sharp bend	3	1200	£10,800.00
80	Surface Dress	3	U1633	Mey Rigifa	Whole Road	3	755	£6,795.00
81	Inlay	3	U3632	River Street	Roundabout to flower shop	7.5	280	£37,800.00
82	Overlay	2	B870	Glengolly to Plocan	Calder	3	440	£19,800.00
83	Overlay	2	A836	Dunnet Beach	Dunnet	6.4	520	£49,920.00
84	Surface Dress	2	U4209	Sinclair Street	6m up the centre	6	230	£4,140.00
85	Surface Dress	2 & 3	U1656		Scarfskerry Junction to the old church	3	1520	£13,680.00
86	Surface Dress	3	U1408	Keiss Beach	Whole road	3	580	£5,220.00
87	Surface Dress	3	U1434	South Street Keiss	Whole road	5	365	£5,475.00
88	Overlay	2	U1913		Plocan Brawlbin Road Plocan Junction	3	1140	£51,300.00
89	Surface Dress	2	U4084	Mayfield Road	Whole road	6	230	£4,140.00

90	Surface Dress	2	U4391	Burnett Place Thurso	Whole road	6	275	£4,950.00
91	Surface Dress	3	U2411	Mansville Road	Clyth	3	742	£6,678.00
92	Surface Dress	2	U1656		Hill of Rattar Below Farm to Scarfskerry Junction	3	870	£7,830.00
93	Surface Dress	3	C1033		Everley Crockster Toll Road from Phillips Mains to Lyth Junction	3	2100	£18,900.00
94	Surface Dress	3	C1033		Canisbay Memorial to Tresdale	3	770	£6,930.00
95	Surface Dress	3	U1609		Seater Canisbay Hill of Warse Whole Road	5	1700	£25,500.00
96	Surface Dress	3	C1033		Everley Crockster Toll Road from Christian Hill to A99 Junction	3	2000	£18,000.00
97	Overlay	3	U1384		Ruthers of Howe top leg of road	3	176	£7,920.00
98	Overlay	3	U2440	Noss Head Road	Noss	3	600	£27,000.00
99	Overlay	3	A99		Keiss Mains towards dogs nose	6	350	£31,500.00
100	Inlay	2	C1001		Waterplant Houses	1.2	53	£1,144.80
101	Overlay	2	U1727		Reaster Bowermadden Road Hunster to Hartfield	3	100	£4,500.00
102	Inlay	2	A836		Shebster Junction	6	105	£11,340.00
103	Overlay	3	U1360		Reiss Sibster Road at Harland Farm	3	220	£9,900.00
104	Inlay	2	U4115	Park Avenue Thurso	no 27-35 patch	2	46	£1,656.00
105	Inlay	2	C1001		Bardnaclavan	1.2	220	£6,600.00
106	Inlay	2	C1001		Janetstown	1.2	266	£7,980.00
107	Overlay	2	B876		Reiss Castletown at Greenland Junction	3	290	£13,050.00
108	Overlay	3	U3785	Wick Cemetery Road		7.5	177	£19,912.50
109	Overlay	3	U1063		Latheronwheel Houstry	3	3400	£153,000.00
110	Surface Dress	2	U1656		Hill of Rattar below farm to Scarfskerry Junction	3	870	£7,830.00

111	Edge Patching	3	A99		Wick John O'Groats at Freswick Hill	1.2	400	£12,000.00
112	SD Patching	3	B870		Mybster Watten	1.2	200	£6,000.00
113	SD Patching	2	A836		Thurso to Reay	1.2	300	£9,000.00
114	SD Patching	2	C1025	Mountpleasant Brae		1.2	100	£3,000.00