



# **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2015**

**‘Warranties regarding contracts on road repairs, including what we had and how they were negotiated’**

**John Kelly**

**Head of Highways & Engineering**

**Bolton  
Council**



# Scope

- Works for the Highway Authority
- Works on the Highway by Others
- Reactive Works (Potholes!)
  - Emergency
  - Planned



# Works for the Highway Authority

- Contract Defects Correction Period
  - Traditionally 1yr from Contract Completion
  - For unknown Defects
  - Fair wear & tear
  - Negligence
- Bolton Highways Framework Contract
  - Surfacing, ironwork
  - Manholes
- Limitations



# Works on the Highway by Others

- Street Works/ GMRAPS
  - Noticing
  - Restriction/ Protection
  - Guarantee Periods
  - Defects
- Bolton's Asset Protection Programme



## Restriction/ Protection

Activity	Category 0, 1 & 2 Roads or Category 3 & 4 Traffic Sensitive Roads	Category 3 & 4 Roads Non-Traffic Sensitive
Reconstruction	5 years	5 years
Resurfacing	3 years	3 years
Other Substantial Road or Street Works	1 years	6 months
Customer Service Connections	20 days	20 days



## Guarantee Periods & Defects

- Guarantee Periods
  - Shallow street works (less than 1.5m in depth) have a 2 year guarantee period from the completion of the reinstatement.
  - Deep street works (excavations greater than 1.5m in depth) have a 3 years guarantee period from the completion of the reinstatement.
- Defects
  - Identified defects (coring or visual)
  - Reinstatement is guaranteed for 2yrs from remedial

