

Report for Information

Report to Norwich Highways Agency Committee
24 November 2011

Report of Head of city development services

Subject Major road works – regular monitoring

Item
14

Purpose

This report advises and updates members of current and planned future roadworks in Norwich.

Recommendations

That the committee notes the report.

Financial Consequences

There are no direct financial consequences from this report.

Strategic Objective/Service Priorities

The report helps to achieve the corporate priorities of a strong and prosperous city and the service plan priority to coordinate programmes to achieve best value.

Contact Officers

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Background Documents

None

Report

Background

1. Roadworks are a source of frustration and inconvenience to road users but they are an essential operation and need to be managed carefully to minimise their impact on the travelling public.
2. There are 2 main originators of roadworks; The Highway Authority and public utility companies. Norfolk County Council has a responsibility to improve and maintain the highway, while the public utility companies have a responsibility to provide and maintain their infrastructure, the vast majority of which is located under the highway. From time to time developers are also required to work in the highway, carrying out improvements to facilitate access to their developments.
3. The table attached as appendix 1 sets out the current works that are have been completed since your last meeting, are currently in progress or are planned for the future on the A, B and C class roads within the city. More detailed roadworks information is provided online via the electronic local government information network at <http://norfolk.elgin.gov.uk>
4. The more significant schemes are highlighted below.

Finklegate

5. At the end of December 2010 Finklegate was closed to vehicular traffic when the road and some adjoining properties showed signs of subsidence. The insurance company have recently completed their assessment of the situation and have concluded that the subsiding property needs to be demolished. This will require conservation area consent, which could take several weeks to obtain. The decision has been taken to open the road in a one-way direction (from Ber Street to Queens Road) to alleviate the pressure on the Ber Street / Bracondale junction. This will require some adjustment to the scaffolding around the building, and a 7.5 tonne weight limit will be introduced temporarily on the road as a precaution against further damage to the fabric of the road.
6. The one way system is due to be introduced on 26th November and following on from the date all costs incurred will be the direct responsibility of the insurance company, not the highway authority. Officers are endeavouring to recover at least part of the costs already incurred from the relevant insurance companies.

Christmas Embargo

7. Every year both the highway authority and utility companies are banned from undertaking any planned works on the main road network, or on the majority of streets within the inner ring road, between Remembrance Sunday and the second week of January, the main Christmas shopping / sales period. The exception to this are emergency works that cannot be delayed, and works that

have no affect on the free flow of vehicles or pedestrians.

Utility works

8. In February BT will be starting an 8 week closure of Vulcan Road South to move an underground chamber, required by the construction of an entrance to the new KFC outlet on the ring road. The First Bus main Norwich depot is located on Vulcan Road south and this will cause them and the other businesses on the industrial site major inconvenience. Works in both the city and Broadland will be co-ordinated to ensure that the diversion routes are kept as clear as possible.

2012/13 Resurfacing programme

9. Appendix 1 gives details of the provisional re-surfacing works programmed for the main road network next financial year. At this stage these are indicative, and the exact number of schemes will be confirmed when detailed designs and budget estimates have been prepared.

MAJOR ROADWORKS MONITORING REPORT

Works completed since 15th September

Location	Lead authority	Type of scheme	Traffic management	Dates works took place	Remarks
Foundry Bridge junction	City	Resurfacing	Closure of Riverside Rd – Thorpe Rd & Prince of Wales Rd remain open	18 th & 25 th Sept (Sundays)	Completed in the 2 planned Sundays
Newmarket Road / Eaton Road	City / County	Replacement of traffic signals and improved pedestrian and cycle facilities	Eaton Road and Leopold closed	24 th to 28 th October (half term)	Side roads closed for 5 weeks, rather than the one week suggested in the previous report - change of working methods to minimise disruption on A11

Works in progress

Location	Lead Authority	Type of scheme	Traffic management	Expected completion	Remarks
Finklegate	City / Insurance company	Ground subsidence – Investigatory work in progress	Road Closure, changing to a one way outbound restriction with a 7.5 tonne weight limit.	TBC	Road to be opened one way imminently. Full opening will depend on when the building is demolished.
Dereham Road / Barn Road	County	Provision of a bus lane on the approach to Barn Rd, the closure of St Benedict's and modifications to the junction	None affecting carriageway until Jan 2011, then lane closures & temporary pedestrian crossings	October 2011 through to March 2012	No works will take place on either Dereham Road or Barn Road during the Christmas embargo period.

MAJOR ROADWORKS MONITORING REPORT

Planned future works

Location	Lead Authority	Type of scheme	Traffic management	Anticipated dates	Remarks
Colman Road	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	13 th – 17 th February 2012 (half term)	Scheme is confirmed
Vulcan Road South	BT	Moving an underground chamber	Closure of Vulcan Road south	20 th Feb to 31 st March 2012	Works necessitated by the construction of an entrance to the KFC site
Bull Close Road & Charlton Road	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	2 nd – 6 th April 2012 (Easter Holiday)	Provisional programme
Ketts Hill Rbt	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	9 th 13 th April 2012 (Easter holiday)	Provisional programme
Earlham Road / Farrow Road RBT	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	9 th 13 th April 2012 (Easter holiday)	Provisional programme
St Crispins / Duke Street Rbt	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	16 th – 20 th July	Provisional programme
Dereham Road / Wendene Rbt	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	30 th July to 3 rd August 2012	Provisional programme
Barrack Street / Whitefriars Rbt	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	6 th – 10 th August 2012	Provisional programme
Clarence Road	City	Resurfacing	Not yet known	13 th to 17 th August 2012	Provisional programme