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DFI ROADS SOUTHERN DIVISION

Report to

**ARMAGH CITY,
BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Annual Report 2024/25

Resurfacing and Widening Scheme, A3 Portadown Road, Armagh

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Foreword

I have pleasure in submitting the Roads 2024/25 Annual Report on the work of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Roads across the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area.

This report deals with works completed across the Council area during the year 2023/24 and sets out our initial proposals for schemes to be undertaken in the year 2024/25.

The road network is Northern Ireland's largest and most valuable strategic infrastructure asset. Getting infrastructure right - and investing in it – can and will deliver real benefits for our citizens, our communities and the economy. It delivers for people every day by providing and maintaining the things we all need to go about our daily lives, and which make this place work. While recognising there is much more to do as we seek to improve and protect the vital asset that is our road network, we are working hard to maximise the positive impacts we can deliver with the resources we have.

The budget allocated to the Department for 2024-25 is challenging, however we continue to, prioritise essential frontline services and address regional imbalance. In June 2024 the Department launched its 'Budget 2024-25 Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) Consultation' to facilitate a thorough assessment of the equality impacts of the 2024-25 opening resource and capital budgets allocated to the Department. An interim report has been published on the findings from the consultation and can be viewed at: [DfI Budget 2024-25 Equality Impact Assessment - Interim Consultation Report \(infrastructure-ni.gov.uk\)](https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/budget-2024-25-equality-impact-assessment-interim-consultation-report)

The opening Capital budget for structural maintenance of the road network in 2024/25 is £89m, which will enable the delivery of the highest priority resurfacing, roadside stability and drainage projects. Further details of those projects to be delivered within the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area are contained within this report.

For many years, the Department has operated within a constrained Resource budget and has continued to prioritise key essential services.

This means that the Department will continue with a Limited Service policy for routine maintenance activities such as defect repair, grass cutting and gully emptying. The Limited Service policy allows the Department to repair defects greater than 50mm on all roads including low trafficked rural roads and on high trafficked roads, defects greater than 20mm will also be repaired, subject to available resources. The Department will aim to cut all roadside verges and sightline grass at least twice between April and October on the more heavily trafficked roads and once a year on other roads, when it is safe to do so. This aims to balance the need for road safety while protecting our environment and encouraging biodiversity. However, sightlines at bends and junctions will be cut as frequently as required to ensure public safety.

At present a full street lighting repair service continues during 2024/25.

The Division is continuing to face significant staffing pressures which is impacting on our ability to deliver and as such public safety is our paramount priority, and as a result it may mean other functions will be lower in our priorities. In an effort to maximise our effectiveness I would strongly encourage Councillors who have access to the internet to please report road defects using the DfI online reporting facility provided by NIDirect. Operational teams are of course available to assist with emergency and public safety related queries and can be contacted using our generic email addresses or by phone using our emergency numbers shown at the back of this Report.

The Department recognises that investing in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure can help make our streets feel safer and more accessible for the many people who want greater choice in how they travel, particularly for shorter everyday journeys. It can also help to reduce air pollution and tackle climate change, particularly in combination with public transport.

We are currently developing a Northern Ireland wide Active Travel Delivery Plan that includes an update of our policies and design guidance for Active Travel as well as network plans for our larger towns and cities and a methodology for prioritising active travel investment in smaller towns and villages. We aim to commence a public consultation on this plan in November and would welcome input from councils as part of this consultation.

When complete, the Active Travel Delivery Plan will complement the Belfast Cycling Network Delivery Plan and the Strategic Plan for Greenways to provide a firm basis for the future prioritisation, design, and delivery of active travel across the north. The Department also continues to work closely with Councils to better understand your five-year active travel programme and to develop an effective grant and support framework for the effective delivery of greenways and other measures to further promote and encourage active travel.

Regarding Major Projects, in July 2024 the Infrastructure Minister, John O'Dowd MLA announced in the NI Assembly that the A1 upgrade scheme will now proceed to the procurement stage. Work is ongoing to finalise the Business Case and complete the preparation of the contract documents. Further progression of the scheme to procurement and subsequent construction will depend on the approval of the Business Case, clearing the remaining statutory procedures and funding being made available to the Department.

I hope that you find this report informative. I, along with a representative from one of our Section Offices, Ciarán McKenna and Dessie Blacker look forward to meeting the Council.

Mark McPeak
Divisional Roads Manager

Southern Division - Senior Management Structure



Mark McPeak
Divisional Manager

DfI Roads wishes to build upon the good working relationships it has with Council Members and Officers. The Divisional Senior Management Team is listed below. Day to day operational matters should be raised with the relevant Senior Engineers whose details are listed at the start of each section.



Aloysius Loughran
Road Planning Manager

Development Control, Private Streets, Local Development Plans and Street Lighting



Ryan Gough
Road Development Manager

Road improvements and minor works



Alan McMurray
Road Maintenance Manager

Maintenance of existing road network



Brian McClelland
Major Projects Team South Manager (Acting)

Major works schemes (>£5M)

About Southern Division

Southern Division is one of four Client Divisions within DfI Roads. It spans the local Council areas of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon; Newry Mourne and Down; and Ards and North Down Council Areas (see map below).



In Southern Division we are responsible for approximately 8000km of public road together with 1275 bridges, 121 signalised junctions, 183 standalone signalised pedestrian Controlled Crossings, approximately 83,000 streetlights and over 650 illuminated signs and bollards. We carry out functions under the headings: -

- **Major Projects South** – Major capital projects (>£5M) on Key Transport Links.
- **Road Maintenance** – Maintenance of the existing network. Maintenance activities include resurfacing, surface dressing and drainage works as well as grass cutting, gully emptying, patching, embankment / verge maintenance, fencing and provision of the Winter Service.
- **Road Development** - Improvements to the existing network to improve safety and traffic progression including Minor Works and Local Transport and Safety Measures
- **Road Planning** - Regulation of additions to the network proposed by developers.

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SECTION 1- PLANNING AND STREETLIGHTING

Planning Manager Aloysius Loughran

Aloysius is supported in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon area by the following staff:



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1.1 Development Control

Planning Consultations

In carrying out their planning functions Councils have a duty to consult a range of statutory bodies. DfI Roads on behalf of the Department for Infrastructure has entered into an agreement with each Council to provide views and advice on roads and transportation related issues.

DfI Roads in its consideration of planning applications, takes into account aspects of development which could prejudice traffic progression and safety in terms of junction capacity, access arrangements, parking standards and provision, road width, radii, gradients, drainage and sight lines. This consideration usually involves site visits and technical work. Compliance with transport policy and compatibility with road infrastructure is taken into account as well as any need for developer led improvements. Proposals are also checked for potential encroachment upon any future road lines. A detailed Transport Assessment may be required for larger developments where potential traffic impact may extend to road junctions some distance from the development site and where infrastructure improvements are deemed necessary as mitigation. For smaller developments a Transport Assessment Form is required to be completed by the applicant in order to ascertain the likely impact.

