

Department of Corporate and Community Services

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Date: 30 April 2021

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TO: Councillors T Buchanan (Chair); C Bamforth; D Devlin; A Lafferty; C Merrick; and P O'Kane.

CABINET

A meeting of the Cabinet will be held on **Thursday, 13 May 2021 at 10.00am.**

The agenda of business is as shown below.

Please note this is a virtual meeting.

Caroline Innes

C INNES
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. **Report apologies for absence.**
2. **Declarations of Interest.**
3. **Land at 48-58 Main Street, Neilston - Report by Director of Environment (copy attached, pages 3 - 4)**
4. **Scottish Government Covid Business Support – Local Authority Discretionary Fund - Report by Director of Environment (copy attached, pages 5 - 10)**
5. **Glasgow City Region City Deal Update - Report by Director of Environment (copy to follow)**
6. **Roads Resurfacing Programme 2021/22 - Report by Director of Environment (copy attached, pages 11 - 20)**

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET13 May 2021Report by Director of EnvironmentLAND AT 48-58 MAIN STREET, NEILSTON**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of the report is to inform the Cabinet of the outcome of the proposal, reported to it on 12 March 2020, to buy back part of the land previously sold to the shop owners at 48 – 58 Main Street, Neilston.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Cabinet note the shop keepers' collective rejection of the proposal reported to the Cabinet on 12 March 2020 and accept this outcome.

BACKGROUND AND REPORT

3. The Council had previously sold the leased ground upon which the shops at 48-58 Main Street, Neilston are sited to the shop owners. This sale included land to the front and rear of the shops, leased in common. The Council's Cabinet at its meeting on 12 March 2020 proposed that the Council purchase part of these common areas. The shop owners had agreed to this in principle. The area to the rear is used as a car park and for service access. The land to the front is a common paved area. The Council's objective, upon acquiring back these areas, had been to use for public parking and as a community events area respectively.

4. Following the Cabinet's decision the shop owners were contacted to negotiate heads of terms to purchase these areas. After the shop owners' collective reconsideration of the Council's proposal they responded indicating that they no longer wished to sell these areas as previously proposed.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

5. The shop owners' rejection of the Council's proposal to buy back these areas avoids the Council taking on the associated maintenance liability, which remains with the shop owners.

CONSULTATION

6. There has been consultation within the Environment Department and Legal services.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7. The proposed sale of the land has no partnership working implications.

IMPLICATION OF THE PROPOSAL

8. There are no staffing, equality or sustainability implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSIONS

9. The shop owners' collective rejection of the Council's proposal to purchase for public use part of the land previously sold to the shop keepers, whilst frustrating the Council's ambitions to take on responsibility for these areas, avoids the financial burden arising from the upkeep of these areas had it done so.

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. That the Cabinet note the shop keepers' collective rejection of the proposal reported to the Cabinet on 12 March 2020 and accept this outcome.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from Phil Daws Head of Environment (Strategic Services), 0141 577 3186 or phil.daws@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Convener contact details

Councillor Tony Buchanan
(Leader of the Council)

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET13 May 2021Report by Director of EnvironmentSCOTTISH GOVERNMENT COVID BUSINESS SUPPORT –
LOCAL AUTHORITY DISCRETIONARY FUND**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the development and implementation of an East Renfrewshire Council model for the distribution of the Scottish Government's Local Authority Discretionary Fund.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that the Cabinet:
- a) Approve the proposal that the additional grant received of £1.254 million be used for top-up payments to those eligible businesses that have already received a grant; and
 - b) Note that Council staff have administered over £17 million of Covid business support grants since March 2020.

BACKGROUND

3. The aim of Scottish Government's Local Authority Discretionary Fund is to mitigate the short-term financial challenges being experienced by local businesses adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.

4. Unlike previous funds which have been targeted towards specific groups or sectors impacted by COVID-19, this fund seeks to empower local authorities to direct additional financial support to specific groups or sectors within the business community where they consider this to be necessary or justified based on the distinct characteristics of their local economies.

5. East Renfrewshire Council were originally allocated £539,846 for the scheme in December 2020.

6. The Council in December 2020 delegated to the Director of Environment in consultation with the Leader of the Council to prepare a scheme for the Local Authority Discretionary Fund. This has been done. The scheme was launched by the Council on 27th of January 2021 and details of the approved scheme were circulated to all Elected Members in early February 2021. The broad details of the previously approved eligibility criteria for the fund and proposed payments are attached as appendix 1.

7. The Scottish Government in March 2021 announced additional funds to Local Authorities for the Local Discretion Fund to enable them to provide additional support for businesses in their area. The Council were allocated a further £1,254,281.