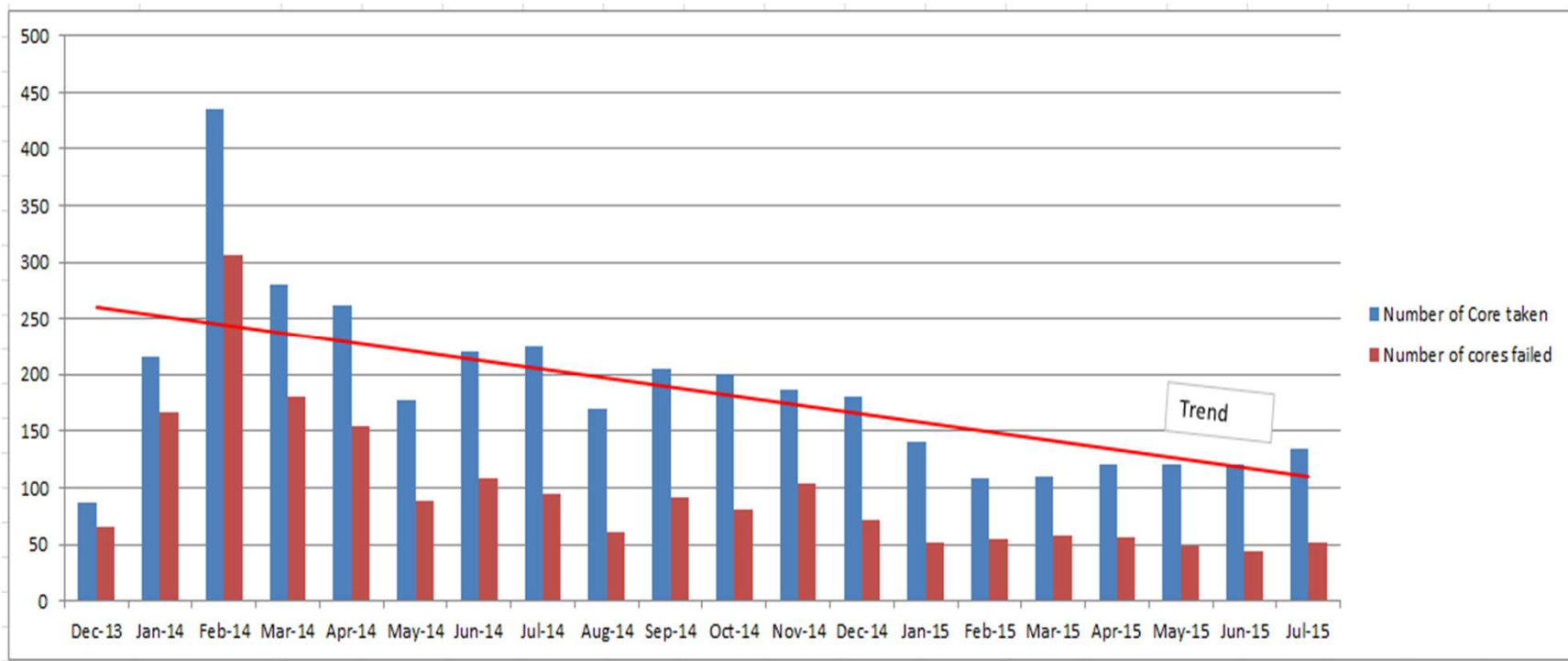


# Bolton's Asset Protection Programme

## Aims & Objectives;

- Ensure that public utility reinstatements are in compliant with the NRSWA "Specification For The Reinstatement Of Openings In Highways"
- Drive both behaviour change and ongoing improvements in the quality of public utility reinstatements.
- Protect Bolton's highway asset, minimising the future financial burden on the council due to failing public utility reinstatements.

# Performance;



	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15
Number of Core taken	87	216	435	280	262	177	220	225	169	205	201	186	180	140	108	110	120	120	120	135
Number of cores failed	66	167	307	181	154	88	109	94	61	91	80	103	71	51	54	58	56	49	44	52
Overall % failure rate	75.9%	77.3%	70.6%	64.6%	58.8%	49.7%	49.5%	41.8%	36.1%	44.4%	39.8%	55.4%	39.4%	36.4%	50.0%	52.7%	46.7%	40.8%	36.7%	38.5%





# Performance Against The Aims & Objectives

- From the onset of the Asset Protection Initiative there has been a steady drive from the public utilities to improve the quality their reinstatements
- The core sampling initiative has been fundamental in changing the behaviour of the public utilities operating within Bolton.
- The improving quality of reinstatements being undertaken by the public utilities, will inevitably reduce the impact on the council's highway maintenance budgets due to failing reinstatements going forward.



## **Reactive Works (Potholes)**

- Emergency Works
- Planned Works



# Potholes Review – Prevention and a Better Cure (HMEP 2012 & 2013)

The Review, highlighted three main themes:

- **Prevention is better than cure** – intervening at the right time will reduce the amount of potholes forming and prevent bigger problems later.
- **Right first time** – do it once and get it right, rather than face continuous bills. Guidance, knowledge and workmanship are the enablers to this.
- **Clarity for the public** – local highway authorities need to communicate to the public what is being done and how it is being done.



# Potholes Review Recommendation Summary

RECOMMENDATION 1	Strengthen Well-maintained Highways
RECOMMENDATION 2	Public Opinion Surveys
RECOMMENDATION 3	Public Communications
RECOMMENDATION 4	Economic Benefits of Highway Maintenance
RECOMMENDATION 5	Commitment of Highway Maintenance Budgets
RECOMMENDATION 6	Prevention is Better than Cure
RECOMMENDATION 7	Informed Choices
RECOMMENDATION 8	Guidance on Materials
RECOMMENDATION 9	Definition of Potholes
RECOMMENDATION 10	Permanent Repairs Policy
RECOMMENDATION 11	Inspection and Training
RECOMMENDATION 12	Technology
RECOMMENDATION 13	Guidance on Repair Techniques
RECOMMENDATION 14	Quality of Repairs and Reinstatements
RECOMMENDATION 15	Coordinating Streetworks
RECOMMENDATION 16	Minimising Highway Openings
RECOMMENDATION 17	Research and Innovation



**QUESTIONS?**