In the case of housing developments, the Private Streets (NI) Order 1980 is applied if a planning application includes streets which are to become public and maintainable by the Department. Development Control along with the associated Private Streets team determines the area to be adopted, arranges for the calculation of the bond amount, supervises construction of the streets and, following satisfactory completion by the developer completes the process for adoption into the public road network. Should the developer not complete the street, DfI Roads can take appropriate enforcement action under the Private Streets Order to ensure satisfactory completion of works funded by the bond.

Other Development Control work includes participating in pre-application discussions and planning meetings, preparation of evidence and presentation of this at Planning Appeals. Assistance is given with enforcement cases associated with breaches of planning control. Input is provided for the use of planning case officers at Council Planning Committee meetings with attendance by Development Control Officers as required.

Please see Table 1, which shows all consultations our Development Control dealt with, during the reporting period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 within the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Area.

TABLE 1: Planning Consultations

Consultation Details	Southern Division	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council area
Number of consultations	3634	1444
Number of Pre-Planning Enquiries	61	28

Of the above consultations, **53** were for approval of housing developments involving the Private Streets (NI) Order 1980. Creating approximately 7.0 km of new road and 2.0 km of new footway.

Examples of major applications being dealt with are included in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Planning Consultations - Major Applications

Application	Location, Town / Townland
LA08/2024/0142/F Housing	Tullygally Road, Craigavon
LA08/2023/2671/F Housing	Tandragee Road, Portadown
LA08/2023/2551/RM Housing	Bracken Meadows, Lisnisky, Portadown

Roads (NI) Order 1993, Article 80

Article 80 applies to new vehicular accesses or agricultural accesses on to unclassified roads. It covers proposals such as new or altered driveway entrances where planning permission is not required. During the reporting period DfI Roads dealt with **34** Article 80 applications.

Development Control also provides evidence in respect of associated Article 84 appeals which are determined by the Planning Appeals Commission.

Development Control also gives advice on various ad-hoc matters such as placing of planters and signage.

1.2 Private Streets – Adoptions

Completed Works 2023-2024

TABLE 3: Private Streets – Adoption numbers

Adoption Details	Southern Division	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council area
Number of adoptions	51	30

TABLE 4: Adoption locations

Adoption locations	Date of Adoption
Derryscollop Road, Armagh (stages 1 and 2)	20/04/23
Poyntzpass Presbyterian Church (stage 1)	15/05/23
Mill Race Manor, Markethill (stages 1 to 4)	22/05/23
Crew Roe, Ballycrummy Road, Armagh (stages 2 and 3)	24/05/23
Old Mill Race, Tandragee (stages 1 to 3)	09/08/23
Oakview, Cavanacaw Road, Armagh (stages 1 to 3)	27/02/24
Clintyclay Primary School, Clonmore (stage 1)	06/03/24
Cavanacaw Manor, Armagh (stages 2 to 4)	14/03/24
The Barns, Stramore Road, Gilford (stage 1)	23/05/23
Monteith Meadows, Annaclone (stage 1)	20/06/23
Loughbrickland Road, Rathfriland (stage 1)	18/08/23
Hillcroft, Hunters Hill Road, Gilford (stage 1)	07/11/23
Mountfield Lodge, Portadown (stage 1)	17/04/23
Beech hall, Magheralin (stage 1)	27/04/23
Linen Fields, Lurgan (stages 1 to 6)	21/06/23
Millennium Way, Lurgan (stage 1)	07/07/23
Old Brewery Lodge, Richhill (stage 1)	17/07/23
Lakeview, Gilford Road, Lurgan (stages 1 to 3)	11/08/23
Ballyhannon Mews, Portadown (stage 1)	27/09/23
Annahugh Hill, Loughgall (stage 3)	16/10/23

Adoption locations	Date of Adoption
Breagh Road, Portadown (stage 1)	07/11/23
Lace Hill, Portadown (stages 2 to 6)	05/12/23
Croaghan View, Derryadd (stage 1)	07/12/23
Lisnisky Walk / Crescent, Portadown (stages 1 to 8)	18/12/23
Glenavon Lane, Lurgan (stage 1)	08/01/24
Gibson Park, Lurgan (stage 1)	10/01/24
Headington Manor, Lurgan (stages 1 to 3)	12/02/24
Foxleigh Wood, Lurgan (stages 2 to 3)	12/02/24
Bracken Meadow, Portadown (stage 1)	01/03/24
Silverwood Leaves, Lurgan (stage 1)	25/03/24

During the reporting period Private Streets Section has been successful in adopting a total of **30** private developments comprising **6368** metres of carriageway, **1728** metres of footway and **146** metres of parking, into the publicly maintained road network.

1.3 Private Streets – Enforcements

Private Streets Section continues to invoke enforcement proceedings against developers who fail in their responsibility to provide road bonds before commencement of work on site. This takes the form of a series of warning letters followed, if necessary, by enforcement action.

Private Streets Section continues to work with developers on backlog housing sites with the objective of having work completed to an adoptable standard. Where it becomes evident that a developer is either no longer trading or is incapable or unwilling to complete the work, DfI Roads will consider initiating enforcement action. This may result in the need for DfI Roads to complete the works and recover the costs from the road bond under Articles 13 and 15 of the Private Streets Order 1980.

There is currently no enforcement action planned for the coming year.

Property Certificates

Private Streets Section coordinates the DfI Roads response to Property Certificate Enquiries. A total of **8132** Property Certificate Enquiries were processed during the reporting period in Southern Division

The Planning Portal which was launched in December 2022 can be used to submit, view and comment on planning applications online by the link <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/planning-portal>.

1.4 Street Lighting

The total number of lights in Southern Division is approximately 83,000 of which approximately 33,724 (40%) are within the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area.

Completed Works 2023 – 2024

TABLE 5: Street Lighting – completed

Location	Scheme Description
Fort Street, Banbridge	Replacement
Kernan Road, Portadown	Replacement
Lurgan Road, Portadown	Replacement
Union Street, Portadown	Replacement
Cherryville Park Area, Lurgan	Replacement
Magherena Park, Waringstown	Replacement
Ashgrove Road, Portadown	Replacement
Brooke Gardens, Banbridge	Replacement
Ann Street, Lurgan	Replacement
Iveagh Bungalows, Rathfriland	Replacement
Mount Charles, Banbridge	Replacement
Mourneview Park, Tandragee	Replacement
Pines Park, Lurgan	Replacement
Mellifont Park and Sperrin Park, Armagh	Replacement
Eglish Park, Teagey	Replacement
Turnberry Green, Tandragee	Replacement
Killuney Park / Tyross Gardens, Armagh	Replacement

Upgrading of existing street lighting to LED Lanterns

The LED retro fit programme is continuing across the Division. The intention is to reduce energy and maintenance costs by replacing old SOX and SON Lanterns. These are expensive to maintain and the ability to replace parts is diminishing as the production of these parts are being run down. Our target of replacing 2200 SOX and SON lanterns with modern LED lanterns in the council area has been met.

