

PLYMOUTH HIGHWAYS:

Network Management: Highways Engineering
Parking Fleet Services Marine Services Garage Services

Briefing Report



I. INTRODUCTION

This briefing report outlines Plymouth Highways' strategic plan and management of the Highway Asset for 2019-2021. 'Keeping our city moving' is a key priority for the authority and this plan sets out how this will be delivered.

With the use of asset management strategies we aim to create quick and seamless journeys around the city, whether it's the school run, commuting or visiting friends and family; we all have a need for regular travel. It is therefore vital we have an effective transport system to support this goal.

Detailed plans for construction, maintenance and management are created in order to achieve this, while working with local businesses, transport operators and people. We therefore strive to deliver a transport system and highways network that works for everyone.

The highway network is the City's largest and most visible publicly owned asset. It is worth in excess of £1.5 billion and includes approximately:

- 3,600 streets with just over 857km of carriageway
- 3,350 footways and cycle paths covering 896km
- 178 highway structures
- 30,880 street lights
- 42,000 gullies
- 178 traffic lights and pedestrian crossings
- 50 car parks
- 12 variable message signs
- 123 CCTV Cameras +6 rapid deployment units
- Dedicated Monitoring station Civic Centre & 1 x Traffic Signal Monitoring Station @ Prince Rock

Engineering

Plymouth City Engineering (Highways) work collaboratively with SWH to enable timely and effective remedial and replacement works on CCTV, Structures and Street Lighting Equipment. Traffic Signal Installations are maintained by Dynniq and an ICP licence enabling WPD cable works to be carried out by SWH has recently been awarded. A risk based approach is documented and an asset register maintained, this influences our budgetary spend profiling

Structures Assets

Structures	HMPE	Other
Bridges	35	62
Culverts	58	46
Footbridges	26	39
Subways	48	10
Tunnels	4	4
Viaducts	1	8
Gantries	2	0
Tramway Bridge	0	1
Retaining Walls	reactive only	
lighting columns	0	2

Street Lighting, CCTV & Traffic Signal Assets

Street Lighting	HMPE
Lighting Columns	30875
Illuminated Bollards	1267
Illuminated Signs	3339
Zebra Crossings	173
VMS	34
School Crossing Patrol Flashers	42

Traffic Signal Installations	HMPE
Traffic Signalised Junctions	117
Pelican Crossings	60

123 CCTV Cameras +6 rapid deployment units

Dedicated Monitoring station Civic Centre & 1 x Traffic Signal Monitoring Station @ Prince Rock

Major Ongoing Projects

Bretonside:

Works Started on site 20th May. Works have been progressing well despite some disruption to the waterproofing due to the wet weather. All of the deck has now been waterproofed and the majority of surfacing works completed. The Granite being laid (public realm works) is on target, with practical completion due 19th September.

Bretonside and LowerTaxi Rank Lighting Scheme (Design & Installation)

Charles Cross Scheme – Lighting, Traffic Signal upgrade and Digital CCTV upgrade

Exeter Street Viaduct – Reinforcement / Waterproofing

Forder Valley Relief Rd - Lighting, Traffic Lights and CCTV design and installation supervision

Mayflower 400 Commemorations & Plymouth Rd Projects– CCTV and Street Lighting Upgrades

Highways Maintenance & Network Management

We ensure that we keep City's Highway network safe and well-maintained. This involves both reactive and planned maintenance works. A well maintained and safe Highways network contributes to keeping the City moving and businesses working.

Successes

Accelerated a programme of pavement repair to tackle the worst potholes across the city.

Fixed more than 2,600 potholes and carriageway faults.

Deliver more than 79,000 square metres of new road / footway surface this financial year, on 40 footway sites and 63 carriageway sites.

Undertaken a detailed survey of the city's roads and footways and have an up-to-date picture of their condition.

We have cleared more than 40,000 gullies as part of our routine inspection and cleansing programme.

Prioritise the unblocking of gullies and drains to tackle flooding.

