

Dorset Highways Asset Management Policy and Strategic Approach

Highways Asset Management Policy

Policy statement:

“Dorset Highways will ensure that highway asset management is embedded into the delivery of its highways services in the design, construction, adoption, maintenance, management, administration and disposal of highway assets.

Maximum return on investment will be sought by providing and procuring services which enhance network resilience, minimise risk to highway users, and extend the serviceable life of highway assets.

Dorset’s asset management approach will include a risk based methodology, as promoted in Well Managed Highway Infrastructure.

Dorset Highways will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the Service based on outcome based performance indicators, and feedback from key stakeholders, and seek opportunities for improvement.”

Policy Objectives
To exceed the statutory requirement to maintain the public highway wherever possible
To implement a risk based approach to maintenance, as documented in Well Managed Highway Infrastructure
Understanding the needs of its customers
To provide a safe highway network
To deliver efficient and effective services
To deliver a transparent highway service that promotes two way communication with stakeholders
To optimise links to businesses and communities, which support and promote the economy, by minimising congestion and delays
To protect network resilience
To prolong asset life and serviceability
To maximise return on capital investment

Dorset Highways Asset Management Strategy

Dorset Highways strategic approach to the management of its highway assets will set out a clear and robust strategy that aligns with the corporate objectives of the Council. These are as follows:

- **Safe** - Everyone should feel safe, wherever they live
- **Healthy** – Encouraging people to be healthy and make good lifestyle choices
- **Independent** – Having a choice over how we live
- **Prosperous** – Promoting a thriving local economy providing opportunities for all

Highway assets play a significant role in delivering these corporate objectives through facilitating safe travel, managing asset condition, improving accessibility to businesses and communities, therefore promoting economic and social benefit, and reducing congestion.

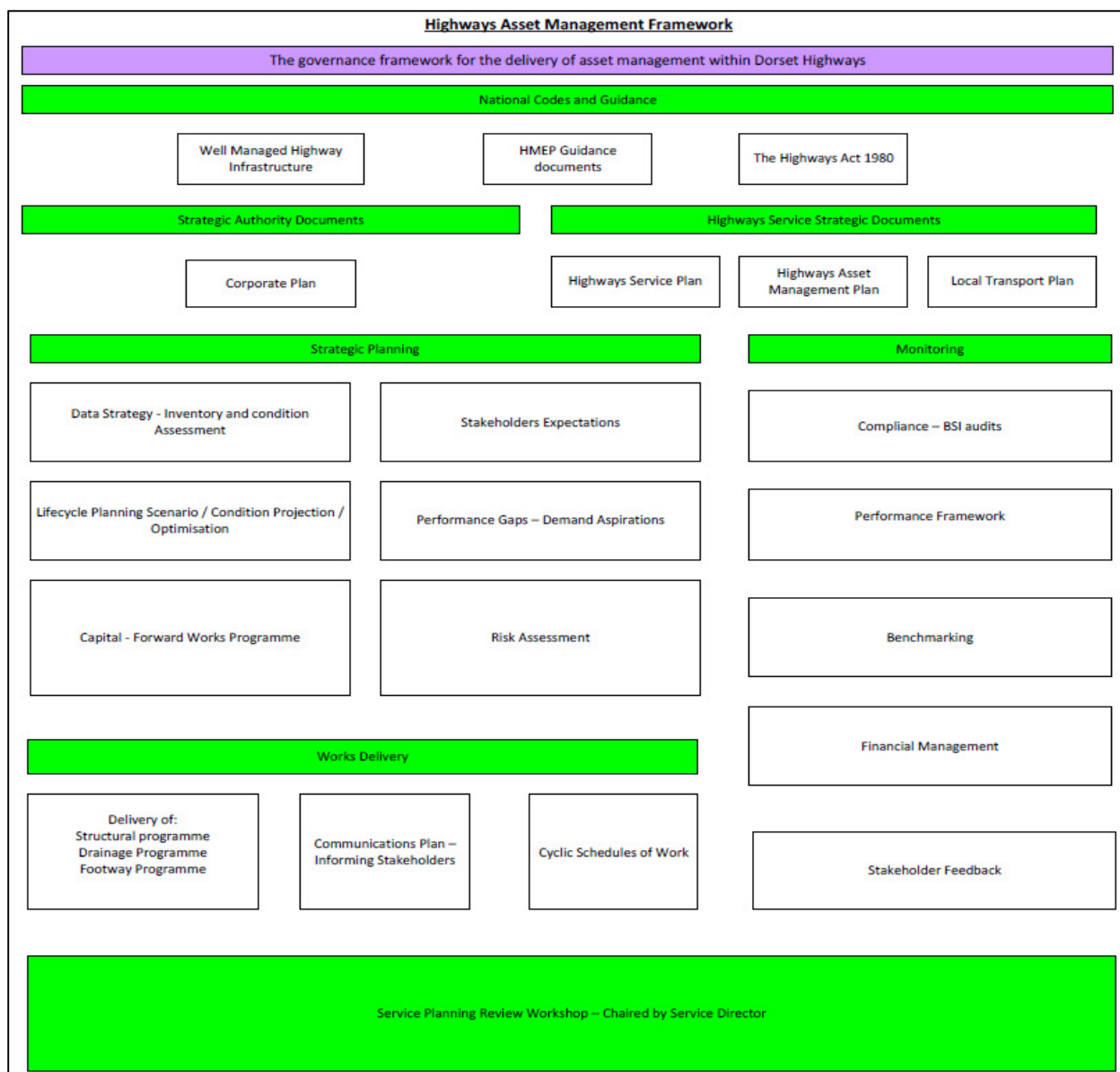
All of these elements will contribute to the Service delivering on its strap line of **'Keeping Dorset Moving'**.