Street Lighting Maintenance

Since April 2015, DfI Roads only repairs those defective streetlights reported by the public or their representatives. In order to facilitate this process, reports of defective lights can now be made directly online via the NI Direct website at the web address:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/report-street-light-fault>

Reports made via this web page automatically generate a works order to the appropriate contractor to have the defect repaired.

Reports can also be made by telephone at 0300 200 7899.

Priority is given to emergency defects i.e. those defects posing a direct structural or electrical hazard, then to groups of lights out, groups of lights burning continuously and finally to individual lights out.

Repair of faults to streetlights

Our response times are:-

Emergency, responded to a Road Traffic Collision within an hour and a half to site (1.5hrs) where a streetlighting column has been damaged. This is only to make safe and protect the public from danger to exposure of live cables or the column falling down.

Urgent, respond within twenty-four hours (24hrs). This is to reinstate a knockdown of a column possibly at a critical junction.

Normal lamp maintenance within five days (5 days). It is not always possible to fulfil the 5-day response. This can be down to a combination of factors. The amount of outages on the system, cable faults on the cable network or staff shortages. We also try to ensure that at least 95% of streetlights are recorded as working on the LMS at any time, subject to budget being available.

Planned Works 2024 – 2025

TABLE 6: Street Lighting – planned

Location	Scheme Description
Church Street, Keady	Replacement
Thornleigh, Lurgan	Replacement
Union Street, Portadown	Replacement

SECTION 2 - NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Development Manager: Ryan Gough

Ryan is supported in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon by:



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LOCAL TRANSPORT AND SAFETY MEASURES

The Regional Transportation Strategy (RTS) identified the importance of Local Transport and Safety Measures (LTSM) and highlighted some of the principal initiatives to be addressed, including:

- local improvements in towns across the North to assist pedestrians and cyclists;
- local highway infrastructure measures to improve safety, such as collision remedial schemes and traffic calming schemes; and
- Network Development schemes (minor works).

LTSM expenditure tends to be widely spread and most communities benefit, as an individual scheme is relatively low cost in comparison to the cost of projects on the Strategic Works programme. They are usually very visible measures and provide good value for money in terms of a safer road transport system, which benefits society, the economy, the environment; and actively contributes to everyone's quality of life.

Types of LTSM projects include:

- Minor Works and Micro Schemes
- Traffic Management
- Pedestrian Measures
- Traffic Calming
- Collision Remedial
- Safer Routes to School
- Bus Priority Measures
- Cycling Measures
- Road and Lane Closures
- Legislation

2.1 Completed Works 2023 – 2024

TABLE 7: Carriageways / Minor Works completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0003	Portadown Road, Armagh	Resurfacing and widening.	Complete

TABLE 8: Pedestrian Measures completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0078	Brownstown Road, Portadown	Controlled crossing upgrade.	Complete
U1386	Moylinn / Tullygally, Craigavon	Dropped kerbs in vicinity of St. Anthony's Primary School.	Complete

TABLE 9: Road Signs, Markings, and Bollards completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0002	Markethill Road, Tandragee	Erect two number horse warning signs.	Complete
B0003	Tassagh Road, Keady	Side Road to left and right warning signs and 'SLOW' markings on approach to Annvale Road junction.	Complete
B0131	Grange Road, Kilmore	Chevron signs and reflective marker posts to be put in place on bend.	Complete
C0163	Coharra Road, Portadown	Side Road to left and right warning signs and 'SLOW' markings on approach to Cushenny Road junction.	Complete
U1409	Tarry Lane, Lurgan	School Children sign and 'School' road markings.	Complete

TABLE 10: Traffic Orders (Road & Lane Closures) completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
Various	Various	Estimated 400 no. Road and Lane Closure applications.	Complete

TABLE 11: Accessible Parking Bays completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0026	Dromore Street, Banbridge	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
B0010	Parkview, Banbridge	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U1356	Clounagh Park, Portadown	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U1388	Pinebank, Craigavon	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U4405	Church Square, Rathfriland	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U4450	Gallows Street, Dromore	Accessible Parking Bay x 2.	Complete
U4500	Hillside, Gilford	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U7003	Drumsill Park, Armagh	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U7006	Brookhill Crescent, Armagh	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete

TABLE 12: Accessible Parking [Dropped kerbs/mobility ramps] completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
U1388	Pinebank, Craigavon	Lower kerbs in vicinity of property no.305.	Complete

2.2 Planned Works 2024 – 2025

Note the delivery of the schemes listed below will be dependent on availability of Contractor resources.

TABLE 13: Pedestrian Measures planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0002	Francis Street, Lurgan	Puffin Upgrade.	Complete September 2024

TABLE 14: Cycling Measures planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
F1384	Cherry path (FP1) underpass to Drumgor Centre, Craigavon	Widening of Existing Segregated Cycle / footpath.	Planned 24/25
F1386	Oakpath link to St Anthony's School, Craigavon	Widening of Existing Segregated Cycle / footpaths.	Planned 24/25
U1386	Tullgally link to Oakpath (FP1), Craigavon	Widening of Existing Segregated Cycle / footpaths.	Planned 24/25

TABLE 15: Safer Routes to schools planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0003	Kings Park Primary School, Avenue Road, Lurgan	Upgrade of Safer Routes to School signs.	Planned 24/25
C0202	Lisnadill Primary School, Drumconwell Road, Armagh	Upgrade of Safer Routes to School signs.	Planned 24/25

TABLE 16: Speed Limits planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0028	Moy Road, Scotch Street	40mph	In progress (Legislation)

TABLE 17: Accessible Parking Bays planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0003	Scarva Street, Loughbrickland	Accessible Parking Bay.	In progress (Legislation)
U1403	Killough Gardens, Lurgan	Accessible Parking Bay.	In progress (Legislation)
U1357	Carleton Street, Portadown	Accessible Parking Bay.	In progress (Legislation)

Accessible Parking Bays – General

Individual Accessible Parking Bay applications will be assessed before the completion of the necessary legislative process. Successful applications are required to be notified in local newspapers offering the opportunity for the public to submit their views.

Any objections must be fully considered before the application can progress to the Legislative Stage. Due to the processes involved, approved applications are required to be grouped and processed in batches of two or maybe three occasions during the year.

Deillumination of signs

The Department is continuing to develop a programme of replacing internally illuminated bollards with retroreflective boards, as resources permit, thus helping to reduce energy costs.

Legislation

All proposals to introduce or amend legislation are subject to successful completion of the necessary processes. This includes Accessible Parking Bays, Speed Limits, Traffic Regulation Orders (such as one-way), Parking and waiting restrictions (such as yellow lines) etc. A notice of intention of proposals is published in local papers which offers the opportunity for the public to submit their views on the proposals. Objections, when received, must be fully considered and addressed before any scheme can be taken forward for implementation.

SECTION 3 - NETWORK MAINTENANCE

Maintenance Manager: Alan McMurray

Alan is supported by the following staff:



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EXPLANATION OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

Resurfacing and Strengthening

Roads generally fail by cracking and rutting. They usually do not fail suddenly, but gradually deteriorate due to the impact of traffic, age and weathering. Wear normally appears as either excessive permanent deformation of the whole or part of the carriageway structure or is associated with the cracking of the bituminous layers.

Roads are normally designed for an operational life of 20 years. During this period and beyond, there is a need for the highway authority to intervene at times to either treat or replace the top layer of bituminous material known as the "surface course" or to provide additional depth to preserve the underlying structure of the road and extend its life.

Resurfacing is the application of a layer of this mixed material of 40mm minimum thickness. It strengthens the road, seals it against the ingress of water, and improves skidding resistance and riding quality.

Surface course Bitumen Macadam (Bitmac) has an expected life of 7-12 years which can be extended by subsequent surface dressing. Bitmac is a more flexible material than Asphalt and more suitable for the deformation and movement associated with weaker underlying ground conditions.

Asphalt resurfacing is more appropriate to heavily trafficked roads and junctions having a robust roadbase. It is more expensive and has a longer expected life of 15-20 years.

Resurfacing of existing roads can usually be carried out on top of the existing surface (overlay) but where drainage or kerb levels or bridge heights are restricted the surface may need to be removed before resurfacing takes place.

Surface Dressing

This process involves spraying a bitumen emulsion binder onto the existing road surface, followed by a layer of stone chippings, which is then rolled. This seals the road preventing ingress of water thus extending the life expectancy of the road and also helps to improve the skid resistance of the surface.

Drainage Works

The quick and effective drainage of surface water from the carriageway contributes significantly to road safety and helps to prevent damage to the road itself. Improvement works carried out include the upgrading of the existing drainage facilities to ensure effective dispersal of surface water and prevent as far as possible the occurrence of standing water or flooding

of the road. In many cases the provision of new drainage facilities have to be undertaken including the installation of road gullies, pipes and manholes leading to a suitable discharge point.

Grass Cutting

Grass cutting is carried out for road safety reasons rather than for amenity purposes. The Department's grass cutting policy has evolved to focus on protecting wildlife and promoting biodiversity when managing roadside verges. A single swathe will be cut along the verges on the strategic road network twice per year. Other areas that are needed for road safety purpose, such as sightlines at junctions, will also be cut at least twice each year with additional cuts as and when needed. A similar approach will be introduced on heavier trafficked rural roads and on lighter trafficked rural roads, one cut will be carried out in the growing season where it is safe to do so.

Gully Emptying

In 2024/25, as in the previous year, the Department currently aims to maintain the level of service and inspect and clean, where necessary, all gullies once annually.

Rural Roads Fund

In 2024/25, approximately £10m has been allocated to a Roads Recovery Fund from the structural maintenance budget specifically designed to address the roads which have been worst affected by recent under investment. £8m of this investment is being targeted towards rural roads. We will use this fund to carry out short lengths of resurfacing rather than repairing a large number of individual potholes in problem areas. Section Engineers, and their staff, across the Division are identifying the worst locations for inclusion on our works programmes. This work will reduce the number of potholes across the network and help prevent additional defects from forming.

Defects

Section Office staff regularly inspect the local network for actionable defects in accordance with the Road Maintenance Guidelines. These guidelines classify the local roads according to traffic volume and establish corresponding deadlines for the repair of any defects identified. Also, in an effort to maximise our effectiveness in delivering key road maintenance functions, we ask that members of the public and elected representatives who have access to the internet to please report road defects via the DfI online reporting facility provided by NI Direct; <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/problems-roads-and-streets>. Alternatively, faults that are considered to be an emergency can be reported by telephone as shown on Page 49.

Street Works

TABLE 18: Street Works by Utility companies

Number of Notifications in Southern Division	Number of Notifications in Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	Number of Inspections Carried Out	Percentage of those inspected that were unsatisfactory
20,708	7520	3662	47.5%

3.1 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE COMPLETED WORKS 2023– 2024

Completed Surfacing

TABLE 19: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network completed

Total length completed
3.15 Km

TABLE 20: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0003	Portadown Road, Armagh City
A0003	Northway, Portadown (at railway station)
A0027	Portadown Road, Tandragee (Ballylisk)
A0027	Newry Road, Poyntzpass
M0012	M12 roundabout and Portadown bound carriageway

Completed Resurfacing Scheme

Before



After



Resurfacing and Widening Scheme, A3 Portadown Road, Armagh

TABLE 21: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network completed

Total length completed
12 Km

TABLE 22: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0003	Avenue Road, Lurgan
B0031	Newtownhamilton Road, Armagh
B0131	Legacorry Road, Richhill
B0196	Clonmakate Road, Portadown
C0160	Columbkille Road, Portadown
C0164	Clontylew Road, Portadown
C0310	Meeting Street, Dromore
C0337	Railway Street, Poyntzpass
C0364	Clare Road, Waringstown
U1416	Pines Park, Lurgan
U4149	Point Road, Banbridge

TABLE 23: Surface Dressing completed

Total length completed
89 Km

TABLE 24: Surface Dressing locations

Road Number	Road Name
B0007	Ballyrone Road, Rathfriland
B0025	Castlevennon Road, Katesbridge
B0028	Summerisland Road, Ardress (near Blackisland Road)
B0032	Castleblaney Road, Carnagh
B0115	Battleford Road, Armagh
B0133	Bessbrook Road, Markethill
C0156	Deans Road, Bleary