Defined our major carriageway and footway networks so that potholes and defects on our most important and more travelled routes are prioritised for attention.

A comprehensive survey of all the city's gullies has been undertaken and a database has been developed to include when each gully was last cleaned, the condition and what type it is.

Established a flooding hotspots list. This programme allows the Council to plan more effectively and develop improvement schemes to reduce or remove problems at identified locations.

We carried out resurfacing works at 63 locations in 48 roads, using 8,700 tonnes of material.

We now work to a new Highways Safety Inspection Manual. At the same time, the way we inspect all the various asset types has been reviewed making our inspections risk based in line with the code of practice and our aim to:

We carried out Footway works at 40 locations in 32 roads using 2,200 tonnes of material.

The Council have adopted a risk-based approach for Safety Inspections, in line with the Code of Practice, which allows us to determine and act according to the degree of risk they may pose to the highway user.

We have invested in new innovative technology to help prevent flooding on Plymouth's roads. Smart water sensors, which have been installed in 20 gullies in 4 locations that are prone to flooding, measure water and silt levels and use real-time weather data to send alerts.

2. PARKING SERVICE

The Plymouth Highways Parking Service manage a number of services to as part of Councils duty to manage Plymouths road network, to support residents, businesses and visitors to the city; these include:

- Residents parking schemes; x**53 In Place**
- Parking permits (Business, Residents, Visitors and Healthcare); **19000 Live permits**
- Blue badges and disabled driver parking spaces (DDPS): **4300 added, 11700 in circulation**
- Car park management; **55 Car Parks (5 multi-storey)**
- Cash collection and payment systems; 300 payment machines **£4.4M surplus**
- Enforcement: **56,500 parking and bus lane fines issued**

Service Priorities

The service priorities are as follows: -

- Deliver the Councils manifesto pledge to support the residents of Plymouth through the delivery of permit parking schemes; to support residents who have regular difficulty parking as a result of non-residents parking.
- Deliver the Councils manifesto pledge to deliver 1,000 new parking spaces across the city through reviewing traffic restrictions and working with stakeholders to create additional space for parking.
- To support the city in hosting the Mayflower 400 and the visitor numbers expected at this international event.
- Develop the strategy for meeting the parking needs of the city as Plymouth delivers its ambitious city growth strategy.
- Continue to support the delivery of Highway maintenance, schemes and programmes through surplus generated from Parking Services.
- Continue to support our businesses within the city centre and districts.

- Continue to deliver modernisation and improvements to services to raise customer experience and satisfaction.

Awards and Achievements

The service has had a number of successes throughout 2018/19, these include: -

- Improved access to services, payments accepted at over 100 shops in the City, 28,000 nationally, via Pay Point.
- Supported businesses and shoppers with an additional 200 bays in the West End.
- Support communities through engagement on parking and the delivery of residents parking schemes.
- Implemented a new customer focused system for managing blue badge applications.
- Service nationally recognised as an award winner at the British Parking Awards.
- Expanded our internationally recognised work to support persons with dementia with dedicated parking bays.

Supporting the delivery of Highways Services

The Parking Service is a key contributor to the Highways budget where all surplus generated from parking is reinvested back into the delivery of Highways services and schemes in Plymouth. In 2018/19 the Parking Service contributed £4.7M to Plymouth Highways.

Car Park Management

We manage over 50 car parks across the city including maintenance, cleansing, payment systems, enforcement and cash collection. This includes 17 city centre car parks, 5 multi-storey car parks over 33 district, community and visitor car parks.

We manage a number of parking systems across the city, both On Street and in car parks, offering cashless payment (mobile phone, contactless and card payments) whilst managing a cash collection and banking service.

Permits and Residential Parking Zones

We manage 53 Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ's) across the city and review, in accordance with the Councils CPZ policy, requests new and amended schemes to support commutes in Plymouth. We issue parking permits to residents, businesses, health care providers and visitors to Plymouth.

