

**Norfolk County Council**

**EDT Committee – 11 March 2016 – Public Statement**

**Surfacing material issues identified by Tarmac**

The County Council has a term contract in place with Tarmac to deliver highway maintenance and construction works across the County. The contract, which commenced in April 2014, includes the provision of the delivering of highway surfacing projects.

In December 2015 we saw the unexpected failure of the material in the top asphalt layer of the surfacing on the recently completed Tombland project in Norwich. This prompted immediate works by Tarmac to replace the material as a matter of urgency. An issue was also identified in the project completed on The Avenues in Norwich and repairs to correct this have also been undertaken. These have been at Tarmac's cost and have not represented additional cost to the tax payer.

Tarmac have since then confirmed that their investigations into these failures have highlighted a wider problem. This relates to the use of a specific aggregate used in the manufacture of the surfacing material, and this has been traced to Tarmac's Ipswich plant and to materials supplied between 9 July 2015 and 15 December 2015. Tarmac are continuing to investigate the exact cause, which at present does not appear to be a uniform problem across all sites, and have appointed specialists to advise on this.

All sites completed for the County Council under its contract during this period (a total of 28) have been assessed by Tarmac and they have currently determined that 8 more sites will require remedial works. The extent and timing of these works will be agreed with the County Council. All works will be planned to ensure there is minimal disruption to the travelling public and all costs associated with the works will be carried by Tarmac.

All other sites will continue to be monitored. All costs for this and any necessary remedial works will also be carried by Tarmac and there will be no additional costs to the County Council. We are confident that all works completed since mid-December 2015, when the aggregate in question ceased being used, are not affected by this issue.

Whilst this is a very unfortunate incident, it is to Tarmac's credit that they have acted swiftly to correct the immediate failures and also to accept the cost of dealing with the sites affected. There is still further work and monitoring to undertake and Tarmac's investigations still need to be concluded, but the County Council is reassured that the right approach has been adopted to deal with this.

**Ends.**

For any enquiries or further information contact David Allfrey (Highway and Major Projects Manager, Norfolk County Council). Tel 01603 223292

28 sites are affected by this issue and these are listed below. Those with an asterisk are those that Tarmac are already planning to complete remedial works, however the scope, extent and timing of this are still to be agreed. Those with double asterisk have already been completed (Tombland and The Avenues, Norwich). Other sites are continuing to be monitored. We still need to agree with Tarmac what remedial works will be required.

**List of sites:**

Park Road, Diss

A11 Cringleford

Lower Staithe Road, Stalham

Church Street/Blackfriars Street, King's Lynn

\*Research Park, Colney

\*Beaconsfield Road, Gt Yarmouth

West End, Costessey

Lindley Street junction (Asda), Norwich

Lodge Farm, Costessey

Heartsease Lane, Norwich

Hempnall Crossroads (A140)

Park Lane/Unthank Road, Norwich

\*Station Road, Wymondham

\*Kitchener Road, Gt Yarmouth

\*A12 to A143 link road, Bradwell

Magdalen Road/Sprowston Road, Norwich

Thorpe Road, Norwich

Wells Road, Walsingham

\*\*Tombland & Palace Street, Norwich

\*Hall Road/Sandy Lane/Bessemer Road, Norwich

\*Beaufort Way roundabout, Gorleston

A1065, Mundford

Rider Haggard Road, Norwich

Burns Bank, Attleborough

Buckenham Road, Attleborough

\*\*The Avenues, Norwich

\*Swan Lane, Long Stratton

B1332 Bungay Road, Arminghall