

**Report to** Norwich highways agency committee  
29 November 2012

**Item**

**Report of** Head of city development services

**9**

**Subject** Highway improvement and maintenance programmes for  
2013-14

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### **Purpose**

To ask members to endorse the highway improvement and maintenance programmes for 2013-14

### **Recommendation**

- (1) That the committee recommends to Norfolk County Council's cabinet to allocate local transport plan funding to the following improvements schemes:

<b>Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
Walking	Bluebell Road Zebra crossing	£60,000
	Hall Road Zebra crossing	£40,000
Cycling	Cycle Signing	£30,000
	Palace Street cycle lane	£10,000
	Thorpe Road contra flow - design	
	Magdalen Street contra flow - design	£35,000
	Mile Cross Lane shared use path -design	
Traffic management	Chapelfield North	£50,000
	NATS design	£50,000
Local safety schemes	Drayton Rd / Whiffler Road	
	Drayton Road / St Martins Road mini rbt	
	Wall Road / Constitution Hill mini rbt	£85,000
	Dereham Rd / Wendene rbt	
	George Borrow / The Avenues	
Minor works	Various	£20,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>£380,000</b>

- (2) Notes the capital maintenance programme as listed in appendix 4.

## **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priorities to make Norwich a safe and clean city and a prosperous city and the service plan priority of supporting the NATS implementation plan

## **Financial implications**

The financial consequences are discussed fully in the report.

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Bremner, city – Environment and development  
Councillor Plant, county – Planning and Transportation

## **Contact officers**

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## **Background documents**

None.

# Report

## Background

1. Each year the November Committee agrees a draft programme for transport capital improvement projects for the following year. The programme for maintenance schemes is set by officers based on technical data. In order to make that process more transparent it is suggested that this committee endorses the maintenance programme for the following financial year at the same time that it agrees the improvement programme

## Available Budgets

2. Members will be aware that in recent years the funding allocated to improvement schemes has been significantly reduced in order to safeguard the funding for structural maintenance. The table below sets out the funding that is available from the county council through the integrated transport grant for the next financial year for both the maintenance and improvement programmes that are included in the Highways Agency agreement

Capital Improvements	£380,000
Capital Structural maintenance	£1,703,732
Revenue Maintenance	£1,671,227

3. Funding for improvement schemes is also available from other sources. Currently it is known that funding will be available in 2013/14 from the Better Bus Area fund from the Department of Transport, the Greater Norwich Development Partnership and developers through their S106 contributions. Other funding may become available during the year.

## Capital Improvement programme

4. At the meeting in May 2010 the committee agreed that until the funding provision recovers no improvement works should be undertaken on the U class network, aside from anything that can be funded from the budget for citywide minor works (bollards, signs etc), unless they make a direct and significant contribution to the Norwich Area Transportation Strategy Implementation Plan (NATS IP) or form part of a local safety scheme implemented to tackle a known proven accident problem. It was also agreed that new or amended parking restrictions would only be considered where there was a proven road safety problem and / or where there were congestion issues on the main road network.
5. To inform the 2012/13 programme the following criteria for inclusion were adopted;
  - Schemes that make an explicit contribution to delivering the NATS IP, such as walking and cycling schemes and public transport improvements.
  - Local safety schemes to solve known accident problems

- Small scale schemes that have local benefits, such as providing dropped kerbs to ease disabled access, making bus stops DDA compliant, introducing / amending essential parking restrictions, new bollards, signs etc
6. It is suggested that the same approach is adopted for the 2013/14 programme.

### **NATS - Walking / Road crossing schemes – draft budget £100,000**

7. Since 2000 the city council has operated a priority list for pedestrian crossing requests. When a request is received an assessment is made of the number of people crossing the road, the time they have to wait for a suitable gap in the traffic and the number of pedestrian accidents occurring at the site. Several requests for pedestrian facilities relate to major junctions or where the solution is a puffin or toucan and therefore the cost of providing them is prohibitive within current budgets. Such facilities would need to be considered as part of a major scheme. An example of this is the St Augustine's Gyratory scheme. For this reason the priority list has now been separated into two; one for the major schemes and one where the solution will cost less than £75k such as a refuge or zebra crossing. The new priority lists are shown as appendix 2.
8. It is proposed that the crossings on Bluebell Road, by North Park Avenue and Hall Road south of Queens Road are progressed in 2013/14 which are the top two priorities in the low cost schemes list

### **NATS - Cycling schemes – draft budget £75,000**

9. Earlier this year a cycle network for the greater Norwich area was adopted as part of NATS. Within the city boundaries officers have identified the places on the network where improvements are needed. Currently work is underway to prioritise those schemes so that they can be delivered in a cost effective way within available budgets.
10. During 2012/13 improvements were made to the orange pedalway, (the inner orbital route) using an £100k of additional LTP funds, that was made available for cycling schemes by the county council early in the financial year. This was on top of the £25k allocated as part of last years bid process. In addition to county council funding some S106 monies and £300k of Sustran's Connect 2 funding was used to build a route between the Open academy at Bowthorpe and Sewell College; parts of the pink and orange pedalways.
11. It is proposed that in 2013/14 the signing of the orange route is completed, cycle lanes are provided on Palace Street and initial design work is started on 3 major improvements; a shared use widened path on the northern side of Mile Cross Lane, and contra flow cycle lanes on both Magdalen Street between Magpie Road and Edward Street, and Thorpe Road between Carrow Road and Clarence Road.

### **NATS – Traffic management schemes – Draft budget £100,000**

12. Members will be aware that a consultation is on going on the proposals to remove general traffic from St Stephens Street and to make Chapel Field North two-way for buses, taxis deliveries, cycles and access. St Stephens Street is funded through the

Department for Transport's Better Bus Area fund, while the Chapel Field scheme is funded through city council, developer (S106), GNDP and LTP funding. £50k of LTP funding is required for 13/14

13. There is also a need to undertake design work for a number of other city centre NATS schemes measures to enable future bids to be made when sources of funding become available. It is suggested that £50k of funding is set aside for this purpose in 13/14

#### **Local safety schemes – Draft budget £85,000**

14. There are 5 locations in the city where the need for engineering measures to address safety concerns have been identified. All five sites have a history of accidents involving cyclists and a bid is being made to the Department for Transport for 50% matched funding for these proposals through the fund it has launched to tackle cycle accident hotspots. These locations are;

- St Martins Road / Drayton Road mini roundabout
- Constitution Hill / wall Road mini roundabout
- Dereham Road / Wendene roundabout
- Drayton Road / Whiffler Road junction
- The Avenues / George Borrow Road junction

15. The total LTP funding required for the 5 schemes is £71k

#### **Minor works – Draft budget £20,000**

16. Each year a sum is set aside for minor works schemes such as ensuring bus stops meet accessibility criteria, new dropped kerbs, essential changes to waiting restrictions, bollards, signs, barriers etc. For 2013/14 it is suggested that this should be £20k.

#### **Capital Maintenance programme – Draft budget £1,553,732**

17. The capital maintenance programme covers the major maintenance schemes. The priorities for these are determined jointly between city and county officers based on the technical data available. The programme covers carriageway resurfacing and surface dressing, footway reconstruction and slurry seal, and drainage schemes.

18. The list of schemes for 2013/14 is attached as appendix 2.

## Appendix 1

### Major schemes costing over £75,000

Priority	Location	Weight	Possible Solution
1	Martineau Lane bus stop	738	Signalled Crossing
2	Mile Cross Rd / Waterworks Rd junction	733	Signalled Junction Upgrade
3	Heartsease Roundabout	603	Major junction improvement
4	Mousehold Lane by Wroxham Rd Rbt	459	Signalled Crossing
5	Newmarket Road by Unthank Road	458	Signalled Crossing
6	Unthank Rd / Christchurch Rd Signals	300	Signalled Junction Upgrade
7	Rouen Rd / Cattlemarket Street junction	292	Signalled Junction Upgrade
8	Dereham Rd / Bowthorpe Rd Signals	252	Signalled Junction Upgrade
9	Wendene signalled junction	213	Signalled Junction Upgrade
10	Guardian Rd / Dereham Rd Rbt	186	Major junction improvement
11	Mile End Rd by Newmarket Road Rbt	180	Signalled Crossing

### Low cost schemes under £75,000

Priority	Location	Weight	Possible Solution
1	Bluebell Road by North Park Avenue	1146	Zebra Crossing
2	Hall Road South of Queens Road	395	Zebra Crossing
3	Grove Rd outside Shops	281	Zebra Crossing
4	Ipswich Rd south of Eaton Rd	244	Refuge
5	Mousehold Lane by War Memorial Cottages	151	Refuge
6	Unthank Road by Leopold Road	137	Zebra Crossing
7	Drayton Road north of St martins Road	136	Zebra Crossing
8	Colman Rd south of Earlham Rd Rbt	133	Refuge
9	Duke Street by St Marys	133	Zebra Crossing
10	Colman Rd South of Henderson Road	79	Refuges - series of
11	City Rd south of Queens Road	75	Zebra Crossing
12	Hellesdon Rd North of Hellesdon Hall Rd	71	Zebra Crossing
13	Bluebell Road Slip Road to A11	67	Refuge
14	Heigham Street by Russell Street	64	Zebra Crossing
15	St Clements Hill South Elm Grove Lane	36	Zebra Crossing
16	Mile Cross Rd by Gibraltar Gardens	34	Refuge
17	Harvey Lane by Pilling Park	9	Refuges - series of

Appendix 2 – Capital Maintenance schemes

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimate £</b>
<b>"A" Roads</b>		
Old Palace Road / Heigham Street junction	Resurfacing	£62,546
Mousehold Lane - Sprowston Road to Corbett Avenue	Resurfacing	£327,055
Mousehold Lane / Roundtree Way junction	Resurfacing	£58,484
Magdalen Road / Magpie Road junction	Resurfacing	£29,617
Whiffler Road / ASDA garage junction	Resurfacing	£295,857
Boundary junction	Resurfacing	£69,569
Drayton Road - Whiffler Road to Boundary Road	Surface Dressing	£27,807
Bracondale - Ber Street to King Street junction	Surface Dressing	£32,881
Sweet Briar Road roundabout	Joint sealing	£7,039
Mile Cross Lane - Weston Road to Partridge Way	Surface Dressing	£23,696
Carrow Road - Broadsman Close to Clarence Road	Surface Dressing	£7,327
Aylsham Road - Drayton Road to Magpie Road	Surface Dressing	£20,030
<b>Total "A" Roads</b>		<b>£961,907</b>
<b>"B" Roads</b>		
Magdalen Road - Lawson Road to north of Albany Road	Surface Dressing	£11,782
Constitution Hill - Wall Road to Chartwell Road	Surface Dressing	£12,429
Earlham Road -East of Convent Road to Cathedral	Surface Dressing	£20,942
Sprowston Road	Drainage	£30,000
<b>Total "B" Roads</b>		<b>£75,153</b>
<b>"C &amp; U" Roads</b>		
Sites to be confirmed subject to 2012 schemes outturn.	Resurfacing	£150,000
<b>Total "C&amp;U" roads</b>		<b>£150,000</b>
<b>Footways</b>		
Slurry Sites	Slurry Seal	£89,700
Womersley Road	Reconstruction	£55,000
Jewson Road	Reconstruction	£13,000
Bethel Street	Reconstruction	£27,500
Bignold Road	Reconstruction	£75,000
Dolphin Path	Reconstruction	£5,500
Edinburgh Road	Reconstruction	£57,500
St Thomas Road	Reconstruction	£15,600
Bullard Road	Reconstruction	£22,000
Auster Close	Reconstruction	£16,072
Javelin Road	Reconstruction	£18,000
Meteor Close	Reconstruction	£64,000
Marshall Road	Reconstruction	£34,000
Gaol Hill (including Exchange Street)	Reconstruction	£23,800
<b>Total Footways</b>		<b>£516,672</b>
<b>Total Capital Maintenance</b>		<b>£1,703,732</b>