Blue Badges and Disabled Parking

We issue blue badges, assessing applicants against nationally set criteria and, where necessary, refer applicants for independent mobility assessments. We manage the delivery of disabled driver parking spaces (DDPS) to support persons with mobility impairments to access their homes.

Commercialisation – Managed Parking Services

We provide managed parking services to a number of private land owners and businesses, this includes permit solutions, car park management and enforcement (through the Traffic Management Act 2004) through to cash collection.

3. GARAGE SERVICES

Plymouth Highways manages a garage workshop carrying out servicing and maintenance of the Councils fleet to support the organisation to be able to deliver services in Plymouth.

Service Priorities

The service priorities are as follows: -

- To support the organisation, deliver services through the continued operation of its fleet of vehicles and plant
- To support Fleet in ensuring the organisation complies with the requirements of the Operating Licence, ensuring all services, inspections and MOT's are completed on time and to a high standard
- To generate additional income through the delivery of commercial servicing and MOT's
- To establish a 5 year business model setting out how the garage plans to increase commercial activities and further support the organisation

Awards and Achievements

The service has had a number of successes throughout 2018/19, these include: -

Delivery:

- 311 – Vehicles maintained throughout the year
- 395 – Items of plant maintained throughout the year
- 1486 – Number of vehicle services completed
- 132 – Number of vehicle MOT's completed
- 90 – Average number of vehicle defects presented to the garage each month

Scheduled Servicing and Maintenance of Plant and Vehicles

The garage undertakes the inspections and servicing of over 300 Council vehicles and over 350 items of plant, in accordance with legislation and law, and to ensure compliance to the Councils Fleet Operating Licence.

Unscheduled Maintenance

The garage undertakes repairs to the Councils vehicles and plant, to ensure service continuity and enable the Council to deliver services to the citizens of Plymouth.

Commercial Services

The garage undertakes scheduled and unscheduled maintenance for external organisations and the public, this includes servicing, MOT's and repairs.

4. MARINE SERVICES

- Plymouth Highways manages Boatmen and Boat licences and the Marine Service manage the following summary of services:
 - Boat Mooring Licences Delivery: x450 Issued
 - Maintain navigational aids: x12 operational
 - Boat parks and boat storage: there: x450 moorings x3 boat parks
 - Landing stages and public slipways of which there are 12
 - x1 Full time employee, trading with a £204k operating surplus

Service Priorities

The service priorities are:

- Maintain the effective operation of the waterfront and support the City's vibrant events and celebrations, including the Mayflower 400
- To support the promotion of Plymouth's vibrant waterfront city as one of Europe's finest waterfront cities, where everyone enjoys an outstanding quality of life.
- Continue to develop positive relationships with external bodies, such as the RNLI, to promote safety and awareness to all water users in Plymouth and surrounding areas.
- To work with Local, Regional and National Statutory Harbour Authorities, to maintain good practice in accordance with the Port Marine Safety Code.

Boat Mooring Licences

We manage the mooring licencing of vessels across 500 moorings situated along the River Tamar. We issue licences to Sailing Clubs, Associations and private boat owners, ensuring vessels have appropriate insurance and that moorings have certification to ensure they are safe.

Navigation Aids

We are responsible for maintaining 12 navigational aids to ensure safe navigation of vessels around the Plymouth Sound.

Boatmen and Boat Licencing

We undertake assessments to ensure that vessel operators have the required local knowledge to safely operate. We assess vessels, vessels which carry 12 or less passengers, to ensure that they are safe and have the required equipment for safe operation

Boat Parks and Boat Storage

We manage 3 boat parks around Plymouth providing facilities for people to store kayaks and boats, providing convenient access to the water

Fleet Services

2019/2023 will bring a fleet replacement programme into place to reduce the rental fleet within the council operations, exploring opportunities for innovation that might lead to better performance and minimise whole life maintenance costs. Capital spend will be required to implement the replacement programme.