Highways Assets - Key Strategies

Dorset Highways will adopt the following key strategies to deliver on its commitment to embedding asset management within the Service, and in support of corporate objectives:

Dorset Highways' Key Strategies
Invest to improve highway safety
Optimisation of investment to manage asset condition and prolong asset life
Reduce revenue liabilities targeting high defect areas
Invest in schemes that promote alternative and healthy travel choices
Adding network resilience as a weighting to scheme priorities
Maximising opportunities for investment through bidding and ensuring 100% incentive funding from the Department for Transport
Invest in key infrastructure that connects to business hubs
Identify and invest in data strategies to fill knowledge gaps to support informed decision making

The strategy will be effected by the implementation of the Asset Management Framework.



Capital investment will be predominantly focussed on managing the Council’s main highway assets including:

- Carriageways
- Footways/cycleways
- Bridges and structures
- Drainage
- Traffic Control

The success of these strategies will be monitored through the Highways Performance Framework which also aligns to the Corporate ‘Outcome Based Accountability’ (OBA) project.

This identifies particular performance indicators which sit below each of the corporate objectives.

Data Strategies

Each highway asset group has an individual breakdown of issues relating to inventory or condition data, and where gaps, validity or currency of data are identified, a commentary is provided as to what actions are proposed, where relevant.

Investment Strategies

Maintenance of Dorset's highway assets is funded predominantly by the Department for Transport's maintenance block funding, and incentivised funding, plus any additional grants in the form of the Pothole Action Fund (which at this time have not been confirmed).

There are no additional corporate capital top ups agreed for investment in highway assets from 2019/20 onwards.

Therefore the investment strategy for maintenance of highway infrastructure assets from 2019/20 is as follows:

	Annual Investment	% overall budget
Strategic routes (A&B) Preventative treatment (Premium dressing/preservation)	1,475,000.00	12%
Strategic route (A& B) Replacement (resurfacing)	2,646,572.00	22%
Skid resistance	150,000.00	1%
C and C Road Preventative treatment (Surface dressing)	2,000,000.00	16%
C and D End of life replacement (surfacing and patching)	1,220,000.00	10%
Bridges	1,888,000.00	15%
Footways	500,000.00	4%
Drainage (incl grip cutting)	500,000.00	4%
Strategic signs (incl warning and regulatory)	124,520.00	1%
Roadmarkings	125,000.00	1%
Capitalised funding	1,595,000.00	13%
TOTAL	12,224,092.00	