
Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and Advisory Panel

15 January 2007

Report of the Director of City Strategy

PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF GANTON PLACE, WOODTHORPE, REQUESTING THE RENEWAL OF FOOTPATHS IN GANTON PLACE

Summary

1. This report advises Members of the receipt of a petition from 26 residents living mainly in Ganton Place requesting the renewal of footpaths in Ganton Place.
2. Additionally it asks that a 'No Through Road' sign be placed at the entrance to Ganton Place to prevent drivers using it who think they can cut through to Don Avenue etc.
3. Members are asked to consider the options outlined in the report and approve the recommendation to include Ganton Place in our assessments for possible inclusion in our 2007/2008 Resurfacing and Reconstruction Programme.

Background

4. A copy of the resident's letter and petition is attached as Annex 1.
5. Members will be aware that officers undertake a variety of highway inspections, including an annual inspection each year in June of all the roads and footways within the Council's area.
6. This inspection together with all the safety inspection reports and other Council inspection reports is used as a database which shows the general condition of all the Council's roads and footways.
7. All those areas found to be in a poor condition from these inspection reports are subsequently reassessed in October and November to prioritise our planned programmes of work for the forthcoming financial year.
8. The 2006 June condition survey did identify the condition of Ganton Place to be graded a 2/3 (average to poor condition).
9. As a result of this condition index this scheme was already included on the Council's Provisional List of streets to be inspected in October and November 2006 with a view to forming part of our 2007/08 R&R Programme.

10. A plan showing the footway in question in Ganton Place is attached as Annex 2 together with photographs showing the general condition of the footpaths is also attached as Annex 3.

Options

11. Option 1: Erect a No Through Road sign at the Ganton Place/Leven Road junction and arrange to make safe any defects that breach the Council's standards. Inspect the footways as part of the Council's normal procedure for assessing the following year's priority resurfacing schemes.
12. Option 2: Erect a No Through Road sign at the Ganton Place/Leven Road junction and carry out the works to the footway this financial year at the expense of dropping a scheme from this year's approved programme.

Analysis

13. Option 1: The No Through Road sign and any necessary repairs to be carried out this financial year will be funded from the existing revenue service budget for day to day maintenance. Should Members choose this option it will also ensure our approved programmes for the current financial year are not disrupted and any proposed scheme will have made the programme on merit and not as a result of resident pressure.
14. Option 2: The No Through Road sign will be funded out of this year's sign revenue budget. Should Members choose option 2 the cost to reconstruct the footways would be in the region of £23,000. As indicated, this cost could only be found if one of this year's programme schemes of a similar price was dropped from the approved programme. Members should note that at this time the majority of the footway programme has been completed.

Corporate Priorities

Maintenance of the public highway has a direct impact on several of the Council's corporate aims and priorities:

15. Corporate Aim 1: (Environment)

Take pride in the City by improving quality and sustainability, creating a clean and safe environment.

Specific priorities:

- 1.1 Increase resident satisfaction and pride with their local neighbourhoods.
- 1.2 Protect and enhance the built and green environment that makes York unique.
- 1.3 Make getting around York easier, more reliable and less damaging to the environment.

16. Corporate Aim 3: (Economy)

Strengthen and diversify York's economy and improve employment opportunities for residents.

Not directly relevant to any of the specific priorities, but good quality highway infrastructure is vital to the local economy.

17. Corporate Aim 4: (Safer City)

Create a safe City through transparent partnership working with other agencies and the local community.

Specific priority:

4.7 Make York's roads safer for all types of user.

18. Corporate Aim 8: (Corporate Health)

Transform City of York Council into an excellent customer-focused "can do" authority.

Specific priority:

8.9 Manage the Council's property, IT and other assets on behalf of York residents.

Implications

Financial

19. The cost to carry out urgent repairs will be met from this year's revenue budget and the cost of any future scheme will be met by the Council's revenue R&R budget.

Human Resources (HR)

20. There are no human resources implications.

Equalities

21. There are no equalities implications.

Legal

22. The City of York Council in its capacity as the Highway Authority has a statutory duty under Section 41 of the 1980 Highways Act to maintain the public highway.

Crime and Disorder

23. There are no crime and disorder implications.

Information Technology (IT)

24. There are no information technology implications.

Property

25. There are no property implications.

Other

26. There are no other implications.

Risk Management

27. In compliance with the Council's Risk Management Strategy, the main risks that have been identified in this report are risks arising from hazards to assets and people (physical), those which could lead to financial loss (financial), and non compliance with legislation (legal and regulatory).

Recommendations

28. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to:

- (1) Note the receipt of the petition
- (2) Approve option 1 (paragraph 11).

Reason: To comply with current Council policy and ensure that highway maintenance budgets are expended in the most cost effective way based on the Council's assessed priorities.

- (3) Advise the lead petitioner of the decision taken.

Contact Details

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Damon Copperthwaite
Assistant Director
(City Development & Transport)

Report Approved



Date 03/01/07

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Financial & Legal Implications
Fred Isles
Maintenance Manager

Wards Affected: Dringhouses and Woodthorpe

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

There are no relevant background papers.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Resident's letter and petition

Annex 2 – Plan of area

Annex 3 – Copy of photographs of Ganton Place

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