Road Number	Road Name
C0157	Clanrolla Road, Craigavon
C0163	Coharra Road, Portadown
C0163	Richmount Road, Portadown
C0167	Derrycrew Road, Loughgall
C0171	Cooly Hill Road, Clare
C0173	Cloghoge Road, Clare
C0173	Mullaghglass Road, Scarva
C0173	Off Station Road, Scarva
C0178	Kilmacanty Road, Armagh
C0182	Lislasly Road, Loughgall
C0185	Charlemont Road, Blackwatertown
C0191	Kennedies Road, Tynan
C0202	Ballymoran Road, Armagh
C0202	Killyfaddy Road, Armagh
C0206	Damoily (Redrock) Road, Armagh
C0228	Drumantine (Gambles) Road, Jerrettspass
C0322	Closkelt Road, Moneyslane
C0328	Banbridge Road, Waringsford
C0328	Gall Bog Road, Waringsford
C0336	Tierney Road, Milltown
C0336	Ouley Road, Milltown
C0352	Lowtown Road, Waringstown
C0355	Killysorrell Road, Blackskull
C0362	Old Kilmore Road, Moira
U1002	Boghead Bridge Road, Aghalee
U1036	Ballykeel Road, Aghagallon
U1048	Oxford Island Road, Craigavon
U1070	Lennys Road, Derryadd
U1079	Derryloiste Road, Derrytrasna
U1123	Ballymacbredan Road, Magheralin

Road Number	Road Name
U1140	Gallrock Road, Portadown
U1143	Clonmacash Road, Portadown
U1156	Foy Lane, Portadown
U1165	Corbracky Road, Portadown
U1174	Tannaghmore West Road, Lurgan
U1190	Cannagola Road, Portadown
U1191	Cannagola Beg Road, Portadown
U1191	Off Cannagola Beg Road, Portadown
U1218	Off Drumnevan Road, Portadown
U1220	Drumgask Lane, Lurgan
U1237	Valley Lane, Lurgan
U1238	Acre Lane, Lurgan
U1268	Moygannon Lane, Donaghcloney
U1289	Campbells Lane, Portadown
U1305	Harcourts Hill, Portadown
U1307	Horseshoe Lane, Portadown
U1309 / U1310	Unshinagh Lane, Portadown (3 sections)
U1362	Lisnisky Lane, Portadown
U1409	Liscorrán Road, Lurgan (2 sections)
U1414	Dukestown Lane, Lurgan
U4026	Villa Wood Road, Dromore
U4033	Lurganban Road, Dromore
U4034	Drumiller Road, Dromore
U4085	Birch Grove, Gilford
U4100 / U1318	Hunters Hill Road, Gilford
U4113	Kilmacrew Road, Corbet
U4186	Corbally Old Road, Annaclone
U4202	Ringsend Road, Banbridge
U4207	Ringsend Road, Banbridge
U4208	Coolnacran Road, Banbridge

Road Number	Road Name
U4241	Church Road, Annaclone
U4251	Clay Road, Banbridge
U4276	Closkelt Road, Moneyslane
U4277	Splitbog Road, Lowtown
U4292	Meenan Road, Loughbrickland
U4371	Glascar Road, Banbridge
U4384	Drumarkin Road, Rathfriland
U4404	Castlehill, Rathfriland
U7381	Ballymacully Road, Caledon
U7404	Creenagh Road, Loughgall
U7405	Off Drumnasoo Road, Richhill
U7406	Drumnasoo Road, Richhill
U7486	Clonroot Road, Richhill
U7491	Annaboe Road, Richhill
U7492	Off Annaboe Road, Richhill
U7502	Creenagh Road, Loughgall
U7514	Kilmacanty Road, Armagh
U7531	Annagora Road, Armagh
U7594	Kings Hill Road, Richhill
U7633	Annareagh Road, Richhill
U7634	Off Annareagh Road, Richhill
U7726	Tannaghmore Road, Tandragee
U7735	Ashtree Hill, Tandragee
U7751	Tannaghmore Road, Markethill
U7756	Off Tannaghmore Road, Markethill
U7774	Off Ballyshiel Road, Clare
U7886	Ballynaleck Lane, Jerrettspass
U8016	Off Markethill Road (By Dougans Tyres), Armagh
U8026	Off Coolmillish Road, Markethill
U8027	Off Castleview Road, Markethill

Road Number	Road Name
U8027	Ballindarragh Road, Markethill
U8028	Off Castleview Road, Markethill
U8073	Off Lisnagat Road, Markethill
U8081	Damoily Road, Markethill
U8091	Lough Road, Markethill
U8107	Tullywill Road, Newtownhamilton
U8282	Granemore Road, Armagh
U8562	Derryhennett Road, Middletown
U8714	Mullan Road, Middletown

TABLE 25: Roads Recovery completed

Total length completed
21 km

TABLE 26: Roads Recovery locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
B0025	Hilltown Road, Rathfriland
C0184	Milltown Road, Benburb
C0186	Carrickaness Road, Benburb
C0340	Glaskerbeg Road, Milltown
C0355	Killysorrell Road, Banbridge
U4163	Carnpark Road, Dromore
U7341 / U7352	Milltown Road, Benburb
U7411	Salters Grange, Armagh
U7414	By Salters Grange Cottages, Armagh
U7415	Cabragh Road, Armagh
U7421	Lisdonwilly Road, Armagh
U7422	Allistragh Road, Armagh

Completed Footway Resurfacing

TABLE 27: Footway Resurfacing completed

Total length completed
1.1 Km

TABLE 28: Footway Resurfacing locations

Road Number	Road Name
F4462	Dickson Park, Banbridge
U1258	Donagh Park, Donaghcloney
U4077	Ballygunaghan Place, Blackskull
U7014	Cavanacaw Road, Armagh

Completed Drainage Maintenance Works

TABLE 29: Drainage completed locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0003	Monaghan Road, Middletown
A0027	Mahon Road, Portadown
B0002	Derrymacash Road, Derrymacash
B0131	Teagy Road, Loughgall
C0179	Drummanmore Road, Armagh
C0207	Ratarnet Road, Markethill
U1049	Derryhirk Road, Banbridge
U1090	Derrycaw Lane, Portadown
U1238	Acre Lane, Lurgan
U7551	Annaghmore Road, Annaghmore
U8056	Ballymacully Road, Killylea
U4135	Tullylish Road, Banbridge
U4168	Mullabrack Road, Gilford
U4064	Villawood Road, Blackskull
U4181	Shanrod Road, Katesbridge

3.2 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROPOSED WORKS 2024 – 2025

Proposed Surfacing

TABLE 30: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network planned

Total length planned
1.1 km

TABLE 31: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0003	Kernan Loop / Northway, Portadown
A0029	Moy Road at Drumcairn Road junction, Armagh
A0029	Moy Road at Grange Blundell Road junction, Armagh

TABLE 32: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network planned

Total length planned
8.8 km

TABLE 33: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0026	Banbridge Road, Lurgan (Windy Lane to Laneway opposite 'Welcome to Waringstown' sign)
A0029 / U8437	Darkley Road, Keady
A0029	Armagh Road, Keady (Girvans Bridge)
A0051	Hamiltonsbawn Road, Hamiltonsbawn
B0002	Francis Street, Lurgan
B0025	Hilltown Road, Rathfriland
B0131	Kilmore Road, Loughgall
U4147	Glaskestown Road, Banbridge
U4376	Drumlee Road, Ballyward

