

## Highways Asset Management Policy

1. The City Council understands the vital role played by Manchester's highway network in supporting the authority's 'Our Manchester' vision and its strategy for the next ten years, namely:
  - **A Connected City** - An integrated, smart, clean transport network will reflect the city's changing shape and the way people move around. We'll have more cycling and walking, with the improved infrastructure and signage needed. The city will be at the centre of first class networks – locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
  - **A thriving & sustainable City** - We'll have a diverse, distinctive and well-connected economy creating jobs and opportunities for all and good support for businesses, established and growing. Transport plays a vital role in Manchester's economic vitality. Regeneration aspirations will rely on effective transport links to enable employees and visitors to access new homes and workplaces, and for the business in and around our City to grow.
  - **A progressive & equitable City** - Providing infrastructure access for all to employment, education, healthcare, leisure and social opportunities enables people to make the most of life, supporting stronger communities;
  - **A liveable & low carbon City** - We'll encourage walking, cycling and public transport with more investment in the infrastructure needed.
2. A well maintained highway network is key to the future economic prosperity of Manchester and the quality of life of its residents.
3. The City Council is committed to making the best use of its budgets, and advocates an asset management approach for the maintenance of its highway network, in order to help deliver the best long term outcomes for local communities.
4. To help meet the City Council's key priorities outlined in our Corporate Plan, as well as the challenges identified in Greater Manchester's Local Transport Plan (LTP3) we will aim to achieve the following outcomes:

### ***Support Connections;***

- Connect Manchester people and places through good quality roads, sustainable transport and better digital networks;

### ***Support the growth of the Greater Manchester economy;***

- Maintain effective transport links to drive growth and enable employees and visitors to access new homes and workplaces;
- Maintain appropriate levels of reliability and journey times;
- Prioritise the condition of strategic routes to development areas;

### ***Support neighbourhoods of choice and minimise the adverse impact of transport on public health, community safety and climate change;***

- Comply with our statutory obligations to maintain safety;
- Support road safety initiatives and low carbon transport choices;
- Prioritise the condition of routes providing access to key services;

***Maximise value for money in the provision and maintenance of transport infrastructure and services;***

- Develop long-term, sustainable, rolling programmes of work to ensure greater value for money by allowing investment decisions to support strategic priorities and provide better coordination with other work programmes and projects; Use the most cost effective maintenance treatments at the right time to maximise the life of the asset and deliver value for money;

5. We will achieve these by developing strategies, plans and processes that will:

- define desired levels of service for highway assets, in consultation with stakeholders and monitor our performance against these targets;
- adopt a life-cycle approach to planning asset investment and management decisions;
- balance competing needs across the highway network and select options that best meet desired outcomes;
- monitor, evaluate and, where required, improve service delivery;
- Continually assess, manage and control Risk to highway users using coordinated and systematic approaches. A risk based approach will be adopted for all highway maintenance procedures where possible, in line with the 'Well Managed Highway Infrastructure' code of practice.
- Continue to benchmark and support Greater Manchester local authorities, other national and international groups and other stakeholders in developing collaborative working practices, ensure efficiency savings using innovation and best practices so that our performance is further enhanced;
- adopt a continuous improvement approach to asset management policies and practices;

6. Our maintenance investment approach will be to prioritise the roads that are most important to our Growth objectives. The Key Route Network will be our first priority, however we recognize the importance of a well maintained and safe road network for communities and where funding allows, we will also seek to invest in more local priorities.