

Questions and Answers – Streetscene Area Coordinator 06.06.2023

1 Will Heol Fammau and surrounding estates be resurfaced this year?

We are still in the process of finalising our annual programme, however the currently allocated budget will be spent on A and B roads which are in poor condition and are of strategic importance to the county.

The council has a limited budget for resurfacing and unfortunately there is insufficient funding available to deal with the backlog of repair. We very much share the frustration around the condition of some roads, particularly in urban housing estate roads across the county that require treatment.

2 How are roads prioritised for resurfacing or treatment and will the petition received by Streetscene help in prioritising?

Streetscene area coordinators provide condition scores on the road in their areas based on the deterioration of the surface. Technicians will then assess the roads in worse condition for consistency and then using the matrix scoring to achieve a rank order. This matrix ensure consistency across the county and considers such things as the number of vehicles that use the road, proximity to schools, public spaces, public buildings, and overall condition. Unfortunately, the petition and the intention behind it, does not allow us to depart from the established policy for highway asset maintenance and the need to ensure that we gain the maximum benefit from the limit funding available.

4 Can You give commitment that these roads will be resurfaced next year?

No commitment can be given to any road in next year's programme, as the process of surveying and conditions scoring will need to take place again to look at deteriorate and impact of winter weather. The roads on next year's programmes will be subject to overall condition, matrix scoring and available funding.

5 If Road cannot be resurfaced what will happen to them to keep them safe?

All roads will be inspected on a regular basis and any defects will be repaired in line with Streetscene policy.

6 Why have we not used money on resurfacing and not on 20mph scheme?

20mph scheme is a WG initiative, and monies allocated to local authorities to roll out these schemes has been ringfenced, the Council cannot spend this budget elsewhere.

7 Can FCC apply for more funding for resurfacing?

The grant funding schemes available via Welsh Government in relation to highways are for active travel and not for maintenance works, and therefore, currently, we are not able to acquire any further budget beyond the limited resources currently available. WG have previously provided a Highway Refurbishment Grant, and a condition of this grant was that we provided status report each year, however this funding has not been made available in recent years.

8 Which roads are going to be resurfaced in Flintshire?

Works are currently underway to finalise this year's programmes and will be available on FCC's website once completed.

9 Will the footpaths in within the Argoed have any treatment this year?

The limited capital budget available has been allocated to carriageway treatments, and no budget allocated to footway resurfacing. Any defects that meet our intervention criteria within our safety inspection policy will be rectified.

10 Heol Fammau is a rat run due to speed humps can these be removed?

Traffic calming is in place on Chambers Lane to reduce traffic speeds nearby, and on routes to schools. It is unlikely that we could justify removing these features and this would be subject to available funding.

Other Questions asked: -

If we have a mild winter will there be any opportunity to resurface with left over budget?

Winter maintenance budget is ringfenced and claimed from WG.

Why doesn't more taxpayers' money go to resurfacing?

The Council's budget and finance are not set by Streetscene, they are set by WG and the Council's budget setting process. Streetscene can only deliver its services with the money allocated. Further information regarding how the budget is allocated can be found on FCC's website.

Where does Heol Fammau and other roads in Mynydd Isa score on the matrix ranking order?

FCC only have a small budget for resurfacing and will prioritise scoring on A, B and C roads to ensure that we gain the maximum benefit from the limit funding available. The estate roads current position on the matrix is irrelevant for next year's programmes, as the whole process will start again with condition surveys taking place across the network following the winter period. This ensures that general deterioration, and deterioration caused during the winter months are assessed prior to prioritisation.

Do FCC monitor utility companies as they have just finished works on Heol Fammau footpath?

FCC inspector will carry out a full inspection within 2 weeks.