TABLE 34: Surface Dressing planned

Total length planned
162 km

TABLE 35: Surface Dressing locations

Road Number	Road Name
B0002	Bluestone Road, Craigavon
B0002	Ballyvalley Road, Poyntzpass
B0003	Tandragee Road, Clare
B0007	Iveagh Bungalows / Drumlough Road, Rathfriland
B0032	Castleblaney Road, Keady
B0131	Aghory Road, Richhill
B0131	Cloghoge Road, Clare
B0132	Maddan Road, Keady (2 sections)
C0155	Bleary Road, Portadown
C0161	Farlough Road, Portadown
C0161	Farlough Road, Portadown
C0167	Clonmacash Road, Loughgall
C0175	Tullynacross Road, Poyntzpass
C0178	Kilmacanty Road, Kilmore
C0178	Creenagh Road, Richhill
C0186	Foyarr Road, Tynan
C0191	Fellows Hall Road, Tynan
C0194	Hanslough Road, Middletown (2 sections)
C0197	Crosskeys Road, Keady (2 sections)
C0198	Crosskeys Road, Keady (2 sections)
C0201	Ennislare Road, Armagh
C0203	Armaghbreague Road, Granemore (3 sections)
C0205	Tullyallen Road, Mowhan

Road Number	Road Name
C0212	Glenanne Road, Glenanne (2 sections)
C0212	Rathconvil Road, Markethill (2 sections)
C0322	Cloghskeel Road, Katesbridge
C0328	Banbridge Road, Dromore
C0350	Loughbrickland Road, Gilford
C0358	Hall Road, Donaghcloney
U1017	Annaghdroughal Road, Lurgan
U1022	Moss Road, Lurgan
U1027	Gaudybridge Road, Lurgan
U1045	Annaloiste Road, Lurgan
U1054	Off Columbkille Road, Portadown
U1067	Pier Rampart, Lurgan
U1099	Derrycarib Road, Portadown
U1145	Off Tarthlounge Road, Portadown
U1217	Druminally Road, Portadown
U1286	Ballynagarrick Road, Portadown
U1300	The Slopes, Lurgan
U4002	Fairview Road, Dromore
U4013	Ballymacormick Road, Dromore
U4033	Lurganban Road, Dromore
U4063	Upper Quilly Road, Dromore
U4096	Broken Bridge Road, Banbridge
U4151	Listullyard Road, Banbridge
U4153	Moss Bann Road, Banbridge
U4202	Ringsend Road, Banbridge
U4207	Ringsend Road, Banbridge
U4208	Coolnacran Road, Banbridge
U4251	Clay Road, Banbridge

Road Number	Road Name
U4384	Drumarkin Road, Rathfriland
U4404	Castlehill, Rathfriland
U7311	Navan Fort Road, Armagh
U7318	Off Killylea Road, Armagh
U7387	Clontycarty Lane, Caledon
U7393	Cockle Hill Road, Loughgall
U7404	Creenagh Road, Loughgall
U7406	Drumnasoo Road, Richill
U7444	By Kinnegoe Hall, Loughgall
U7486	Clonroot Road, Richhill
U7492	Off Annaboe Road, Richhill
U7502	Creenagh Road, Loughgall
U7503	Tullygarden Road, Richhill
U7505	Crewcatt Road, Richhill
U7514	Kilmacanty Road, Kilmore
U7515	Drumharrif Road, Loughgall
U7522	Ambies Lane, Tandragee
U7528	Off Ambies Lane, Loughgall
U7555	Off Moss Road, Loughgall
U7563	Off Clonmore Road, Banbridge
U7594	Kings Hill Road, Richhill
U7611	Off Portadown Road, Armagh
U7614	Mullaghbane Road, Armagh
U7615	Mullanasilla Road, Armagh
U7633	Off Annareagh Road, Richhill
U7634	Off Annareagh Road, Richhill
U7652	Off Ballygroobany Road, Hamiltonsbawn
U7655	Off Aghory Road, Armagh

Road Number	Road Name
U7737	Cornascreeb Road, Tandragee
U7757	Drumart Road, Tandragee
U7777	Corernagh Road, Poyntzpass
U7872	Ballyreagh Road, Tandragee
U7876	Crewbeg Road, Clare
U8005	Off Derryraine Road, Tandragee
U8101	Ballylane Road, Markethill
U8152	Ballynahonemore Road / Narrow Road, Armagh
U8157	Drumsavage Road (includes part of Lenalea Road), Armagh
U8272	Off Killyaddy Road, Keady
U8301	Slaterock Road, Keady
U8303	Glencorran Road, Keady
U8312	Viewpoint Road, Keady
U8313	Viewpoint Road, Keady
U8382	Drumgreenagh Road, Middletown
U8383	Off Crosskeys Road, Keady
U8386	Off Maddan Road, Keady
U8431	Tullynawood Road, Keady (3 sections)
U8434	Off Tullynawood Road, Keady
U8436	Off Upper Darkley Road, Keady
U8442	Carrowbane Road, Derrynoose
U8443	Off Upper Darkley Road, Keady
U8443	Off Darkley Road, Keady
U8714	Mullan Road, Keady

TABLE 36: Roads Recovery planned

Total length planned
16.7 Km

TABLE 37: Roads Recovery locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
C0160	Bannfoot Road, Derrytrasna
C0167	Derrylileagh Road, Maghery
U1045	Derryane Road, Maghery
U1065	Bay Rampart, Derryadd
U1149	The Palms, Portadown
U1153	Derryneskan Road, Portadown
U1241	Off Moy Road, Portadown
U4148	Ballykeel Road, Banbridge
U4192	Lisnaree Road, Banbridge
U4192	Lisnaree Road, Banbridge
U4245	Lisnavaragh Road, Banbridge
U4245	Lisnavaragh Road, Scarva
U4350	Wee Lisnacroppin Road, Rathfriland
U7013	Killuney Drive, Armagh
U7014	Woodfrod Drive, Armagh
U7572	Eglish Road, Portadown
U7751	Tannaghmore Road, Tandragee
U7751	Tannaghmore Road, Markethill
U7755	Moss Road, Tandragee
U7764	Lough Road, Tandragee
U8051	Lisdrumchor Road, Glennanne
U8055	Crunagh Road, Markethill
U8093	By Ballylane Church, Markethill
U8166	Off Marlacoo Road, Hamiltonsbawn

Proposed Footway Resurfacing

TABLE 38: Footway Resurfacing planned

Total length planned
2 Km

TABLE 39: Footway Resurfacing locations

Road Number	Road Name
B0077	Main Street, Loughgall
U1210	Gilpen Park, Dollingstown
U1355	Fitzgerald Park, Portadown
U1356	Duke Street, Portadown
U1362	Ramone Park, Portadown
U1407	Thornleigh, Lurgan
U1408	Annesborough Road, Lurgan
U1419	Hawthorne Drive, Bleary
U4147	Seapatrick, Banbridge (complete)
U4453	Laganvale, Dromore (complete)
U7013	Jubilee Park, Armagh
U7013	Ashley Park, Armagh
U8465	Fairgreen, Keady

Proposed Drainage Works

TABLE 40: Drainage planned locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0005	Gilford Road, Portadown
A0028	Newry Road, Armagh
A0029	Bridge Street, Keady
A0050	Katesbridge Road, Katesbridge
B0003	Tandragee Road, Tandragee
B0078	Cladymilltown Road, Clady
B0114	Dunsmullan Road, Markethill
B0134	Mowhan Road, Markethill
C0163	Richmount Road, Portadown
C0191	Abbey Road, Tynan
C0307	Katesbridge Road, Finnis
C0328	Gall Bog Road, Waringsford
U0147	Carn Drive, Portadown
U1148	Kilvergan Lane, Lurgan
U1222	Milford Gardens, Waringstown
U4198	Ringsend Road, Finnis
U7891	Dinahorra Road, Markethill (2 locations)
U8021	Green Park Avenue, Markethill
U8101	Ballylane Road, Markethill
U8404	Granemore Road, Keady

3.3 ROUTINE MAINTENANCE COMPLETED WORKS 2023 – 2024

Grass Cutting

The grass verges on all rural roads were cut in accordance with the Department's policy.

TABLE 41: Grass cutting completed

Total Length cut
4294 Km

Defects

Section Office staff regularly inspect the local network for actionable defects in accordance with the Road Maintenance Guidelines. These guidelines classify the local roads according to traffic volume and establish corresponding deadlines for the repair of any defects identified.

TABLE 42: Defects details

Description	Detail Total
Total priority defects recorded	16,815
Total repaired within specified timescales	63.7 %

Public Liability Claims

TABLE 43: Public Liability Claims details

Description	Detail Total
Total claims received	856
- vehicular damage	784
- personal injury	65
- property damage	7
Total claims settled	696
Total claims rejected	142

Please note that statistics above for total claims settled are claims where compensation was paid, and statistics for total claims rejected are for claims where no compensation was paid.

The Department's road related claims data between 2019/20 to 2023/24 can be accessed via the following webpage; <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/road-asset-maintenance-directorate-management-information-roads-related-claims-period-20192020>

The link to general information relating to road related claims on NI Direct is via the following webpage; <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/claim-compensation-due-road-or-street-problem>

MAINTENANCE OF STRUCTURES

Highway Structures include bridges, sign gantries and retaining walls. All bridges must be capable of carrying 40 tonne vehicles and this requirement has led to the ongoing assessment of bridges in the area.

Structures Section manages the 1,275 bridges and culverts with a span of 1.8m and greater with-in the Division, 601 of which are in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Area. Smaller structures are managed by the local Section Offices.

TABLE 44: Structures Maintenance Schemes Completed 2023/24

Structures maintenance work completed within the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council during 2023/24.

Location	Scheme Description
Shillington Bridge, Northway, Portadown	Bridge repairs.
Papermill Bridge, Tandragee	Bridge repairs (3 No.)
Legananny Road, Scarva	Bridge and retaining wall repairs.
Cavangarvan Road Bridge, Armagh	Bridge repairs.
Clinghans Bridge, Waringsford	Bridge repairs.
Lagangreen Bridge, Dromore	Bridge repairs.

TABLE 45: Vehicle Restraint Systems Upgrade Completed 2023/24

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) upgrades undertaken within the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council during 2023/24.

Road Name, Location
Lake Road, Craigavon (2 locations)
Rathfriland Road, Banbridge
Killylea Road, Caledon (at River Blackwater)
M12 (3 locations)
Highfield Road, Craigavon (10 locations)

TABLE 46: Structures Maintenance Schemes Planned 2024/25

Structures maintenance work proposed within the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council during 2024/25.

Location	Scheme Description
Moylinn East Bridge, Lake Road, Craigavon	Replacement bridge being procured in Autumn 2024 and aiming for contract start in early 2025
Clare Glen, Tandragee	Bridge Repairs.
Dromore Road, Dromore bridges (2 no)	Bridge Repairs.
Magheraville Road Bridge, Armagh	Bridge Repairs.
Callan Bridge, Armagh	Bridge Repairs (parapet upgrade).
Terryhoogan Road, Scarva (Railway Bridge)	Bridge Repairs.
Mullahead, Portadown (Railway Bridge)	Bridge Repairs.
West Street, Portadown (Railway Bridge)	Bridge Repairs.
West Street, Portadown (Footbridge)	Bridge Repairs.
Summerisland Road Bridge, Moy	Bridge Repairs
Flush Road Bridge, Ballyward	Bridge Replacement.

Other maintenance schemes within the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Area will be dependent on the available budget within the year. All other bridges are inspected routinely. This generates an ongoing programme of maintenance / repairs to bridges and other structures.

TABLE 47: Vehicle Restraint Systems Upgrade Planned 2024/25

Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) proposed within the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area in 2024/25.

Road Name, Location
Taghnevan Drive, Lurgan (4 no.)
Lough Road, Lurgan
Portadown Road, Richhill
Ballyrone Road, Banbridge

LANDS SECTION

The DfI Lands Team manage the Divisions lands assets and are responsible for the acquisition of land required for road improvement schemes. The work also involves processing abandonments of land, disposal of land assets that are no longer required and dealing with a range of land queries.

Abandonments

Abandonments of public rights-of-way such as sections of adopted roads and footways are procedures separate from the planning process. These involve a public consultation exercise which informs DfI Roads' decision.

TABLE 48: Abandonments

Road, Location	Date	Area (Sqm)
Ardress Road, Cranagill, Portadown	28 November 2023	1689 sqm Superseded Road
Annesborough Industrial Estate, Lurgan	5 March 2024	3 lengths of road totalling 1038 sqm and 8 lengths of footpath totalling 690 sqm

There were no Stopping Orders over the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

WINTER SERVICE

TABLE 49: Winter Service - dates of operations

Description	Start date	Completion date
Official winter maintenance period 2023-2024	16 October 2023	31 March 2024
Salting Operations in this period	65	

TABLE 50: Winter Service - details of operations

Description	Details
Depot locations in Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council area	Carn Depot, Carn Industrial Estate, Craigavon Armagh Depot, Ballynahonemore Road, Armagh
Number of gritters used during 1 gritting action in Council area	10
Number of personnel involved in gritting operation in Southern Division	135
Length of roads salted in Council area	948 km
Total volume of salt used during 2023-2024 winter season in Southern Division	12080 tonnes



SECTION 4 - MAJOR PROJECTS SOUTH

Major Projects Team South Manager (Acting) Brian McClelland

Brian is supported by the following staff:



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MAJOR PROJECTS SOUTH

4.1 A1 Junctions Phase 2 (A1J2)

This proposal, which is estimated to cost in the range of £100 - 110m (currently under review), involves the construction of four grade separated junctions (flyovers) to facilitate the closing up of all openings in the central median and installation of a continuous central median concrete safety barrier along a 25 km stretch of the A1 dual carriageway between Hillsborough Roundabout and Loughbrickland, improving road safety for all road users on the A1.

The grade separated junctions will be located at:

- Listullycurran Road
- Gowdstown Road
- Skeltons Road / Drumneath Road
- Waringsford Road



Existing Compact Grade Separated Junction at Pantridge Link, Hillsborough

In addition, the proposal includes the provision of a northbound on-slip at Castlewellan Road at Banbridge, a link between the existing underpass junction at Hillsborough Road, Dromore and Milebush Road and the closing of nine minor road junctions along this section of the A1.

All other roads will then operate on a left in - left out basis. A number of Private Accesses onto the A1 are also proposed for closure.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and draft Statutory Orders were published in March 2019 and the Public Inquiry into the scheme was held in March 2020. The Public Inquiry Inspector issued his report to the Department on 19 October 2020. Following the publication of the Departmental Statement on 28 January 2021, the Statutory Orders for the scheme were then made, with the Stopping Up (of Private Accesses) Order coming into operation on 24th June 2021 and the Direction Order on 16th July 2021.

On-site works for the advance ground investigations and archaeological investigations are now complete.

The Infrastructure Minister John O'Dowd, on 2 July 2024, announced in the NI Assembly that the scheme will now proceed to the procurement stage. Work is ongoing to finalise the Business Case and complete the preparation of the contract documents. Further progression of the A1J2 scheme to formal procurement and subsequent construction will depend on the approval of the Business Case, clearing the remaining statutory procedures and funding being made available to the Department.

The contractor procurement exercise will then take between 12 - 15 months. Construction is expected to take a further three years to build the scheme.

Additional scheme information is available at:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/a1-junctions-phase-2-overview>

4.2 Armagh North and West Link

This scheme aims to provide a new link road around the North and West sides of the city of Armagh to improve the A3 Portadown - Armagh - Monaghan Road strategic link corridor and to improve the environment in the historic city centre.

The Department is currently drafting a new Transportation Strategy for Northern Ireland (TSNI). It will form an overarching framework which will shape the planning and delivery of transport infrastructure and services up to 2035.

Work is ongoing to complete the draft TSNI for public consultation by end of 2024. Once the draft TSNI has been published, we will be able to review all work to date on the draft Regional Strategic Transport Network Transport Plan (RSTNTP) in the context of the TSNI and the carbon target for transport, which has not yet been set.

The recent publication of the prioritised list of major road schemes, that will continue to be progressed, explains that development work on the Armagh North and West Link is currently paused. A decision to recommence development work will be considered following confirmation of the RSTNTP.

4.3 A28 Armagh East Link

A review of route options for the A28 Armagh East Link Road was completed and published in August 2019. The preferred route encompasses a new link road on the east side of the city which connects the A3 Portadown Road and the A28 Markethill Road with the objective of improving road safety and relieving congestion in Armagh City Centre. The proposed scheme also includes a 3m wide shared use footway / cycleway which will help to make sustainable travel options more accessible for the local community.

The recent publication of the prioritised list of major road schemes, that will continue to be progressed, explains that development work on the Armagh East Link is currently paused. A decision to recommence development work will be considered following confirmation of the RSTNTP.

If the scheme were to receive a future approval to proceed, the next step would then be to provide a 'specimen design' which will be subject to comprehensive environmental, economic and engineering assessments. The formal statutory procedures would then follow with the publication of an Environmental Impact Assessment together with a Notice of Intention to make a Direction Order and a Notice of Intention to make a Vesting Order. A Public Inquiry may also be required in future should the scheme progress.

Additional scheme information is available at:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/a28-armagh-east-overview>.

SECTION 5 - ENGAGING WITH DfI ROADS

Dealing with Correspondence / Public Interface

Due to continued resourcing challenges the Department's current approach in dealing with queries is set out below to maintain a level of service.

One area of significant workload is dealing with correspondence. The Department, and in particular DfI Roads, receives a large volume of correspondence from the public and public representatives throughout the year. To give a sense of scale, Southern Division has in recent years received more than 40,000 items of correspondence in one year. Indeed, the level of correspondence has been increasing in recent years at a time when resources have been reducing which is adversely impacting on our ability to deliver key services and public safety responsibilities. Therefore, in an effort to maximise our effectiveness in delivering key road maintenance functions, we ask that members of the public and elected representatives who have access to the internet please report road defects via the DfI online reporting facility provided by NI Direct; <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/problems-roads-and-streets>.

Alternatively, faults that are considered to be an emergency (during working hours) can be reported by telephone to 028 90 540540.

Section Offices will be opened to the public from 10am - 12noon with meetings outside of this able to be arranged by appointment also.

Emergency Out of Office Hours Assistance

We have a call centre to deal with calls outside normal office hours. DfI Roads personnel can be called upon to deal with emergencies such as flooding, obstructions such as fallen trees, and when requested by Emergency Services, in clearing up after road traffic collisions. Routine roads related matters are not dealt with by this service and should be raised with DfI Roads offices during normal working hours.

The Emergency out of Hours telephone number is: 0300 200 7899

Reports of Flooding can be directed to the Flooding Incident Line 0300 2000 100 (24 hours a day).

DFI Roads Contact Details

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Area

Report a fault - (eg, street lights, pot holes, blocked gullies, etc)

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/problems-roads-and-streets>

Maintenance – We have two Section Offices covering the Borough, one in Armagh and one in Craigavon.

Armagh Section Office - ArmaghBanbridgeandCraigavonWest@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Banbridge and Craigavon Section Office -
ArmaghBanbridgeandCraigavonEast@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Traffic

tnindcraigavon@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

General

dfiroads.southern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Street Lighting

streetlightingsouthern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Telephone

During working hours Emergencies: **Tel: 028 9054 0540**

Out-of-Hours Emergencies: **Tel: 0300 200 7899**

Dfi Roads website

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/>

TRAFFICWATCH website

www.trafficwatchni.com

Floodline Incident Line

The Flooding Incident Line is available 24 hours a day, every day. You can report flooding problems on roads or burst water mains and blocked drains. **Telephone: 0300 2000 100**