



Reference: FOI1272

Request:

I am writing with reference to the programme of planned works for the Tynemouth Ward in relation to road resurfacing, <https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/749/road-resurfacing>.

I wish to request the following information -

1) When was the works order / casework raised for the resurfacing of the following streets; Crossway; Mill Grove; Station Terrace/Huntingdon Place; Bath Terrace; Upper Queens Street; Howard Street.

The above locations are part of the Council's roads resurfacing programme for 2019/20 and the works were ordered with our contractor in June 2019. The schemes were identified following inspections and condition surveys undertaken in 2018/19.

2) Which councillor or councillors from the Tynemouth Ward put in the request / works order for these specific streets.

Crossway – Identified following the process outlined in the response to question 5. No request from councillors.

Mill Grove - Identified following the process outlined in the response to question 5. No request from councillors.

Station Terrace/Huntingdon Place – identified following the process outlined in the response to question 5. No request from councillors.

Bath Terrace – Identified following the process outlined in the response to question 5 and taking into account requests received from Cllr Bolger & Cllr Bartoli

Howard Street – Identified following the process outlined in the response to question 5. No requests from councillors

As can be seen in the response to question 5, streets identified for resurfacing works are not identified purely on requests from members. Primary factors for identification are the condition of roads, any issues with skid resistance, frequency of use, types of traffic that use the asset and observations made by the Council's Highway Inspectors.

3) What date was the works order for each street listed raised and when was the works order approved by the council.

The Council's resurfacing programme for 2019/20 was ordered and submitted to our resurfacing contractor in June 2019.

4) Is there any truth or accuracy to the publicly made claim from newly elected Conservative party councillor for Tynemouth Ward, Cllr Lewis Bartoli, that he is the councillor who raised these work orders since being elected.

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See response to Question 2

5) Can the council please provide further information on the general process and timescales for the raising of works orders for road resurfacing by local councillors and what stages they must go through before being approved - giving detail of the general length of time for each stage.

For the 2019/20 road surfacing programme, our initial condition inspections are undertaken by an external provider who undertake our SCANNER (Surface Condition Assessment for the National Network of Roads) surveys. These surveys are undertaken by a vehicle using lasers to determine the condition of the road in terms of surface condition, texture and structural condition of the road. These surveys were undertaken at the end of the 2018 summer. This information is then input into our pavement management software called ExpertAssets which, along with other survey information detailed below, provides us with a draft prioritised resurfacing programme. Having completed the condition survey it takes around 3 months to get the results.

We also undertake annual skid resistance testing of our road network. This again is undertaken by an externally sourced contractor who operates a driven machine which tests a road's skid resistance at road speed. The information is also factored into our ExpertAssets system.

A further survey is also undertaken called 'Annual Engineering Inspection'(AEI) which is also input into ExpertAssets and provides the further evidence to determine schemes and appropriate treatments.

Finally, the last element which is considered to determine a finalised list of schemes is requests for service which we have received from Council Members and the public. This full process usually takes from September until Mid-March where we will then liaise with the Council's Engineering Manager about the lists, provide justification for the schemes and once agreed it is then presented to the Lead Cabinet Member for final ratification. This follows the principles detailed in the Council's Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP).