Devon Highways Recent Achievements

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Business as usual plus …

- Improving business
- Supporting communities and the economy
- Investing in our highway assets for the future
- Delivering efficiencies & making the money go further
Improving business

- Business redesign and staff restructuring – predicted to deliver £750k saving
- Easier to use online fault reporting
- Communicating our business
  - Website redesign including Parish & Town Council dedicated webpages
  - www.roadworks.org
  - Open Data portal
- Redesigning permit and licensing procedures and moving towards an online option
  - Skips/scaffolds/Vehicle crossings
  - Business parking permits
Supporting Communities and Economy

• Enabling a range of special events:
  – Over 1,000 events take place in Devon during a year
  – Small community events to major events and events of national significance

• Working towards reducing bureaucratic licencing processes for community activities
  – Banners, bunting and decorations, planting flowers, placing seats etc

• Community Payback

• Community Self-help

• Coordinating works and events on the highway to minimise disruption
  – Improving the tools we use to coordinate and planning further ahead.

• Partnership working:
  – Diptford with Trail riders
  – Strete Coast Path
Investing in our asset

- **Mat Lab retaining UKAS accreditation:**
  - Keeping a centre of excellence for materials specification and testing in Devon

- **£9m pothole recovery:**
  - 359 schemes programmed and delivered on 86 miles of road

- **Grand Western Canal:**
  - Benefit of clearing weeds

- **Street lighting £13m funding:**
  - To enable delivery of LED lighting and upgrade of columns – to save £1m per year in energy costs

- **A and B road network currently at only 2% in need of structural maintenance**

- **Improved planning and use of legislation to protect our resurfacing on major roads**

- **Large structural improvements**
  - Teign viaduct
  - A361 Exe viaduct
Improving business - Report a problem online

You are here: Home » Report a problem

Track an existing problem

**Roads and transport**

- **Pothole**
  - Large deep hole or multiple holes in the same street

- **Flooding & blocked drains**
  - Standing water, blocked drain, flooded property, impassable road

- **Street light**
  - Not lit, on all day, flickering, shade tilted, wires exposed or leaning

- **Hazardous or fallen trees**
  - Trees that have fallen into the road or are leaning, unstable, diseased or dying

- **Overgrown vegetation**
  - Pedestrians forced into road, cars over central line, reduced visibility

- **Trip hazard**
  - Hole or significant difference in level on pavement or cycleway

- **Broken manhole cover**
  - Broken, missing or rocking manhole cover

- **Public rights of way**
  - For example blocked access or broken stiles
Easier to use
Easier to see what’s already been reported
Auto email updates if required
approx 50,000 reports recorded through the online portal, which is around 70% of the total contacts recorded
Positive feedback received
Culvert repairs

The popular route was closed to all users in August 2014 as the culvert/ bridge was damaged. The Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF) were keen to see the route reopened but this was not a priority for DCC funding.

So the TRF offered their help to get the work done on this unsurfaced route in Diptford.

The Trail Riders worked with the PROW team and EDG (Nigel Laws).

A contractor did the work in the water

The Trail Riders did the masonry works

This saved DCC several thousand pounds and therefore enabled the works to proceed.
Supporting communities - Partnership working in Diptford

Working together
Supporting communities - Partnership working in Diptford
Supporting communities - Partnership working, South West Coast Path

• Jonathan Dimbleby officially opened a new stretch between Strete and Strete Gate in South Devon this year.

• Years of local residents and groups campaigning to take the route off a busy road.

• Natural England and Devon County Council provided the majority of funding and a contribution from Strete Parish Council, along with the collaboration of local landowners and the South West Coast Path Association made it possible.

• Leader of Devon County Council, Councillor John Hart said: “Thanks go to everyone involved in helping to deliver this project. It has only been made possible by working closely with the local community, landowners and the South West Coast Path National Trail Partnership. It is a project that has taken a great deal of patience for more than three decades and it is fantastic that this collective effort has paid off.”
Supporting communities - Community Payback

Our local teams have been working with Community Payback to enable small local improvements.

We provide the necessary supervision.

They do the work.
Supporting communities - Community Payback

These are examples of the types of minor improvements that can be achieved through the Community Payback scheme:

- Removing weeds
- Clearing vegetation
- Painting railings
Supporting communities – Special events

Over a 1,000 events are facilitated by our Coordination and Events Manager each year.

• We provide advice to event organisers on a range of issues including safety, signing and parking arrangements to ensure they have a safe and successful event.

