

CABINET
27 SEPTEMBER 2018**MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CODE OF
PRACTICE FOR WELL-MANAGED HIGHWAY
INFRASTRUCTURE**

Relevant Cabinet Member

Mr A T Amos

Relevant Officer

Director of Economy and Infrastructure

Recommendation

- 1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways recommends that Cabinet:**
 - (a) notes the review as set out in the document called "A review and response to the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice"; and**
 - (b) adopts the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice including its 36 recommendations.**

Introduction

2. The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of the implications relating to the necessary adoption of the new Code of Practice: Well Managed Highway Infrastructure, and provide recommendations to Cabinet in relation to its adoption in October 2018.

Background to the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice

3. The Department for Transport provides national guidance in relation to the management of the highway network in England. This is through a series of Codes of Practice called; Well-maintained Highways, Well-lit Highways, and Management of Highway Structures. These will be superseded in October 2018 by a combined new Code of Practice called "Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure."

4. The original Code of Practice called Well-Maintained Highways has formed the basis of the Council's approach to its highway maintenance practice and delivery for the last 13 years, covering key areas such as safety inspections, management of trees and winter service provision, amongst many other areas of highway maintenance.

5. The new Code of Practice provides Highway Authorities with guidance and recommendations on highway management across a range of service provision. In many ways, the new combined Code of Practice replicates the original guidance and the

County Council, as the highways authority, is well placed to adopt the new Code of Practice with some minor amendments to existing practices.

6. The new code contains 36 key recommendations covering, for example; asset management, network planning, structures, severe weather and resilience. For this reason, the Council has followed a methodology of reviewing each of the recommendations against current practices to identify if there are any further appropriate actions required. These are detailed in the document called 'A review and response to the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice'.

7. Adopting the new Code of Practice will ensure the Council, as the Highway Authority for Worcestershire, is well placed to continue to manage the Worcestershire highway network effectively through a risk-based approach. In addition, this will also ensure the Council complies with the Government's Department for Transport's guidance and recommendations.

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

8. The adoption of the new Code of Practice is not expected to have any impact on the current revenue or capital budgets associated with the management of the highways network.

9. There are no significant implications in relation to legal and HR matters.

Privacy and Public Health Impact Assessments

10. There are no specific health impacts as a result of new decisions arising from this Cabinet report. There are no privacy impacts.

Equality and Diversity Implications

11. An Equality Relevance Screening has been completed in respect of these recommendations. The screening did not identify any potential equality considerations requiring further consideration during implementation.

Supporting Information

- Appendix: A Review and Response to the Code of Practice: Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points
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Specific Contact Points for this report
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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Economy and Infrastructure) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.