

Report to: Executive Cabinet Member -
Environmental Services

Date: 12th December 2016

Report of: Director of Place

Report No: ECMES/20/16b

Contact Officer: John Kelly

Tele No: (01204) 336419

Report Title: Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy

Non Confidential

This report does **not** contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to gain approval from the Executive Cabinet Member for the publishing and application of the Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy

Recommendations:

The Executive Cabinet Member is asked to:

- (a) Approve the Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy
- (b) Authorise the Director of Place to publish the Strategy and Policy
- (c) Authorise the Director of Place to apply the Policy and Strategy to the management of the highways asset

Decision:

**Background
Doc(s):**

Signed:

Leader / Executive
Member

Monitoring Officer

Date:

Summary:

The purpose of the report is to authorise the proposed Highways Asset Management Strategy and Policy to be a published public document used for the future management of the highways asset.

Background

1. National guidance from the Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme recommends that an asset management policy and a strategy should be developed and published. The policy and strategy should align with the corporate vision and demonstrate the contribution highway asset management makes towards achieving this vision.
2. The Department for Transport have introduced an additional maintenance grant funding mechanism until 2020/21; the Incentive Fund. The IF aims to provide each Highway Authority with boosted highway maintenance capital and is dependent on the authority achieving specified levels of attainments on asset management in order to qualify for the funding. The amount received increases depending on the implementation of asset management improvements in line with national guidance.
3. The IF scheme has three banding levels which are scored through an assessment response to the DfT; Bands 1 to 3 (level 1 is the lowest band). For the year 2017/18, we aim to confirm a Band 2 which will award us an additional £229k. At Band 1 we will receive £153k. In future years, the Incentive Fund reward for higher Bands is increased substantially and for the lowest Band grant payment reduces to zero.
4. To achieve level 2 or 3 we need to have an updated and published Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy. The draft document is attached to this report.
5. The Environmental Services & Waste Policy Development Group considered the draft document at its meeting on 1st December 2016. The Group recommended that the Executive Cabinet Member – Environmental Services approve the draft Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy as submitted.

Recommendation

The Executive Cabinet Member is asked to:

- (a) Approve the Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategy
- (b) Authorise the Director of Place to publish the Strategy and Policy
- (c) Authorise the Director of Place to apply the Policy and Strategy to the management of the highways asset