• For events requiring wide spread road closures we work closely with partners including the emergency services to ensure the route is clear and well managed on the day.
Supporting communities –
Special events

Some examples of what goes on in Devon that requires our assistance:

• **Sporting events**
  Rugby World Cup, Tour of Britain Cycle Race, Ten Tors, Race for Life, Great West Run, Exeter Water Slide, Dartmouth Regatta, The Grizzly, Cycling Time Trials and Sportives

• **Local traditional events**
  Bampton Fair, Honiton Hot Pennies, Tavistock Goose Fair, Widecombe Fair, Ottery Tar Barrels, Torrington Cavaliers Bonfire

• **Parades**
  Armed Forces Day, Freedom of the City of Exeter, Pride (Exeter and Totnes), St George’s Day, Battle of Britain, Lamas, Remembrance Day

• **Over 50 local carnivals**

• **Others events**
  Tiverton Balloon Festival, Dawlish Air Show, Red Arrows in Dawlish, Dartmouth and Sidmouth, Bideford New Year’s Eve
Supporting communities – Special events

**Agricultural Shows:**
- Devon County Show
- Honiton Show
- Mid Devon Show
- North Devon Show
- Totnes Show
- Okehampton Show
- Yealmpton Show
- Chagford Show

13,000 cars visiting Devon County Show
Supporting communities – Special events

Music events such as:
- Beautiful Days at Escot
- Powderham Castle events
- Sidmouth Folk Festival
- Chagstock
- Somersault Festival

15,000 festival goers at Beautiful Days
Investing in our Asset – Grand Western Canal

Some of the funding acquired after the canal breached is designated specifically to works that will improve the resilience of the canal and significantly reduce the chance of future breaches.

The works include:

- the water level monitoring and alarm system,
- new tilting weirs to significantly increase the volume of water that can be released from the canal,
- new aluminium stop boards,
- some major embankment repairs,
- a major programme of tree felling on the crests of embankments
- the purchase of the new weed boat.
Why a weed boat?

Hydrological modelling work by our consultants identified that:

• Major build up of weed in the canal can significantly restrict flows of water along the length of the canal.

• A difference of several cm in water level at either end of the canal has been recorded for extended periods when the canal is weedy.

• The location of the canal’s main outfalls, at the northern end of the canal, require the free flow of water to be effective.

Our 15 year old weed harvester is increasingly unreliable and expensive to repair and so the need for a new weed boat was identified.
Investing in our asset – Protecting the network

- Stopping utility companies digging up our newly resurfaced roads for 3 years
- This year we focussed on the A road network.
- New connections and emergencies still have to be done but …
- More control on how utilities reinstate so we can get longer life expectancy from our surfacing and investment
Investing in our asset –
Large structural improvements

Teign Estuary Viaduct on the A380 near Kingsteignton
• Our largest bridge
• Almost 40 years old
• Metal expansion joints starting to fail
• £3m scheme to:
  • Replace the expansion joints
  • Waterproof the bridge deck
  • Improve drainage and the surfacing

There should be no need to return to this bridge for major work for at least 30 years
Investing in our asset –
Large structural improvements

Exe Viaduct on the A361 near Bolham, Tiverton
• 30 year old bridge
• failed expansion joint
• work underway to
  • replace the joint
  • renew the bridge deck waterproofing

There should be no need to return to this bridge for major work for at least 30 years
Investing in our asset –
Large structural improvements

Swincombe
Footbridge, Princetown
Collard Bridge, North Devon - Reopened this year
Delivering Efficiency Savings

**Efficiency Achievements**

- **Resurfacing**: 2.6% in 2011/12, 4.3% in 2012/13, 6% in 2013/14, 7.4% in 2014/15
- **Drainage**: 0% in 2011/12, 11.3% in 2014/15
- **Patching**: 2.6% in 2011/12, 3.7% in 2012/13, 4.3% in 2013/14
- **Surface Dressing**: 0% in 2011/12, 3.7% in 2012/13, 4.3% in 2013/14, 4.3% in 2014/15
- **Bridges**: 0% in 2011/12, 11.3% in 2014/15
Footway Slurry Seal

• A cost effective solution to seal & prolong the life of our footways when done well

• Careful selection of sites

• Programme of £1.1m (up from £600k last year)

• Good preparation ensures good / longer lasting results

• Trained and Experienced Crews

• Very messy operation
Footway Slurry Seal
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Spray Injection Patching

• Cost effective solution for rural lower category roads

• Conditions need to be right though

• Dressing to finish off, sealing the surface and adding skid resistance
Spray Injection Patching
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• Costs average £3/m² including dressing

• Increased utilisation of Surface Dressing equipment reduces costs

• Saving 20% against conventional patching + dressing

• Budget this year £720k
Questions?