

Councillor Paul Truswell
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Dear Cllr Truswell

Ahead of your first scrutiny board meeting of the new municipal year and your board's planning for their work schedule, I am writing to request the board holds scrutiny inquiries into the highways and resurfacing approach across the city and into the approach toward clearance and repair of drains and gullies across the city.

I raise highways as it seems that schemes are being brought forward, completed and then in need of repair again only a few years later. This is particularly the case with the micro-asphalt process, which has caused pot holes, cracks and damage to the highway to reappear and also later leaves chippings from the dilapidated roads to fill kerbs and drains. I would ask if it is worth considering looking again at how to repair and maintain our highways network, what processes we use for repair and if these are the most cost effective solutions?

Given the impact of Storm Eva on the city it is understandable that flood prevention and alleviation schemes are being examined across the city, as well as the need to repair assets and protect our infrastructure. It seems however that this fails to take into account the gullies and drains from our highway network. While gullies are cleared when reported the process for ensuring their continual clearance and a process for checking gullies and drains across the city is unclear. In addition it remains unclear to members and the public what happens once damaged gullies and drains are reported and if there is a list of jobs for repair. Given the impact of Storm Eva, it seems appropriate that we look at our own assets and what we are doing to alleviate flooding.

I would appreciate if your Scrutiny Board would consider looking into these matters in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Matthew Robinson
Harewood Ward