

Executive Support

Staffordshire County Council
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County Councillor Ann Beech

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Please ask for: Amanda Felton

DG/AJF

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Dear Councillor Beech

RECEIPT OF PETITION – STATE OF REPAIR OF HALMER END HIGH STREET

I refer to the petition, signed by local residents to request that action be taken regarding the state of repair of Halmer End High Street. I can advise you that receipt of the petition will be reported to Cllr Mark Deaville, Cabinet Member for Commercial (including Highways & Transport)

I wish to assure you and the residents who signed the petition that the County Council, as the Highway Authority, will undertake any repairs that are required to ensure the safety of the highway user, be they pedestrians or drivers. Any defect identified will be prioritised according to the risk it presents to the highway user since resources are limited and need to be targeted to those locations which present the highest risk.

In terms of more significant repairs, where structural maintenance works are programmed to replace large lengths of carriageway and/or footway, the list of schemes identified requiring structural maintenance are processed through a value management approach which takes into account a number of contributory factors and not only visual condition, for example, the road's classification, contribution to sustainability, usage in terms of volumes of highway users and the risk to them.

When considering a location in the Newcastle Borough area it has to be noted that any proposal has to be prioritised with other similar schemes in the Stafford and Staffordshire Moorlands areas since funding is provided on a north/south basis across the County.

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With regards to High Street, Halmer End it has already been identified and is included on the forward structural maintenance programme for reconstruction.

However the number of schemes identified requiring reconstruction on the forward programme far outweighs the funding we receive. Currently there are a number of sites which require treatment prior to High Street and, when considering what we believe future allocations will be received, this location is not anticipated to feature in the next 3 years forward programme.

In the meantime we will continue to prioritise for repair any safety defects reported by residents or noted as part of highway inspections to ensure the footway and carriageway are maintained in a safe condition for highway users.

Following receipt of the petition I have requested that High Street receives an ad-hoc inspection to determine what remedial repairs are required and their priority.

Should you require further information regarding your petition please contact David Greatbatch on 01538 483022.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Felton
Executive Support Officer