

Report to the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation)

Date: 19 July 2016

Subject: 2016/17 DfT Pothole Action Fund

Capital scheme number: 32564

Are specific electoral wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The 2015 Autumn Statement announced the establishment of the Pothole Action Fund of £250million which will provide funding over the next five years. This grant is targeted at improving local roads and delivering better journeys.
2. Leeds City Council's allocation from the Pothole Action Fund for 2016/17 is £475,000.
3. The Council has already set aside a budget for dealing with potholes that have formed, been reported and require attention quickly. It is intended that this additional funding will be used to deal with those locations that have the potential to develop in to potholes or that have suffered repeated pothole formation and require localised repair

Recommendations

4. The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to:
 - i) Inject £475,000 into the Capital Programme from the DfT Pothole Action Fund specific grant determination (2016/17) No 31/2749; and
 - ii) Give authority to incur expenditure of £475,000 on pothole repair and prevention work, funded from Government Grant.

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 To inject the £475,000 Pothole capital grant 2016/17 from the DfT into this year's council capital programme and to give authority to carry out the work on the carriageway across the city.

1.2 To briefly set out the principles of the process of identifying the locations for repair

2 Background information

2.1 The 2015 Autumn Statement announced the establishment of the Pothole Action Fund of £250 million which will provide funding over the next five years. The DfT have calculated that this fund will repair approximately one million potholes each year

2.2 The allocation for Leeds for 2016/17 is £475,000 which is estimated to be able to repair 8,962 potholes although emphasis has been put on preventing potholes forming.

2.3 The council has agreed to providing details of how many potholes have been permanently repaired or the length of resurfacing that has taken place to stop the formation of potholes, as well as including what this authority had originally budgeted to spend this financial year and how this additional funding has complemented the wider maintenance expenditure by the authority

3 Main issues

3.1 Design proposals and full scheme description.

3.1.1 The council has already set aside a budget for dealing with potholes reported to the council and that require quick attention. This additional grant will be used to carry out supplementary work at locations that are likely to form potholes or where repairs will remove previous localised maintenance for a more permanent solution

- Patching is being identified from a combination of the following:
 - Locations with a high number of repeat pothole team visits.
 - Locations where the pothole teams have suggested further work required.
 - Locations subject to repeat liability claims.
 - Local knowledge of areas that are already poor surface and/or liable to pothole.

3.1.2 The size of work required to tackle these areas are expected to be in the range of £2,000 to £12,000. An average cost of £7,000 per street will result in 67 locations for patching work (or approximately 2 per Ward).

3.2 **Programme** – The requirements of the grant include that this funding be spent within the financial year 2016/17.

4 Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 Ward members will be informed of the sites within their wards when the locations have been identified.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 The repair work will be targeted on the roads and will supplement the existing annual programme of work as approved by the Cost and Design Report for Planned Highway Asset Maintenance Programmes 2016-17 for which a screening document was produced

4.2.2 A screening document (attached as an appendix) has been prepared and an independent impact assessment is not required for the approvals requested.

4.3 Council policies and the best council plan

4.4 This additional funding is targeted at improving local road condition and delivery better journeys this meets some of the objectives of the Best Council Plan 2015-20 by reducing the likelihood of accidents.

4.5 Resources and value for money

4.5.1 **Full scheme estimate.** The repair work will be delivered with existing resources. There is clearly a finite cost to this work of £475,000. No staff fee will be charged against this budget.

4.5.2 Capital funding and cash flow.

Complete the embedded table below:-

Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2015 £000's	FORECAST				
			2015/16 £000's	2016/17 £000's	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Authority to Spend required for this Approval	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2015 £000's	FORECAST				
			2015/16 £000's	2016/17 £000's	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	475.0			475.0			
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	475.0	0.0	0.0	475.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total overall Funding (As per latest Capital Programme)	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2015 £000's	FORECAST				
			2015/16 £000's	2016/17 £000's	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019 on £000's
Government Grant	475.0			475.0			
Total Funding	475.0	0.0	0.0	475.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Balance / Shortfall =	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

4.6 Legal implications, access to information and call-in

4.6.1 The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) has been delegated the authority to approve the recommendations contained within this report as identified in the Constitution, Part 3, Section 3E

4.6.2 This report is eligible for call in, except where this report relates to revenue funded work, no formal approval to spend is required, and the corresponding part of the report is not eligible for Call-in.

4.7 Risk management

4.7.1 This funding will provide addition work that will help provide long term benefits to residents of Leeds and create the right physical environment for the delivery of vibrant and sustainable communities.

5 Recommendations

5.1 The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to :

- i) Inject £475,000 into the Capital Programme from the DfT Pothole Action Fund specific grant determination (2016/17) No 31/2749; and
- ii) Give authority to incur expenditure of £475,000 on pothole repair and prevention work, funded from Government Grant.

6 Background Papers¹

6.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.