POLICY FOR HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT

A good transport network enabling the safe and efficient movement of people and goods is essential to Portsmouth’s economy, and the quality of life of its residents.

Portsmouth’s road network provides access to employment, education and training, key services such as health care, retail and leisure. In maintaining and improving this access, effective highways asset management is a key factor in delivering the city council’s corporate priorities of;

- raise education standards so children and young people achieve their full potential
- encourage investment in our city, creating economic prosperity
- empower our residents to live independently and make the most of their opportunities

HIGHWAY PARTNERS

The City Council entered into a 25 Highways Maintenance PFI Contract in 2004 with Ensign Highways Ltd (the Service Company). This agreement included a 5 year Core Investment period (CIP) between 2004 and 2009 of £70m to bring the City Council’s Highways assets up to a standard based on the Core Service Requirements and Service Performance Standards as set out in the Contract.

The Service as detailed within the Contract included CIP, the ongoing maintenance and also Life Cycle Replacement (LCR) for the next 20 years following CIP. The Service company must ensure that the assets in question achieve the required Performance level for this fixed priced contract. Therefore the Service Company are incentivised to adopt an Asset Management plan that enables them to maintain these assets for the longest possible duration by adopting an optimum cost model.

THE FOLLOWING THREE AIMS UNDERPIN PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL’S HIGHWAY ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN:

Aim 1: Ensure that Portsmouth offers a range of travel options to enable safe and effective travel around the city and the sub-region; and encourage travel behaviour that promotes health and sustainability.

Our adoption of an asset management approach will ensure all highways-based travel options continue as safe, efficient and effective choices, encouraging healthy and sustainable travel behaviour.

Aim 2: Maintain the infrastructure and deliver major projects that secure inward investment and regenerate the city.

Our adoption of an asset management approach will take a long term view in ensuring informed decisions on the maintenance of highways infrastructure and the right investment decisions are made on the highway network. This will encourage and enable inward investment and regeneration of the city.

Aim 3: Support the local economy and help businesses to thrive; and ensure investment in the work force, enabling local people to achieve their potential and participate fully in the regeneration of the city.

Our adoption of an asset management approach will maximise benefits for future prosperity and quality of place ensuring the right investment decisions allow value for money. This will enable us to support the local economy and regeneration of the city.