

Agenda Item No. 7(i)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

23 December 2014

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**COUNTY TRANSPORT PREMISES REPAIRS (HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT
AND INFRASTRUCTURE)**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek Cabinet approval to add the cost of upgrading County Transport's operational premises to the 2014-15 Capital Programme and for the improvements and repairs as outlined in the report to be carried out.

(2) **Information and Analysis**

Background

County Transport maintains the County Council's fleet vehicles and the vehicles of external customers, such as Derbyshire Police, Community Transport Schemes, Peak District National Park Authority and Derbyshire Dales District Council. The service is undertaken at five workshops strategically located throughout the County. In addition, MOT testing is undertaken on behalf of the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency at three of the workshop locations. Unfortunately, the workshops are aging properties and are in need of some urgent repair, the costs of which cannot be contained within the service's allocated revenue budget.

Current Situation

Brimington workshop requires a lighting upgrade to the working area. Health and Safety issues exist relating to the poor lighting of the workshop's internal working area. This is due to old inefficient Sodium type lighting installed at a high level being unable to provide sufficient illumination of the work area. Property Services has recently undertaken a full lighting survey of the work area and the findings conclude that, *"the existing lighting within the workshop is currently providing lighting levels below the minimum recommended standards as defined by CIBSE SLL (Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, Society of Light and Lighting) Guides, and as such fall short of the Health and Safety at Work Act*

1974". To overcome these issues, the report recommends an upgrade of the existing lighting system with LED or other low energy lighting solutions, and on a matched funding basis with the Carbon Reduction Initiative Fund (CRIF).

Derby workshop requires the replacement of the existing vehicle entrance doors. The existing roller shutter type entrance and exit doors, that provide vehicle access into the internal working area, are manually operated by a chain and pulley system. The doors are at the end of their working life and have become expensive to maintain, they have also become difficult to operate. A recent 'near miss' incident occurred when the operating cable failed unexpectedly on one of the roller shutter doors whilst in use. The failure had the potential to cause an injury to the operator. Replacement of the two doors to a lightweight design with electrically powered operating systems will overcome these issues and the Health and Safety risk they pose.

Darley Dale workshop requires the windows replacing to the rear of the premises. The existing single glazed wooden window frames are rotted and weak creating a Health and Safety and security risk, they also have poor heat retention properties. One of the existing windows is designed to be used as an emergency escape route but the condition of the existing window prevents it from use in the case of an emergency. Replacement of the units with PVCu double glazed replacement window units, one of which will be equipped with an emergency escape, will overcome these issues.

Dove Holes workshop requires parts of the external tarmac surface renewing. During the recent years, the area has been patched and pot holes filled to keep it serviceable and safe to use. However, the condition of the existing surface within the entrance/exit and vehicle parking areas have degraded, and it is now in such condition that it creates a trip hazard to customers, visitors and employees alike. The surface area in the location of the security gate has sunk to a point whereby it floods in wet weather, preventing safe key holder operations. To overcome these issues, the entrance/exit gate and some of the walkway, and vehicle parking areas need to be planed off and resurfaced, with other areas patched as required.

Ambergate depot requires parts of the external tarmac surface renewing. The site has a high volume of traffic utilising it for access to premises including; County Transport's Fleet Management and Administration Centre, County Transport's workshop, Highways Laboratory and the Highways Training Centre. The site is also used for the overnight parking of fleet vehicles operated by the Waste Management Service, the Mobile Library operation and Highways Maintenance Teams. The condition of tarmac surface of parts of the site's internal access and exit road system has deteriorated, with other parts in poor

condition. During recent years, the area has had pot holes filled to keep it serviceable and safe to use. However, it is now in such condition that it creates a trip hazard to customers, visitors and employees alike. Further deterioration is also likely to cause damage to vehicles. To overcome these issues, areas of the site's internal access and exit road need to be planed off and resurfaced, with other areas patched as required.

Ambergate workshop requires remedial repairs undertaking to parts of the internal concrete surface. The smooth finished concrete surface has broken up in several areas within the workshop, resulting in a Health and Safety trip hazard for employees. It is especially hazardous for mechanics, when manoeuvring their wheeled toolboxes around into different work areas, as the toolboxes become unstable when travelling over such uneven surfaces. Skimming the affected areas with a suitable screed will overcome these issues.

(3) Financial Considerations Approval is sought for the items below to be added to the 2014-15 Capital Programme.

Brimington workshop – internal lighting (match funded)	£16,480
Dove Holes workshop – external tarmac resurface	£14,630
Ambergate depot – resurfacing work	£14,031
Total	£45,141

Match funding of £16,550 for the internal lighting upgrade is to be met from the Carbon Reduction Initiative fund which is managed and administered through the Carbon and Energy Management team in Corporate Property.

The total expenditure of £45,151 can be funded by a revenue contribution from the Departmental Earmarked Premises Reserve.

In addition approval is also sought to fund the following revenue expenditure from the Departmental Earmarked Premises Reserve.

Derby Workshop - replacement doors	£3,506
Darley Dale Workshop – replacement windows	£1,224
Total	£4,730

Quotations have been obtained for all the items above.

(4) Property Considerations As detailed within the report.

Other Considerations

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

(5) **Key Decision** No.

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

(7) **Background Papers** Held within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer Contact Details – Brian Hattersley, extension 32221.

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That Cabinet approves:

8.1 The addition of the cost of improvements and repairs to the County Transport premises referred to in the report to the 2014-15 Capital Programme.

8.2 The use of Departmental Earmarked Reserve to fund the County Transport premises improvements and repairs referred to in the report, for a total cost of £49,871.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment