

NYC's Area 6 response to the Parish Council regarding road re-surfacing / repairs (7 Aug 2023)

“North Yorkshire adopts an asset management led approach to maintaining the counties road network, meaning we look to intervene at the optimum point in the lifecycle of a carriageway with the aim to extend its useable life before more costly maintenance is required. This as I'm sure you can imagine is a difficult task to balance as county wide the Council has over 9,000km of network to manage. It's therefore imperative that we try and obtain the best value out of our works and try to extend budgets as much as possible so we're treating as much of the network at the optimum point before more costly maintenance is required. We carry out a mix of both corrective and preventative maintenance, so you will often see us working on roads that look in a better condition as it's a more optimal time for us to intervene on that road and carry out less expensive repairs.

That unfortunately cannot be the case for every road in the county as some are past those more cost-efficient measures and we have to rely on resurfacing or similar to restore structural integrity back into the pavement. In those instances, North Yorkshire has a policy of regularly surveying the structural condition of the roads and footways, with frequency dependent on traffic volume. Most of the road network is surveyed either annually or every two years. Our surveys are all industry accepted methods of highway survey carried out either by qualified Council personnel or by accredited external contractors.

The condition data that's collected from across the County is then processed and reviewed to identify potential future maintenance schemes, alongside local engineering input. Specifically selected schemes are then included in a report that's presented to the Corporate Director in consultation with the Executive Member for Highways to enter them onto the approved Forward Highways Capital Programme. The final step is then to include schemes from the Forward Programme, based on available budgets, for inclusion within an annual capital programme for delivery in a specific financial year.

For reassurance, I can inform you that Main Street and Station Road in Pannal have been included in the most recent report that will be presented to the Director and Executive Member I believe later this month as a resurfacing scheme. I've also requested they be schemes we deliver next financial year (which runs from 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025) but it will depend on available budgets County wide as both these roads form part of our Strategic Network.

We do however continue to have all roads in the county routinely inspected for safety defects in accordance with our Highway Safety Inspection Manual, so the local Highway Officers will in the interim respond to any defects that meet our intervention criteria before more permanent repairs can be made.”