REPORT

8. In accordance with the approved scheme East Renfrewshire Council have been using this funding to provide direct financial support to businesses in the area for the purposes of mitigating immediate financial challenges arising from COVID-19 restrictions and regulations.

9. For the additional funds received in March 2021 it is proposed that top-up payments will be made to local eligible businesses who have already received support from the Discretionary Fund. This is the approach which has been adopted by other local authorities.

10. This fund is one of a number of funds to support business in relation to Covid. To date, Council staff have processed 4,975 grant payments amounting to £17,320,000 since March 2020. This work has been undertaken in addition to normal duties since March 2020.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

11 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The grant is being provided by the Scottish Government.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

12. Consultation has taken place with a range of key stakeholders within the local business community including the Council Economic Development team, Business Gateway, East Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and the 3 Business Improvement Districts.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

13. There are no equalities, IT or staffing implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSIONS

14. The Fund will provide much needed support to those local businesses who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and regulations introduced since October 2020.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. It is recommended that the Cabinet;

- a) Approve the proposal that the additional grant received of £1.254 million be used for top-up payments to those eligible businesses that have already received a grant; and

- b) Note that Council staff have administered over £17 million of Covid business support grants since March 2020.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from: Michael McKernan, Economic Development & Inclusive Growth Manager, Economic Development (Strategic Services) michael.mckernan@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

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APPENDIX1

East Renfrewshire Council – Discretionary Business Fund Grant.

The Discretionary Business Fund aims to provide a £2,000 grant to local businesses that are experiencing immediate financial challenges as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions and regulations but have not been able to access the Strategic Framework Business Fund or other business grant funds provided by the Scottish Government. In particular, this fund will aim to assist businesses that have been without financial support since October 2020.

*The discretionary fund will provide a **one-off payment of £2,000 per business** (enabling the provision of support for approximately 270 businesses).*

The business must fall into one of the following 3 categories:

- businesses that supply goods or services to those who have been closed or restricted;
- businesses facing hardship as an indirect consequence of the current restrictions but have not been eligible to receive financial support through the Strategic Framework Business Fund;
- businesses who do not have business premises and are therefore ineligible for grants attached to the rates system.

Other Eligibility Includes:

- *business must operate within East Renfrewshire*
- *must be a small or micro enterprise employing less than 50 staff;*
- *must be ineligible for any scheme of support introduced since October 2020 by the Scottish Government, this will also include any new schemes of support which may be announced by the Scottish Government prior to the end of March 2021;*
- *business is not connected to a tax haven, as set out in the Coronavirus (Scotland) (No 2) Act 2020;*
- *must be able to present robust evidence (e.g. profit and loss accounts, invoices and receipts, details of contracts lost, cancelled booking diaries/work schedules, cancelled customer bookings) to show that income in the period October to December 2020 was at least 30% lower than in the equivalent period in 2019. **Acceptability of this evidence will be at the discretion of the grant processing team.***
- *must be able to provide evidence (e.g. proof of cancellations/lost bookings) that loss of income was as a result of COVID-19 restrictions e.g. travel restrictions or supply of goods/services to businesses that have been directly required to close / modify operations.*
- *must have been trading from 01 November 2020;*
- *must provide details and evidence of a business bank account (in the form of an uploaded bank statement) into which grant payments will be made (in the case of self-employed discretion will be applied as long as there is clear evidence of trading from the personal bank statements provided);*

- *business premises (where applicable) must be registered for non-domestic rates. Businesses that pay rates through their landlords rather than directly must provide evidence of this;*
- *business has not breached wider COVID regulations/requirements leading to enforcement action;*
- *open to Limited Companies (including Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations and social enterprises), Sole Traders, Trusts, Partnerships, Community Interest Companies, freelancers or the self-employed;*
- *non premise based businesses will be required to provide evidence to demonstrate proof of identity (e.g. passport) and address (e.g. Council tax bill, utility bill);*
- *businesses will be required to provide evidence of active trading in the period before restrictions came into place on 9 October 2020;*
- *self-employed will be required to confirm that self-employment makes up at least 50% of their income from employment;*
- This grant will be operated on a first come first served basis and the fund will close as and when the budget has been fully committed;
- Any appeals received relating to unsuccessful applications will be reviewed by the Economic Development Manager whose decision will be final; and
- This fund will be promoted through the East Renfrewshire Council website, Business Gateway East Renfrewshire social media channels and through partner organisations such as the East Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and the three East Renfrewshire Business Improvement Districts.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET13 May 2021Report by Director of EnvironmentROADS RESURFACING PROGRAMME 2021/22**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to advise on the major additional Roads Works Programme in relation to Carriageway and Footway Resurfacing for 2021/22.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to approve the roads resurfacing works programme as detailed in Appendix A.

BACKGROUND AND REPORT

3. Each year the Roads and Transportation Service provides information on the Roads Condition Indicator (RCI) figures for the previous year and proposes a list of carriageways and footpaths that require resurfacing.

Roads Condition Indicator

4. The condition of roads is assessed and reported nationally. The Road Condition Indicator (RCI) figures are based on annual surveys undertaken on A, B and C Class Roads and for the four year average for Unclassified Roads. The figures shown below are defined as *“the percentage of road network which should be considered for maintenance treatment”*.

5. The survey categorises the road condition into Red, Amber and Green bands. The RCI figure that is reported nationally includes both the red and amber categories. The following table is a summary of the RCI figures for East Renfrewshire Council.

Year of measurement	A Class % of roads that are red or amber	B Class % of roads that are red or amber	C Class % of roads that are red or amber	Unclassified % of roads that are red or amber	All	Overall position in Scotland
2010	30.7 (22)	41.6 (27)	38.9 (21)	57.0 (31)	50.1	30
2011	23.7 (8)	41.5 (24)	37.0 (17)	50.1 (29)	45.1	27
2012	18.2 (2)	28.2 (20)	34.5 (16)	51.6 (27)	43.3	26
2013	21.6 (8)	28.0 (11)	36.7 (16)	50.3 (27)	43.5	27
2014	23.9 (12)	32.9 (16)	36.2 (15)	42.5 (22)	39.1	20
2015	18.2(2)	31.0 (14)	31.7 (14)	44.7 (24)	39.2	23
2016	16.3 (1)	30.2 (15)	32.7 (16)	44.8 (25)	39.2	25
2017	17.0 (2)	31.6 (16)	34.5 (17)	41.3 (22)	37.4	22
2018	17.2 (1)	29.6 (14)	34.5 (17)	44.2 (26)	39.1	27
2019	15.5 (1)	26.3 (13)	33.0 (16)	39.9 (22)	35.5	18
2020	17.3 (2)	24.1 (9)	31.2 (14)	41.9 (22)	36.4	21
2020 Scot Average	29.8	34.0	33.6	38.3	35.5	

*Position in Scotland in brackets

6. It is important to note that the roads condition indicator survey carried out each year only surveys 50% of the roads. The remaining 50% are surveyed in the following year. Therefore to a considerable extent the Council's position in the table is influenced by which roads have actually been surveyed and whether or not they were recently resurfaced roads. In addition, there is a time lag between resources being approved and schemes being implemented which has been further exacerbated by coronavirus since March 2020. It is therefore to be expected that any additional major investment will take time to work through the roads surveying and monitoring system and improve the Council's position.

7. Based upon the most recent RCI road condition survey carried out in 2020 East Renfrewshire Council is now ranked in second best place for the condition of A Class roads. The Council was previously ranked number one in 2018 and 2019.

8. The Council has improved its position in relation to B and C class roads which are better than the Scottish average for both categories.

9. However, the data for unclassified roads (which makes up around 80% of East Renfrewshire's network) indicates that over 40% of this network should be considered for maintenance treatment.

10. Overall, East Renfrewshire Council's road network is considered to be at position 21 out of 32 authorities.

11. Given all of the above and in terms of overall position it is clear that the considerable achievements on the classified network are being overshadowed by the figures for the unclassified network.

Additional Capital Resources

12. The Council in February 2019 committed an additional £15m Capital investment for roads infrastructure over the following 5 years starting from and including 2019/20 (£3m per year).

13. It is recognised that whilst the Council's A and B class road network is in a relatively good condition C and Unclassified roads require significant works. In cognisance of this the proposals for the majority of the additional £3m allocation for 2021/22 has been directed towards these types of road.

14. A proposed Roads Works Programme covering major carriageway and footway resurfacing is attached (Appendix A). These schemes are over and above those named capital roads schemes agreed by the Council at its meeting on 15th March 2021.

15. As in previous years the prioritisation of the proposed resurfacing schemes within the Roads Works Programme has taken the following objective factors into consideration:

- The structural condition of the road or footway;
- The usage of the road or footway;
- Cost of maintenance for the previous three years;
- Number of complaints received regarding the road/footway; and
- Geographical spread.

Delivering the Programme

16. Due to the restrictions placed on the construction industry due to COVID-19 at the start of financial year 20/21 there was a delay with the delivery of the programme of works for 2020/21 and some works had to be deferred to the financial year 2021/22. These deferred schemes are included in this year's programme.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

17. A procurement framework is in place to ensure the delivery of this work including a contract for coal tar testing across the identified improvement sites.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

18. Not applicable in this case.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

19. The proposed 2021/22 roads and footway resurfacing programme details the recommended expenditure for carriageway and footway resurfacing. There are no further implications in terms of property, legal, IT, equalities and sustainability.

