

# ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY



**Transport and Highways**

June 2013



## INTRODUCTION

This policy has been drawn up by the Transport and Highways Partnership as part of the ongoing development of its overall Transport Asset Management Plan. The effective management of our public infrastructure forms a core task for the Service and this policy extends the principals and practice that have been developed in the management of highway assets and applies them to the wider transport infrastructure managed by the Service.

## PURPOSE AND AIMS

Effective and efficient management of transport infrastructure is a key factor in the ability of the Council to deliver its services. It contributes, and enables other services, to deliver the Council's vision, aims and objectives. Taken together, the infrastructure management by the Service forms the largest and most valuable public asset within the Council's control, with a gross value in excess of £2billion.

The Council shares the following vision with its 2020 partners for Plymouth:

**“To be one of Europe’s finest, most vibrant waterfront cities,  
where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone.”**

This vision has been embraced in the development of the Service's Local Transport Plan which goes on to set out the following Local Transport Objectives, supporting delivery of this vision and the Council's four shared objectives:

- Link communities together
- High quality transport standards for a vibrant city
- Make walking, cycling and public transport the desirable choice
- Maximise the transport contribution to Plymouth' carbon reduction target
- Use transport to drive the local economy

The provision, maintenance and management of public infrastructure such as highways, bridges, Public Rights of Way (PROW), car parks and coastal and maritime assets are key delivery vehicles for the successful delivery of these objectives.

## SCOPE

This policy is applicable to all public infrastructure managed and maintained by the Council as part of the Transport and Highways partnership.

## POLICY STATEMENT

The Council believes that effective asset management is fundamental to the delivery of its services and the delivery of its long term vision and strategy. Asset management principles enable informed decisions to be made about investment and maintenance funding, assist in the targeting of resources to where they can be most effective, and enables the identification and management of the risks associated with its statutory duties to manage and maintain public infrastructure.

## **POLICY DETAIL**

In adopting an asset management approach to the management of our infrastructure we will be implementing a methodology which includes:

- A systematic approach which takes a long-term view
- The consideration of the 'whole life' costs of maintaining an asset
- The explicit consideration of customer expectations and defined levels of service
- The optimisation and prioritisation of works based on assessed needs, derived from the defined levels of service
- The use of lifecycle planning tools to inform the optimal treatment at each stage of an asset's life

The implementation of a formalised approach enables better decision making which fully considers the relationship between cost and performance. This, in turn, allows potential for delivery of an improved level of service within the resources available and can assist in ensuring that the effects of any changes in the levels of service are managed through the efficient deployment of available resources such that risks are identified, quantified and mitigated as may be appropriate.

## **PERFORMANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

The maintenance and management of public infrastructure has been undertaken for many years and, in drafting this policy, we have identified and taken note of all likely risks and performance issues. The mitigation and management of these risks and issues are covered in subsidiary asset specific documents and Engineering Standards that form part of the overall Transport Asset Management Plan.

The effectiveness and application of this policy will be regularly monitored as part of the ongoing management of the Transport and Highways Service and will be formally reviewed as part of the Transport and Infrastructure Business Plan.

## **CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

In drafting this policy we have taken note of public perception surveys and feedback drawn from relevant consultation.

This policy will be made available on the Council's website as part of the suite of documents available to all interested parties.

## **BREACHES AND NON-COMPLIANCE**

Non-compliance with this policy may leave the Council in a position where it is not able to discharge its statutory duty to maintain and lead to a deterioration of the value and condition of publicly owned infrastructure.

## **INFORMATION AND TRAINING**

Further information concerning this policy may be obtained from Plymouth Transport and Highways' Watchman Team: [plymouth.watchman@amey.co.uk](mailto:plymouth.watchman@amey.co.uk).

## **EVALUATION AND REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis, the first review taking place on 4th June, 2014.

Asset Management Policy  
Plymouth Transport and Highways  
Published by Plymouth City Council  
June 2013

**CONTACT**

Watchman Team  
Plymouth Transport and Highways  
Prince Rock Depot, Macadam Road  
Plymouth, PL4 0RZ  
01752 66888  
[Plymouth.watchman@amey.co.uk](mailto:Plymouth.watchman@amey.co.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk/roads](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/roads)

This information is also available in other languages and formats,  
please call: 01752 668000