

# Highway Asset Management Policy

**Version:** 1.6

**Date Issue:** June 2024

**Review date:** June 2025

**Reference:** WCC\_CH\_AM\_Policy

**Team:** County Highways

**Protective Marking:** None

## Highway Asset Management Policy

### Purpose of Policy

The Council recognises the vital role played by Warwickshire's local highway network in achieving its ambitions as set out in the Council Plan 2022-2027 and Local Transport Plan (LTP4).

**Council's Core Ambition is:** "To make Warwickshire the best it can be, sustainable now and for future generations".

### This is supported by three strategic priorities:

- *A County with a thriving economy and places with the right jobs, skills, and infrastructure.*
- *A place where people can live their best lives; where communities and individuals are supported to live safely, healthily, happily and independently.*
- *A County with a sustainable future which means adapting to and mitigating climate change and meeting net zero commitments.*

### Role of Highway Asset Management in delivering the Council's Core Ambition:

Highway Asset Management is a strategic approach identifying the optimal investment for the management, operation, preservation and enhancement of the highway transport network to meet the present and future needs of all transport users.

Warwickshire's transport infrastructure provides a vital public asset for all the communities in the County by facilitating mobility for local communities and connectivity for businesses. The local highway network is by far the most valuable publicly owned asset managed by Warwickshire County Council (WCC) which has a total replacement cost of around £4.8bn. Thus, the importance of its effective and efficient management, together with continuous investment year on year cannot be understated.

### Policy Statement

WCC recognises that delivering a structurally sound, reliable and well-connected highway network requires the effective implementation of the highway asset management framework. By adopting this approach, the County Council's resources will be targeted efficiently to provide a highway network that is fit for purpose now and in the future for its communities and businesses.

## Specific Outcomes

The Councils outcomes, derived from the Core ambition, are: -

- Create vibrant places with safe and inclusive communities.
- Deliver major infrastructure, digital connectivity and improved transport options.
- Promote inclusive, sustainable economic growth, successful businesses, good quality jobs and future skills.
- Tackle climate change, promote biodiversity and deliver on our commitment to Net Zero.
- Deliver our child friendly Warwickshire strategy – happy, healthy, safe children.
- Through education, improve life opportunities for children, young people and those with special educational needs.
- Support people to live healthy, happy, and independent lives and work with partners to reduce health inequalities.

In contributing to the outcomes, the highway service will:

- Maintain a reliably sound, and resilient network that is fit for purpose, well-connected, in a good condition, utilises green technology and is safe for users.
- Enable communities to access all local services including education, training, healthcare, employment and leisure through a well-maintained infrastructure.
- Ensure that Warwickshire’s transport infrastructure is well managed and maintained within the available budgets by balancing competing needs.
- Create a highway service that operates at optimal cost and utilises future investment in an efficient and effective manner in the medium and long term.
- Maximise value for taxpayers through existing and future service provider arrangements.
- Develop risk management strategies to identify and address proportionate and affordable asset availability for the transport infrastructure.
- Maintain a network of routes as part of an integrated transport system which also provides attractive alternatives to car usage where possible.
- Recognise the value of technology in helping to maintain network performance and seek to increase its use to provide data to support targeted interventions.

<b>Document Review</b>	<b>Review changes</b>
December 2020	Ensure Corporate Objectives remain current. No changes made to Policy.
March 2022	Ensure policy aligns with the Corporate Objectives as set out in 'The Council Plan 2020-25', relevant changes have been made.
June 2024	Ensure policy aligns with Corporate Ambitions as set out in the

	<p>'Council Plan 2022-27 and ensure alignment with the Council's vision set out in the LTP4. Relevant changes have been made.</p>
--	---