CONCLUSIONS

20. The 2021/22 proposed roads works programme will utilise the additional capital resources of £3 million made available to improve the roads condition across the authority. It is recognised that whilst the Council's A and B class road network is in a relatively good condition the C Class & unclassified roads require significant works and, as a consequence, the majority of the additional £3m allocation has been directed towards these types of road. This expenditure will have a major positive impact on resident's perceptions of Council expenditure on roads major resurfacing projects for carriageways and footways (as opposed to mainly potholing/patching) in the past in residential estates.

RECOMMENDATIONS

21. The Cabinet is asked to approve the roads resurfacing works programme as detailed in Appendix A.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from Andrew Cahill Director of Environment.

Convener contact details

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(Convener for Environment)

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Appendix A

**East Renfrewshire Council
Roads and Transportation Services
Resurfacing Works Programme**

2021/2022

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<u>Carriageway Resurfacing</u>	<u>Ward</u>
B773 Darnley Road & Dovecothall R'about, Barrhead	1
B775 Gleniffer Road (Old Barn Jct)	1
Ralston Road, Barrhead	1
Colinbar Circle, Barrhead	1
Park Avenue, Barrhead	1
Rockmount Avenue, Barrhead	1
Cogan Street, Barrhead	1
Robertson Street, Barrhead	1
Campsie Gardens, Clarkston	1
Patterton Drive, Barrhead	1
Craigton Drive, Barrhead	1
Ochil Drive, Barrhead	1
Hillside Road, Barrhead	1
Cheviot Avenue, Barrhead	1
Fintry Crescent, Barrhead	1
Hillside Road, Neilston	2
Bank Street, Neilston	2
Manse Road, Neilston	2
Fraser Avenue, Newton Mearns	2
Chisholm Drive, Newton Mearns	2
Holehouse Terrace, Neilston	2
Harelaw Road, Neilston	2
Glen Mark Road, Neilston	2
Bulloch Avenue, Giffnock	3

Evan Drive, Giffnock	3
<u>Carriageway Resurfacing</u>	<u>Ward</u>
Queensberry Avenue, Clarkston (Greenwood Road to Hillview Drive)	3
Hathaway Drive, Giffnock	3
Stratton Drive, Giffnock	3
Penrith Avenue, Giffnock	3
Ruthven Avenue, Giffnock	3
Douglas Avenue, Giffnock	3
The Oval, Stamperland (including Orchy Drive/Gardens)	3
Benview Road (Seres Road to A727 Clarkston Toll, Clarkston)	4
Greenwood Road, Clarkston (Richmond Ave to Eaglesham Rd)	4
Vardar Avenue, Clarkston	4
First Avenue, Netherlee	4
Hillview Place, Clarkston	4
Lothian Drive, Clarkston	4
Moray Drive	4
Overlee Road, Clarkston	4
Linwood Avenue, Clarkston	4
Rockburn Drive, Clarkston	4
Gordon Road, Netherlee	4
Richmond Avenue, Clarkston	4
B764 Eaglesham Moor Road, Eaglesham	5
Broomfield Avenue, Newton Mearns (Castlehill Drive to Castleton Drive)	5
Sandringham Avenue, Newton Mearns	5

Broom Rd, Newton Mearns	5
Castleton Grove/Avenue/Gate, Newton Mearns	5
Craighlaw Avenue, Waterfoot	5

Carriageway Resurfacing**Ward**

Paidmyre Road, Newton Mearns	5
Newtonlea Avenue, Newton Mearns	5
Humbie Road, Eaglesham (Floors Rd Rbt to Bonnyton Moor Rd Rbt)	5
Beech Avenue, Newton Mearns	5
Over Enoch Road, Eaglesham	5
Park Farm Road, Eaglesham	5
Floors Road, Waterfoot	5
Titwood Road, Newton Mearns	5
Blackwood Hill Road (The Dunwan Road), Eaglesham	5

Footway Resurfacing**Ward**

Glen Creran Crescent, Neilston	2
Glen Falloch Crescent, Neilston	2
Waulkmill Avenue, Barrhead	2
Moray Drive, Clarkston	3
The Oval, Clarkston	3
Torburn Avenue, Giffnock	3
C1 Mearns Road, Clarkston (A727 Busby Road to Flenders Road Part Only)	4
Benview Road, Clarkston (Seres Road to A727 Busby Road)	4
Lothian Drive, Clarkston	4
Rockburn Drive, Clarkston	4

Campsie Gardens	4
Kenmure Road, Newton Mearns	5
Sandringham Avenue, Newton Mearns	5
Gordon Crescent, Newton Mearns	5