

# Report

Report to:	<b>Petitions Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>22 November 2021</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Petition Requesting Road and Footpath Resurfacing on Harrington Road and Cunninghame Road, East Kilbride</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ allow the Petitions Committee to consider a petition lodged by Matthew McCabe (Lead Petitioner)

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Petitions Committee is asked to:-

- (1) give due consideration to the petition lodged requesting road and footpath resurfacing on Harrington Road and Cunninghame Road, East Kilbride.

## 3. Background

3.1. A petition has been lodged with the Council which meets the Guidelines as:-

- ◆ the matter has been raised with the Council prior to submission and relates to issues that affect the community
- ◆ the number of petitioners exceeds the minimum limit of 50

## 4. Petition Details

4.1. The petition requests full resurfacing of the roads and footpaths on Harrington Road and Cunningham Road, East Kilbride and the statement by the lead petitioner states that:-

“The residents of Harrington Road and Cunninghame Road wish to petition the Council in regards to the dangerous condition of the roads and footpaths on Harrington Road and Cunninghame Road.

The roads are in a disgraceful condition and it is some years since they have been serviced let alone the gulleys or drains cleared which causes the street and nearby gardens to flood. The road surface is degraded to the point where it is littered with potholes and the entire surface has broken down. The footpaths are in a similar condition. I do not have details of who conducted any survey of these surfaces, however, I would strongly disagree with their findings.

I have testimony from residents who advise that year on year they are told the street will be included in subsequent fiscal years, however, this never transpires. One resident speaks of being promised resurfacing in 2001 which has yet to materialise. The roads were last properly surfaced circa 1980.

The streets are in a shameful dangerous state, complained about for decades. SLC are responsible for their upkeep, however, have chosen not to fulfil their responsibilities in this case.

The roads have not suffered from cuts to budget as is too often blamed by the Council but simply poor planned maintenance and neglect.

The promises going back decades to address the issues have been unfulfilled and are no more than stalling methods to quieten the residents of our 2 streets.

We, the residents, are not prepared to accept inaction and be fobbed off with excuses any longer, the fact remains these streets are in a terrible state and need immediate repair.”

## **5. Support for Petition**

- 5.1. The petition contains 54 names, all from Harrington Road and Cunninghame Road, East Kilbride.

## **6. Comments from Roads and Transportation Services**

- 6.1. As further background on the terms of the petition, Roads and Transportation Services have provided the following comments:-
  - ◆ The Lead Petitioner and other residents have been corresponding with Roads and Transportation Services largely on the subject of carriageway condition since August 2019. This has been in the form of direct enquiries, enquiries from elected members/members of parliament, complaints and Freedom of Information requests. Prior to this, defect reports were received via the Customer Service Centre and online reporting system.
  - ◆ Roads and Transportation Services have always agreed that both carriageways require to be resurfaced and have explained that a prioritisation system is in place to ensure the most needy resurfacing locations across South Lanarkshire are brought forward each year for the annual resurfacing programme. This prioritisation system considers the general condition of a road and its importance/traffic flow.
  - ◆ It was hoped that both carriageways would have sufficient priority to merit inclusion in the 2021/2022 carriageway resurfacing programme, however, they failed to make the final list when assessed against competing locations across all of South Lanarkshire. Both are expected to be included in the 2022/2023 carriageway resurfacing programme which is due to be confirmed in March 2022.
  - ◆ No records were found pertaining to historical resurfacing commitments. The first discussions between Roads and the residents/residents’ representatives in this regard appear to be from August 2019.

- ◆ The footways are not considered to be a high priority for resurfacing at this stage. Potential footway resurfacing locations are assessed against four criteria with general condition and importance given the greatest weighting. The original enquiries received from residents, Councillors and MPs all related to carriageway condition with footways first being mentioned much more recently.
- ◆ In terms of routine inspections and maintenance, safety inspections of the carriageways and footways of Harrington Road and Cunninghame Road are undertaken annually and road drainage gullies are cleaned two-yearly. Ad hoc inspections and repairs are carried out as needed in reaction to specific defect reports from residents and other road users.

## **7. Options open to the Committee**

7.1. In terms of the approved guidance, the Petitions Committee can:-

- ◆ agree that the issues raised deserve further action and agree to refer the petition to another Council Committee, officer or other organisation with recommendations
- ◆ agree that the issue raised does not merit further action
- ◆ refer back to the Resource with recommendations for further action

## **8. Employee Implications**

8.1 There are no employee implications as a result of this report.

## **9. Financial Implications**

9.1. There are no financial implications at this time.

## **10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

10.1 There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

## **11. Other Implications**

11.1 There are no implications for risk in terms of the information contained in this report.

## **12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

12.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

12.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in the report.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

12 October 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent

## **Previous References**

- ◆ None

## **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ None

## **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Carol Lyon, Administration Officer

Ext: 5652 (Tel: 01698 455652)

E-mail: [carol.lyon@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:carol.lyon@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)