Reducing vehicles currently at risk of break down, with increased maintenance costs and beyond economic repair providing:

- Stability planning
- Value-for-money procurement
- Continuity for fleet procurement
- Fit-for-purpose vehicles
- Sustainability
- Increased reliability meeting service requirements
- Reduction in fuel costs
- Reducing carbon emissions

Providing a fleet of vehicles less likely to fail and cause disruption to Council services giving greater public image of our services through the introduction of newer, more environmentally friendly aiming to decrease in the environmental impact of the Council's fleet.

Current Fleet profile includes:

- 60 HGV vehicles
- 110 misc. vehicles
- 320 items of plant
- 16 mini buses
- 24 ride on mowers
- 6 electric pool cars

Working with the energy savings trust we are exploring options to renew 10 vehicles replacing with fully electric alternatives to reduce carbon emissions and reduce running costs making use of the current electric infrastructure and increasing charging points within the city.

With the target to be carbon neutral by 2030 new technologies are being investigated, consideration with procurement to reduce our carbon footprint, newer vehicles will bring more efficient Euro6 engines that produce less carbon emissions.

5. PLEDGES

Pledge 13 Plymouth Highways is supporting the delivery of the following manifesto of pledges:

We will reactivate residents parking schemes that are backed by local people to help tackle Plymouth's parking problems and we will create 1,000 new car parking spaces across the city. - Priority Pledge

Location	Gain	Accumulative (Inc Planned)
ToysRUs	160	160
West End car park	30	190
West End – On Street	17	207
Seagrave Rd	10	217
Central park Ave	2	219
Millbay	16	235
Cattedown	50	285
Mutley Scheme	8	280
Totals	214	280

Pledge 17 We will accelerate a programme of pavement repair and tackle the worst potholes across the city. - Priority Pledge

Delivery:

Potholes: 3200 repaired last year, 1420 to date this year

Resurfacing: 65k sq mtrs last year (8 linear kilometres)

Pledge 18 Blocked drains are causing issues right across the city. We will prioritise the unblocking of gullies and drains to tackle flooding. - Priority Pledge

Delivery:

42000 gully's in City of which 8300 on our Resilient Network are cleaned yearly. All remaining gullies are checked with ¼ of these programmed for scheduled clean

Flooding hot spots are inspected weekly with 20 gully water detectors

26 classed as priority 1 (20 locations equipped with remote gully monitoring equipment)

19 classed as priority 2

6 classed as priority 3

Pledge 67 We will continue to invest in more CCTV outside the city centre, particularly on our housing estates and in anti-social behaviour hotspots. - Priority Pledge

Delivery of additional Digital Cameras:

Barbican (Southside St)

Milehouse Junction (Outland Rd)

Devonport Hill,

The Box - Charles Cross,

Forder Valley, Marsh Mills,

Tavistock Rd

Pledge 91 We will trial all-electric road sweepers, which can reduce both air pollution and operating costs. - Priority Pledge

Delivery:

Trials ongoing – site delivery of sweeper 27th September – Prince Rock

XII EVs planned but @ present reviewing utilisation / culture

Pledge 24 We will continue to roll out 20mph zones around our local schools and residential areas to keep pedestrians safe.

20MPH ZONES-

North prospect 19

Cattedown – 18

Code 4 areas = Plympton/Ferndale rd, miller way, old laira

Living Street requests x 100

6. PLYMOUTH HIGHWAYS FUNDING

The below is breakdown of the funding allocation to Highways Services and Programmes for 2019/10: -

FUND BUILD-UP	REVENUE MAINTENANCE	CAPITAL SCHEMES
Carriageways, Winter Maintenance & Emergencies	£729,347	£3,226,499
Footways	£415,500	£1,477,118
Gullies & Drainage	£469, 500	£106,848
Structures	£78,000	£1,478,882
Street Lighting	£2,439,555	£249,417
Signals & ITS	£188,011	£166,744
Street Furniture	£122,000	£35,873
Local Safety Schemes	n/a	£191,937
Living Streets	n/a	£228,104
Keeping Plymouth Moving	n/a	£302,641