

**Report to the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation)**

**Date: 19 June 2018**

**Subject: Department for Transport Pothole Action Fund 2018/19**

**Capital scheme number: 32675**

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 establishment of the Pothole Action Fund was announced in the 2015 Autumn Statement. A total of £250 million was allocated to provide funding over the next five years (to 2020/21). This grant is targeted at improving local roads and delivering better journeys thereby contributing to the Best Council Plan 2018/19 - 2020/21 by reducing the likelihood of accidents and improving the city's infrastructure.
2. Leeds City Council's allocation from the Pothole Action Fund for 2017/18 was £711,000. Further announcements by the Government in January and March 2018 have added a further £491,000 and £990,000 respectively to the original funding announced in 2015. Leeds have been allocated an additional sum of £1,481,000 from the Pothole Action Fund. As these announcements were made late in the financial year, the funding and work can be carried over in to 2018/19.
3. An early estimate of £483,000 from the additional funding announced in January 2018 was injected into the capital programme in February 2018. Therefore only the remaining £998,000 needs now to be injected.
4. The Council has already set aside a budget for dealing with potholes that have 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 into potholes or that have suffered repeated pothole formation and require more extensive patching repairs. It particularly allows those locations that have suffered damage from the recent severe weather to be treated.

## **Recommendations**

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

- i) Inject £998,000 into the Capital Programme from the DfT Pothole Action Fund 2017/18 top-up; and
- ii) Give authority to incur expenditure of £1,481,000 on carriageway maintenance, to repair potholes, and prevent potholes forming. This will be made up of £1,322,000 works costs and £159,000 fees, funded from the Government Grant.

### **1. Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 To inject £998,000 in to the capital programme and to seek approval to incur the expenditure of £1,481,000 in total from the Pothole Action Fund 2017/18 top-up from the DfT.
- 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 £250million to provide funding over the following five years. The DfT calculated that this fund will repair approximately one million potholes each year.
- 2.2 This additional allocation for Leeds for 2018/19 is £1,481,000 which is estimated to be able to repair 27,900 potholes although emphasis has been put on preventing the potholes from forming as detailed below.

### **3 Main issues**

#### **3.1 Design proposals and full scheme description.**

##### **3.1.1 The Pothole Action Fund**

3.1.1.1 The Council has already set aside a budget for dealing with potholes reported to the Council 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. Emphasis will be placed on dealing with potholes or other damage caused by the recent severe winter weather on both the strategic and other main roads.

- 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 already have a poor surface and are liable to pothole.

#### **3.2 Programme**

- 3.2.1 The requirements of the grant include that this funding is to be spent within the financial year 2018/19.

## **4 Corporate considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1.1 Ward members have been consulted as to any locations they have concerns for that could benefit from work to prevent pot holes.

### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

- 4.2.1 The pothole repair and prevention 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 2018-19 for which a screening document was produced
- 4.2.2 All this work should have a positive impact on all users of the highway.
- 4.2.3 A screening document has been prepared and an independent impact assessment is not required for the approvals requested. The screening document is shown in Appendix A.

### **4.3 Council policies and the best council plan**

- 4.3.1 This additional funding is targeted at improving local road condition and deliver better journeys. This meets some of the objectives of the Best Council Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21, by reducing the likelihood of accidents and improving infrastructure.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 Full scheme estimate.
- 4.4.2 The pothole repair and prevention work will be delivered by both internal labour force and contractors with existing term contracts. There is clearly a finite cost to this work of £1,481,000.

## Capital funding and cash flow.

Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2017 £000's	FORECAST				
			2016/17 £000's	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020 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						
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Authority to Spend required for this Approval	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2017 £000's	FORECAST				
			2016/17 £000's	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	1322.0				1322.0		
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	159.0				159.0		
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1481.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1481.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Total overall Funding (As per latest Capital Programme)	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH 2017 £000's	FORECAST				
			2016/17 £000's	2017/18 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020 on £000's
Government Grant	1481.0				1481.0		
Total Funding	1481.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1481.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Balance / Shortfall =</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## 4.5 Legal implications, access to information and call-in

4.5.1 As this funding is for the maintenance of the existing road network, this capital scheme is a 'Category B' scheme, and therefore 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.

4.5.2 This report is eligible for call in.

## 4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 This funding will provide additional work that will help provide long term benefits to the 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 £998,000 into the Capital Programme from the DfT Pothole Action Fund 2017/18 top-up; and
- ii) Give authority to incur expenditure of £1,481,000 on carriageway maintenance, to repair potholes, and prevent potholes forming. This will be made up of £1,322,000 works costs and £159,000 fees, funded from the Government Grant.

## **6 Background Papers<sup>1</sup>**

6.1 None.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

## Appendix A

### Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions. Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

<b>Directorate: City Development</b>	<b>Service area: Highways &amp; Transportation</b>
<b>Lead person: Andrew Bellamy</b>	<b>Contact number: 87317</b>

<b>1. Title:</b> DfT Pothole Action Fund 2018/19 and NPIF drainage schemes		
Is this a:		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy / Policy</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Service / Function</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>If other, please specify</b>		

<b>2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening</b>
This screening focuses on the repair of roads to prevent to formation of pothole using funds allocated for that specific purpose by the Department for Transport. The work is routine maintenance and supplements the work already planned from primary capital and revenue funding.

<b>3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration</b>
All the council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.
When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and any other relevant characteristics (for example socio-

economic status, social class, income, unemployment, residential location or family background and education or skills levels).		
<b>Questions</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?		<b>X</b>
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		<b>X</b>
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		<b>X</b>
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		<b>X</b>
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on 1. Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment 2. Advancing equality of opportunity 3. Fostering good relations		<b>X</b>

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

<b>4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration</b>
If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.
Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?</b>  <think (taken="" about="" activities="" address,="" affected)<="" affected,="" and="" be="" consultation="" engagement="" equality="" gaps="" in="" information="" information,="" is="" li="" likely="" of="" or="" place="" planned)="" plans="" proposal,="" related="" scope="" the="" those="" to="" who="" with=""> </think></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key findings</b>  <think about="" and="" another)<="" any="" at="" benefit="" between="" bring="" characteristics,="" communities="" contact="" could="" different="" each="" equality="" expense="" group="" groups="" groups,="" impact="" increased="" into="" li="" negative="" of="" on="" one="" other,="" perception="" positive="" potential="" promote="" proposal="" relationships="" strong="" that="" the="" to="" with=""> </think></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actions</b>  <think about="" and="" how="" impact="" impact)<="" li="" negative="" positive="" promote="" reduce="" remove="" will="" you=""> </think></li></ul>

**5. If you are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you will need to carry out an impact assessment.**

Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	
Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	

**6. Governance, ownership and approval**

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Andrew Molyneux	Head of Highways Infrastructure	11/04/2018

**7. Publishing**

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If you are not carrying out an independent impact assessment the screening document will need to be published.

Please send a copy to the Equality Team for publishing

<b>Date screening completed</b>	11/04/2018
<b>Date sent to Equality Team</b>	
<b>Date published</b> (To be completed by the Equality Team)	