

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Executive Member for Environment and Sustainability

DATE OF MEETING: 27 November 2024

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

1. COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

I continue work on policy proposals for the short, medium, and long-term in partnership with local communities to protect our green spaces and ensure roads and open spaces are well-designed, clean, and safe.

Since the last full council meeting on 16 October 2024, in addition to my regular meetings with the Director of ECS I have:

- Undertaken a site visit to Hall Drive, TS5 regarding traffic flow.
- Met with Boro Doughnut, a local community and environmental network group, to hear representations and discuss their work.
- Attended a meeting of the Crustacean Deaths Collaborative Working Group.

2. WORKS UPDATE

2.1. Traffic signal, junction and crossing upgrades:

- Junction upgrade at Hartington Rd / Brentnall Street – Due February 2025
- Junction upgrade to Marton Rd JCUH – Due Jan 2025
- Junction upgrade to Newport Rd / Marsh Street – To be replaced by Linthorpe Road/Park Road South
- Toucan crossing upgrade at Acklam Rd / The Avenue of Trees - Complete
- Toucan crossing upgrade at Acklam Rd / Urray Grove - Complete
- Puffin crossing upgrade at Grange Rd / Linthorpe Rd – Due February 2025

2.2. Highways:

Verge replacement and footway improvement work programmes have been developed and we are underway with implementation of the programme for 2024/25.

Verge works complete so far are 9 of the planned 15 schemes.

Footway Works complete so far are 14 of the planned 27 schemes.

2.3. Transporter Bridge:

Digital monitoring of the movement of the bridge continues and will feed into the design/repairs going forward. Discussion around options for the future operating model of the structure are ongoing and funding streams need to be resolved to progress the project further.

2.4. A66 Column 20B – Station Viaduct:

All the planned works for 2024-25 are completed and the contractor has vacated the site. The Stack development is now under construction.

2.5. Newport Bridge:

Stockton Borough Council led on the major works to Newport Bridge. The bridge was reopened at the beginning of September, with some additional alterations regarding the locking pins continuing under lane closures. These are due to be completed by mid-November. Further works are required to the bearings which will be programmed for Summer 2025.

2.6. Principal and General Bridge Inspections:

The principal and general bridge inspections contracts have been awarded via NEPO. There are 18 principal and 169 general inspections taking place with the inspection programme completing all due inspections. The inspections are ongoing.

Longlands Road overbridge will be the subject of a full structural and principal inspection. It is expected that extensive repairs, or even full replacement, will be required. A design phase will follow the assessments with major works planned for 2025/26 – Structural inspection and assessment contracts are ongoing.

2.7. A66:

Concrete testing at Hartington Interchange has taken place. Specifications are being drawn up for a works programme to repair the concrete piers. The repair scheme will involve jacking works to support the piers while the damaged concrete is removed and replaced. Ground investigation works have recently been undertaken and we are awaiting the final report which will support the jacking proposals.

The principal inspection at the Newport Interchange has identified areas on the piers which require concrete testing to outline the extent of works required; a specification is being drawn up.

Principal inspections continue on a number of the A66 structures with condition reports imminent. Closure of the A66 at the footbridges and sign gantry near to the A19 took place in mid-October to facilitate the inspection process.

2.8. Borough Road Flyover:

Resurfacing and re-waterproofing of the bridge deck have been completed on Borough Road Flyover. Further works, to replace the bridge joints, bearings, and carry out

localised hydro demolition and concrete repairs, will be commencing later in 2024. Concrete testing works and report are due to start. This work is ongoing.

2.9. A174 Marton Interchange Overbridge:

A174 Marton Interchange Overbridge which include replacing the bridge deck waterproofing and resurfacing, concrete repairs to the abutments and the installation of suicide prevention parapets. The tender process is completed, and the award of contract is imminent. Following the design and parapet manufacturing phase, physical works are due to take place in the summer holidays 2025.

2.10. Linby and Belle Vue Footbridges:

The design phase is ending, and we continue to await the sign-off by Network Rail. Initial estimated prices provided via Network Rail's main contractor for suicide prevention parapets to Linby and Belle Vue footbridges received with a further tender process to follow to ensure best value. This will take place once the design is agreed.

2.11. A66 Hartington East and West Overbridges:

Work to repair the waterproofing/ resurfacing and install new bridge joints was completed in 2023-24. The final six-month inspection for any snagging issues of the works is taking place as part of the principal inspection due for completion within the next month. See note under A66.

2.12. Newport Bridge Approach Structures:

Work is concluding on the repairs to the West Approach Retaining Wall, Cannon Street/ Ayresome Road Bridge, and Newport Approach Bridge – mainly: concrete repairs, anti-bird mesh, renewed lighting, deck-joint replacement, re-waterproofing, and resurfacing works. The works are being co-ordinated with works to Newport Bridge. Road closures from Newport Roundabout with local diversions have now been removed. Lane closures remain in place while calculations are undertaken on the vehicle restraint barriers – it is anticipated that a temporary solution will be installed until such a time that repairs to the footpath cantilevers are programmed to take place. Once the temporary solution is installed the lane closures will be lifted. The footpath/ cycleway ramp at the side of the approach road was temporarily closed to allow repairs and was expected to be completed in October 2024.

2.13. Bridges Small Schemes:

A scope is being drawn up for a tender for several smaller schemes involving minor parapets works, masonry, and concrete repairs.

Spencer Beck Footbridge had its missing parapet replaced in October 2024.

Emergency repairs to the block-set revetment at Broomhead Footbridge in Coulby Newham following vandalism and anti-social behaviour were undertaken in October 2024.

2.14. Principal and General Bridge Inspections:

The general inspections of 169 structures are near completion with the last block of inspections being carried out. Checking of reports ongoing. We are expecting delivery of a large bulk of the reports in November. Some of the principal inspections on structures over rail lines are awaiting the agreed access with Network Rail. The details from the reports are being used to update the backlog of works and delivery programme.

2.15. Longlands Road overbridge:

The bridge is the subject of a full structural and principal inspection which is due to take place on 8th December 2024, with the report due in early 2025. It is expected that extensive repairs, or even full replacement, will be required. A design, principal designer, AIP, and technical approval phase will follow in 2025-26. The major works are likely to be programmed for 2026/27 subject to the necessary funding being in place.

2.16. A66 Structures:

Hartington Interchange - Scope of works for repairs to the concrete piers are ongoing and awaiting results of the ground investigation report prior to completion. Design works, Principal Designer, the Approval in Principle, the temporary Works design, and technical approval will start in financial year 2025/26, with the jacking of the bridges and start of the concrete repairs due to start in the 2025/26 season. Works are planned to be completed in year 2026-27.

Specification for concrete repairs to Newport Interchange is ongoing.

Principal inspections continue on a number of the A66 structures with condition reports due on a number of structures. The A66 footbridges and sign gantry close to the A19 went ahead.

2.17. Borough Road Flyover:

Concrete testing works and report due to be undertaken. Works on the design, Approval in Principle, Principal Designer and technical approval for replacement of the bridge joints, bearings, and carrying out localised hydro demolition and concrete repairs, will likely take place in year 2026-27 based on current budget projections.

2.18. Marsh Road Bridge:

The principal inspection has highlighted concerns regarding the bridge deck. We will be carrying out further site investigation in 2024-25.

2.19. Carriageways:

The 2024-25 resurfacing programme has started. Work started in the Central ward with resurfacing on The Leeway and The Halyard Roundabout outside the football stadium, and North Road between Lloyd St and Stockton St completed. Works are due to be completed between Sainsburys Entrance and Hartington Road in the centre of the town by 11 November. The contractors are expected to move out to Low Lane in Kader and to Newham Way and Dalby Way in Coulby Newham from 11 November; then onto some of the smaller unclassified roads while the Christmas Embargo is in place to ensure minimum disruption to the travelling public during the festive season.

A full dated programme has been agreed with the contractor with the resurfacing works are due to be completed before the end of the financial year. The weekly road works report regularly being updated and can be viewed on the Middlesbrough Council website.

A small number of schemes involving surface dressing and micro asphalt thin surfacing will be tendered shortly to be undertaken in May-June due to the materials requiring dry good weather conditions to be laid to standards and ensure a good longevity of the surface.

3. FLOOD MANAGEMENT

Work continues on the clearance of the gullies in line with the adopted risk-based approach in prioritising gully cleansing. This work commenced in April 2024 and currently we approximately 5,000 gullies have been cleaned.

We continue proactively engaging with the Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water Limited on flood risk management to increase our knowledge of the network and improve the long-term planning for reducing flood risk in Middlesbrough.

4. WASTE AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

In October 2024, a total of 509 service requests were recorded and investigated. These requests were comprised of 366 waste related requests, 94 vehicle related requests and 49 dog related requests (27 of which were reports of strays). In comparison to the same period for 2023, the total number of service requests represents an overall decrease in service requests.

Actions taken:

- 17 stray dogs recovered from the 27 reports with 9 returned to owners and 3 dogs made eligible for rehoming.
- 4 legal microchipping notices served.
- 29 vehicles seized for being either untaxed or abandoned.
- 1 fixed penalty notice issued for duty of care offence.
- 17 commercial duty of care inspections undertaken and notices served for businesses to provide waste transfer note.
- 2 case files prepared and are now listed for the magistrate's courts on 10/12/2024.
- 2 court prosecutions in October for [fly tipping offence](#) and [breach of dog microchipping notice](#) (see below).

5. MONTHLY COMMUNITY SKIP DRIVE

The Monthly community skip drive is organised by the Environmental team through Safer Streets funding. These community action days are an opportunity for residents to make use of free skip provided to dispose of excess household waste. Neighbourhood Safety Officers and partner agencies including Cleveland Fire Brigade, Cleveland Police and Thirteen attend these days of actions to engage with residents in the area and listen to any concerns they may have. This month it was located on Castle way, Grove Hill.