

Agenda Item	5
Report No	SR/2/23

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Isle of Skye and Raasay

Date: 30 January 2023

Report Title: Area Roads Capital Programme 2023/24

Report By: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report details the proposed 2023/24 Area Roads Capital Programme for Isle of Skye and Raasay Area.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to **approve** the proposed 2023/24 Area Roads Capital Programme for the Isle of Skye and Raasay 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 is being best used to maintain the 6,600 kms of roads the Council has responsibility for and reduce risks of failure as much as possible.
- 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 2023/24 in accordance with the approved capital budget.
- 4.2 Works are delivered through the 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 of capital budget for 2023/24 remains to be established and will be calculated from the approved service 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 2023/24 Area Capital Roads Programme is based on the previous year's baseline (£7.2M) Capital budget. It is unlikely to vary significantly from the established budget that will not be determined until early Summer. Should the approved 2023/24 budget differ from the 2022/23 baseline budget then the programme will be adjusted as appropriate.

The local allocations from the baseline (£7.2M) capital budget for 2022/23 for the Isle of Skye and Raasay Area consists of:-

Budget	Overlay/Inlay	Surface Dressing	Total
Baseline capital budget	£303,348	£187,054	£490,401

- 5.2 A programme of Surface Dressing and Overlay schemes for 2023/24 is outlined in **Appendix 2** and this will be augmented by permanent patching utilising the Patcher Pro.
- 5.3 At a recent Ward Business Meeting the members expressed the view that they wished to commit the remaining £44k from earmarked reserves from the Skye and Raasay area share of local car parking income for 2021/22 to Road Maintenance.
- 5.4 The approved 2022/23 Roads Budget local allocations for the Isle of Skye and Raasay Area can be found in **Appendix 1** to this report.

Note Appendix 1 (Roads Budget Allocation – Year 2022/23) also identifies the additional £10m Capital allocation for 2022/23 (an additional £10m was also previously allocated for 2021/22) and £2.5m additional Capital – Health and Prosperity (H&P) budgets (an additional £4.0m having previously been allocated for 2021/22). The available budgets for structural overlay and surface dressing have not been identified for 2023/24, but this will be adjusted as final out-turn figures for 2022/23 are known.

6 Road Structural Maintenance Programme

- 6.1 Schemes are selected for the capital programme as follows:-
- approved capital schemes that remain to be completed; and
 - prioritised ranking of the road network
- 6.2 The following information was used to prepare the prioritised ranking:-
- Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS) data;
 - safety inspections;
 - service inspections; and
 - input and feedback from Ward Members
- 6.3 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. All roads selected for resurfacing have been prioritised based on the criteria above.

- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 The 2023/24 programme is scheduled in **Appendix 2**.

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

Date: 19 January 2023

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(Skye and Raasay)

Isle of Skye and Raasay Area Capital Programme 2023/24

Road No	Name	Length (m)	Width (m)	Treatment	Area (sq. m)
Surface Dressing					
A855	Old Man of Storr North	1500	6.0	Surface Dressing	9000
A855	Staffin Shop - Brogaig	2000	6.0	Surface Dressing	12000
U4971	Staffin Campsite Road	180	3.0	Surface Dressing	540
A863	Gearymore	1200	6.0	Surface Dressing	7200
U4855	Eabost West	750	3.0	Surface Dressing	2250
A851	A87 Junction to Double Grid	1000	6.0	Surface Dressing	6000
A851	Duisdalemore	2500	6.0	Surface Dressing	15000
C1241	Drumfearn	1500	3.0	Surface Dressing	4500
U4746	Castle Road onto C1235	4000	3.0	Surface Dressing	12000
	Total Surface Dressing based on Baseline (£7.2M) Budget Allocation	14630			68490
A855	Grealin – Rigg	4000	6.0	Surface Dressing	24000
B884	Lonmore (Grid) – Osdale River	2000	3.0	Surface Dressing	6000
A863	Lonmore - Roskill	3000	6.0	Surface Dressing	18000
C1231	Vatten – Harlosh	3500	3.0	Surface Dressing	10500
A855	Brogaig - Idrigill	6000	3.0	Surface Dressing	18000

Surfacing					
A855	Rigg (Ice alert & Shed Bends)	500	6.0	Surfacing	3000
A850	Braebost	500	6.0	Surfacing	3000
B884	Glendale Hill (west side)	700	3.5	Surfacing	2450
C1242	Tarskavaig Loop (Achnacloich)	500	3.0	Surfacing	1500
C1243	Camascross (Hill/Bend)	300	3.0	Surfacing	900
B884	Approaches to Ramasaig Junction	600	3.5	Surfacing	2100
	Total Surfacing based on Baseline (£7.2M) Budget Allocation	3100			12,950
A855	Brogaig - Idrigil	500	3.0		1500
B883	Gedintailor	600	3.0		1800
A855	Portree – Storr Lochs (Water Treatment Plant)	500	3.0	Surfacing	1500
U4814	Stormyhill	100	4.0	Inlay	400
B885	Portree – Struan (Hill Road)	400	3.0	Surfacing	1200
U4786	Aird Bernisdale	1200	3.0	Surfacing	3600
U4827	Hinnisdal – Balmeanach - Glenuadarach	600	3.0	Surfacing	1800
U4776	Borve	600	3.0	Surfacing	1800
C1235	Inverarish – Oskaig - Brochel	800	3.0	Surfacing	2400