

AWARD OF SECTION 31 GRANT

EMERGENCY FUND WINTER DAMAGE 2011/12



In March, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced as part of his Budget statement that £200m was being made available to assist local authorities in repairing damage to their roads caused by the severe winter weather. Plymouth City Council received funding totaling £432,741 administered by the Department for Transport, as a revenue grant under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

This funding was used by the authority to augment its Operation Upgrade campaign, a programme to repair and resurface roads that have suffered the most damage during the unusually harsh winter conditions of 2010/11.

The works were planned, managed and delivered by Plymouth Transport and Highways, a partnership arrangement between Plymouth City Council and Amey LG Limited for the design, maintenance and operation of the city's highway network.

For 2011/12, Plymouth Transport and Highways allocated £2,658,349 for carriageway maintenance. This consisted of:

- £1,820,000 capitalised maintenance funding for resurfacing/reconstruction
- £396,209 revenue funding for carriageway patching repairs
- £442,140 revenue funding for temporary repairs

The grant funding increased the total available 2011/12 budget for carriageway repairs to £3,091,090, specifically complementing the funding for carriageway patching repairs.

The grant enabled the delivery of carriageway patching repair works across 20 wards. These potholes were permanently repaired by planing out the weakened material around the pothole to allow new bituminous material to be placed and compacted giving the repair a longer life until full resurfacing is next planned. The works in August permanently repaired a total of 438 potholes in 11 streets within 8 separate wards. An example of the works is shown below in Kathleaven Street, St Budeaux



Before



After