

Agenda Item No. 4(d)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

1 March 2016

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

MANAGEMENT OF GREEN LANES – APPROVAL OF ACTION PLAN
EXPENDITURE FOR 2015-16

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval for expenditure in respect of the management of Green Lanes.

(2) **Information and Analysis** At its meeting on 24 July 2012 (Minute No. 216/12 refers), Cabinet approved the Policy for the Management of Green Lanes. The report referred to the production and publication of an annual Action Plan which will indicate which projects will be undertaken to improve access on these routes.

The table below shows indicative expenditure for the selected routes. Routes have been selected on the basis that they require immediate attention to or enhancement of the drainage system which, in many instances, has been blocked and the surface washed away. It is important to ensure the repairs that are carried out are adequate and will withstand the occasional extreme rainfall, thereby ensuring the Council's investment is secured. Low cost techniques are being developed to maintain routes, for example using recycled materials. Many of these routes are difficult to access and provide challenges in terms of working in confined areas, for example, between walls, supply materials to site and on steep inclines.

Proposed Schemes	Allocation
Eyam Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) 34/Grindleford RB 32	£25,000
Beet Lane	£25,000
Foolow BOAT 20	£10,000
Brushfield	£40,000
Beeley Hilltop	£25,000
Route Improvements	£15,000
	£140,000

Preliminary discussions with Aecom, the County Council's approved consultants, have commenced with a view to drawing up designs for the repair of these routes. Once agreed, consultation via the County Council's website will allow the public and stakeholder groups to comment on the proposed work, for an eight week period, which will be taken into account where practicable.

Eyam Byway Open to All Traffic 34 continuing as Grindleford Restricted Byway 32

Improved access for all users and repairing damaged surface in the wooded area.

Beet Lane

A non-classified highway linking Chinley to the Pennine Bridleway. Surface badly eroded due to poor drainage.

Foolow Byway Open to All Traffic 20

Preventative maintenance to improve the surface and safeguard against further damage.

Beeley Hill Top

Non-classified highway leading from Beeley Bridge, near Calton Lees to Beeley Moor. The route is badly eroded due to broken drains and damaged culverts.

Route Improvements

The Green Lane Action Plan has delivered improved access for a variety of users. Continued investment will be required to maintain routes. Inspections have revealed that preventative work to enhance and improve repaired routes would be of benefit to avoid catastrophic failure. This is in line with good Asset Management principles. Communication with user groups has improved and the Rights of Way Team is encouraging users to inform officers of damage to routes at a very early stage so that improvements can be made at the earliest opportunity.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The cost of the works will be met from the 2015-16 Local Transport Programme within the Departmental Service Plan, approved by Cabinet on 24 March 2015 (Minute No. 113/15 refers).

(4) **Legal Considerations** The County Council, as the Highway Authority, has a duty to maintain these routes. The legislation requires a highway authority to provide, on a way shown in a definitive map and statement, a surface suitable for classes of legitimate public users for a route of the specified status taking into account the frequency of their respective use.

(5) **Environmental and Health Considerations** The County Council is required to have regard for conserving biodiversity and that duty has now become part of the County Council's working practice. The improvement works will improve the network and supplement the development of a sustainable transport network and increase opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, property and transport considerations.

(6) **Key Decision** No.

(7) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(8) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details - Peter White, extension 39673.

(9) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member:

9.1 Approves the 2015 -16 Action Plan and associated expenditure.

9.2 Agrees that any objections received to the named schemes within the report are resolved by the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment