

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	5
Report No	LA/3/25

Committee: Lochaber

Date: 27 January 2025

Report Title: Area Roads Capital Programme 2025/26

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report details the proposed 2025/26 Area Roads Capital Programme for Lochaber Area.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to **approve** the proposed prioritised 2025/26 Area Roads Capital Programme for Lochaber 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 **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.

3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** - Any risks are mitigated through training.

3.5 **Gaelic** - This report has no impact on Gaelic considerations.

4 Impacts

- 4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.
- 4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.
- 4.3 This is a monitoring report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5 Background

- 5.1 This report outlines the proposed Area Roads Capital Programme for 2025/26 in accordance with the approved capital budget.
- 5.2 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 as required, with the use of external contractor being limited to projects where such additional funds permit.
- 5.3 Additional engineering resources from the Project Design Unit work with the Roads Operational Managers to plan and deliver the works as required.
- 5.4 It is recognised that the works necessary at any location may be a combination of surfacing and works that are required in addition to the surfacing works (e.g., structural integrity improvements, drainage, etc.).
- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 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.
- 5.7 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.

6 Budget Allocation

- 6.1 The Highland Council Budget was set on 14 March 2024, where Members agreed the Roads Capital Budget Allocation for 2025/26 as part of a 3-year investment into Roads. Item 6.10 of [Place Based Approaches to Strategic Capital Planning and Asset Management](#) sets out the total investment into Road Capital over the 3 years.
- 6.2 For 2024/25 a total investment of £20.70m was agreed.

6.3 The local allocations capital budget for the Lochaber Area consists of:-

Budget	Overlay/Inlay	Surface Dressing	Total
Base capital budget allocated	£622,391	£447,170	£1,069,561
Strategic capital budget allocated	£734,900		£734,900
A total allocated for Lochaber			£1,804,461

7 Road Structural Maintenance Programme

7.1 Schemes are selected for the capital programme as follows:-

- approved capital schemes that remain to be completed; and
- prioritised ranking of the road network

7.2 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

7.3 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.

7.4 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. Of course, the weather can have a significant impact over the winter months. These inspections, together with specific concerns raised through Members and Community Councils, are considered for inclusion in the works programmes.

7.5 The 2025/26 programme is scheduled in **Appendix 1**.

Schemes will be undertaken subject to finalised budget allocation.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 20 December 2024

Author: Kristen MacLeod, Roads Operation Manager - Lochaber

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 – 2025/26 Programme of Works

Lochaber Roads Capital Programme - 2025/26 - Appendix 1

Main Programme Works

Route	Road Name /Description	Treatment	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (m2)	Cost (£)	Programmed	Area Capital £
A861	Dalnabreck	Overlay	300	6	1800	£90,000.00	P	£90,000.00
B8007	Ardery	Overlay	300	6	1800	£90,000.00	P	£90,000.00
A861	Roshven	Overlay	500	6	3000	£150,000.00	P	£150,000.00
A884	Acharn Bridge	Overlay	1000	6	6000	£300,000.00	P	£300,000.00
U2256	Lochaber Road	Inlay	315	8	2520	£126,000.00	P - TBC	£126,000.00
U2193	Kennedy Road	Inlay	100	7	700	£35,000.00	P - TBC	£35,000.00
U2377	Invernevis House	Inlay	140	6	840	£42,000.00	P - TBC	£42,000.00
U1570	MaColl Terrace	Inlay	177	6	1062	£53,100.00	P - TBC	£53,100.00
B8007	Sliver Hill -Glenmore	Overlay	400	6	2400	£120,000.00	P - TBC	£120,000.00
U245	Braemore Place	Inlay	50	6	300	£15,000.00	P - TBC	£15,000.00
							Total	£1,021,100.00
B849	Drimnin	Overlay	600	5	3000	£150,000.00		£150,000.00
A884	Carnoch	Overlay	1125	6	6750	£337,500.00		£337,500.00
A884	Acharn Bridge North	Overlay	1000	6	6000	£300,000.00		£300,000.00
B863	North Ballachulish to Kinlochleven Low Rd	Overlay	2036	6	12216	£610,800.00		£610,800.00
B863	Kinlochleven to Glencoe	Overlay	1006	6	6036	£301,800.00		£301,800.00
B8007	Laga to Glenmore Bridge	Overlay	1429	6	8574	£428,700.00		£428,700.00
B8007	Glenmore Bridge to Ockle Rd	Overlay	8773	6	52638	£2,631,900.00		£2,631,900.00
B8007	Ockle Rd to Ferry Pier	Overlay	5458	6	32748	£1,637,400.00		£1,637,400.00
B8043	Kingairloch road	Overlay	1020	5	5100	£255,000.00		£255,000.00
C1094	Glen Etive	Overlay	1224	5	6120	£306,000.00		£306,000.00
C1144	Kinlochhourn	Overlay	1224	5	6120	£306,000.00		£306,000.00
C1150	Morar	Overlay	500	5	2500	£125,000.00		£125,000.00
U041	Rob Roy	Overlay	200	6	1200	£60,000.00		£60,000.00
U111	Cuil Bay	Overlay	1600	3	4800	240000		240000
C1150	Bracara	Overlay	1500	3	4500	225000		225000
							Total	£7,915,100.00

Additional Works

B8004/B8005	Banavie / Gairloch			Surface Dressing	447,391
Various	Lochaber			Structures	£1000,00
Various	Smaller schemes (incl B8007, Claggan, & glen rds)			Major Patching	£220,000
Various	Drainage resolutions			Structural Integrity	£60,000
Various	Storm Damage repairs			Structural Integrity	£50,000
Various	Edge Strengthening			Structural Integrity	£50,000
Various	Road Marking			A, B class roads	£50,000