

Environment, Development and Transport Committee

Item No.

Report title:	£1.5m Member allocated revenue funding 2016/17 -highway maintenance and small projects.
Date of meeting:	20 May 2016
Responsible Chief Officer:	Tom McCabe – Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services
Strategic impact Members established a 'Road Maintenance and Small Projects Fund (Potholes)' of £1.5m, using revenue funding for the 2016-17 financial year. In December 2014, the Secretary of State for Transport announced that in England (not including London) £6 billion will be made available between 2015/16 and 2020/21 for local highways maintenance capital funding. In the Government's budget of April 2016 they announced in addition a £250m, £50m per year pothole fund. Norfolk has been allocated £1.616m from the pothole fund for 2016-17.	

Executive summary

This report sets out our proposals to spend £1.5m of additional funding from Norfolk County Council. It also confirms the terms and conditions regarding an additional £1.616m capital funding from the Department for Transport (DfT), which is to be spent on potholes or the prevention of potholes.

Recommendations:

- 1. Members are invited to review and comment on the proposals for spending £1.5m of additional revenue funding.**
- 2. Members to note the criteria for spending DfT pothole capital funding**

1. Proposal

- 1.1. In February, County Council agreed to create a £1.5m road maintenance and small projects fund.
- 1.2. Proposals have been developed in areas and are shown in Appendix 1. The details cover a wide range of highway maintenance activities including drainage, footways (including trods), patching, edge strengthening using recycling and resurfacing based on known local needs. A small element (£160k) of the funds are shown as unallocated to retain some capacity to resolve local issues that may arise in the course of the year.
- 1.3. DfT announced the details for a national capital pothole fund on 7th April; Norfolk's allocation was £1.616m.
- 1.4. DfT apply the following terms and conditions to this funding,
 - Each authority will commit to target these funds on permanently fixing

potholes on the roads or by stopping them forming in the first place. This funding must complement (rather than displace) planned highway maintenance expenditure for 2016/17.

- DfT expect Norfolk County Council to publish an annual report on our website by end of March 2017, showing how much money has been spent, including a quantifiable report of the specific activities that have been undertaken, including the location.

2. Evidence

- 2.1. Given the award of the DfT pot hole allocation our proposals for investing the additional £1.5m of NCC funds have been developed based on road inspections and feedback from and interaction with elected Members and the general public.
- 2.2. The DfT pothole fund allocation will be spent using our asset management approach through a combination of patching, surface dressing and resurfacing.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1. The additional funding of £1.616m for capital maintenance is provided by DfT for repair of potholes or the prevention of potholes over and above the programme already committed to by the council..

4. Issues, risks and innovation

- 4.1. We have established processes and will be able to secure resources required to deliver the proposals. This will include a basket of treatment solutions ranging from patching and 'velocity treatment' to full resurfacing. We will report via our website how the Government's 'pothole' fund is being spent.

5. Background

- 5.1. At the County Council meeting on 22 February 2016 Members approved the setting up of the 'road maintenance and small projects fund' [County Council meeting papers 22 Feb 2016](#)

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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