

COUNCIL MEETING – 20 July 2022

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	11/07/2022	11/07/2022

Submitted by: Councillor Andrew Carter
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Infrastructure & Climate
 Relevant Director: Director of City Development

This Council is concerned that the mean average highways maintenance backlog in the city is 19.8 years, pointing to significant under investment in the city’s roads by the current administration.

Council is further concerned that budget amendments to increase highways capital investment have been repeatedly ignored suggesting that the administration do not see highways investment as a priority. This is particularly the case when set against a backdrop of massive borrowing and debt incurred by the authority since 2010, meaning that in 2022/23 up to £63.5m will be spent on MRP debt and interest, money that could have been spent on frontline services or prioritised towards highways investment.

Council further notes significant Government investment in highways and transport in recent years both in Leeds and nationally:

- £173.5m or the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme
- £200m for development and delivery of a mass transit scheme in Leeds
- £4.8m in pothole grant funding allocated in 2021/22
- £2.7 billion in local highways maintenance funding between 2022/23 and 2024/25 to local authorities outside of London and the 8 largest city regions
- £20m Levelling Up funding for West Leeds transport improvements
- CRSTS funding of £830m announced in April 2022

This Council believes that Leeds residents see highways maintenance as a major priority both in terms of road safety, amenity and to prevent damage to vehicles. Council therefore calls for a report to be brought to Executive Board setting out how highways maintenance will be prioritised and how much additional investment the Council will make in the city’s roads in the coming years.

Councillor Andrew Carter

Deadlines for submission

White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons

- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
- Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
