

DFI ROADS SOUTHERN DIVISION

Report to

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

Annual Report 2023/24

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Foreword

I have pleasure in submitting the Roads 2023/24 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 2022/23 and sets out our initial proposals for schemes to be undertaken in the year 2023/24.

The road network is Northern Ireland's largest and most valuable strategic infrastructure asset. Its presence and quality is an implied assumption in all public services but has not been given the sufficient funding needed for its essential maintenance. This is a strategic risk to our future prosperity, safety and well-being. Road maintenance expenditure is consistently below the required levels to maintain our existing standard of infrastructure. By way of an example, improvements to extend the lifespan of our roads (through essential maintenance) over the past decade has totalled almost £1bn of underinvestment. The consequence of this underinvestment is an asset that deteriorates more quickly and results in more costly and complex interventions in the future. Put simply, we recognise that it would be better value to maintain the asset well and in a timely fashion but regrettably we currently do not have the funding to be able to do more.

The Secretary of State provided all NI Departments with budgets for 2023/24.

The Department is managing a 14% reduction in its 2023/24 Resource budget allocation when compared to 2022/23 on a like for like basis. Despite every effort to reduce spend across the Department and its Arms Length Bodies, we still face a significant funding gap.

The opening Capital budget for structural maintenance of the road network in 2023/24 is £85m, which is welcomed but still falls well short of the £143 million (£192m at today's prices) required annually to maintain the road network in a reasonable condition.

The Department's ability to spend its budget allocation is dependent on having sufficient contracting resource to hand to deliver the work. Following the legal challenges to the award of asphalt resurfacing contracts in 2021 the Department successfully procured two term contracts for the Council area; the Armagh area in September 2022, and, the Banbridge and Craigavon area in March 2023. Whilst regrettably this has meant a delay in 2022/23, progress is now being made to deliver much needed resurfacing work across the Council area. The Department is also developing a Procurement Enhancement Programme to further improve the procurement and delivery of contracts.

Capital funding has continued to be provided for Active Travel schemes given the requirement of the Climate Change Act (NI) 2022 to invest into walking, wheeling and cycling. The Department has put in place a range of measures to increase delivery of high-quality active travel infrastructure throughout Northern Ireland.

The Department is working closely with Councils to better understand their five-year active travel programme and developing an appropriate grant and support framework for the delivery of greenways. We have commissioned a Northern Ireland wide Active Travel Network Delivery plan which is due for consultation in 2024. When complete, this Plan will provide a firm basis

for the prioritisation of delivery of active travel infrastructure within and connecting our towns and cities. The Plan will complement and take account of the greenways network. We are also implementing changes in the procurement of our active travel supply chain to ensure sufficient design resources are available to deal with increased demand in the coming years.

Work on the A1 Upgrade project to prepare contract documents in readiness for procurement is nearing completion. Once completed, the taking forward of the project will be informed by the Department's emerging transport plans and a decision by an empowered decision maker.

For many years, the Department has operated within a constrained Resource budget, with the opening baseline allocation insufficient to properly manage the public assets for which we are responsible and this is no different for this current year. As a result, we have historically relied on in-year funding to deliver many of our services. Added to these longer-term pressures are the unprecedented increases in energy and inflation prices.

In the face of such acute budgetary pressure the Department is currently continuing 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. 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 2023/24.

However, with the uncertainty around budgets it is important for us to monitor all maintenance activities within the constrained funding available going forward and difficult decisions may need to be made to re-align activities within funding levels as the year progresses.

The Division is currently facing significant staffing pressures which is impacting on our ability to deliver key services and public safety responsibilities. Therefore, 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. My 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 on Page 58.

I hope that you find this report informative. I, along with representatives from our two Section Offices, Ciaran McKenna and Brendan Coleman, as well as our Deputy Secretary Colin Woods, 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

Improvements and minor work



Alan McMurray
Road Maintenance Manager

Maintenance of existing road network



Brian McClelland
Major Projects Team 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, 182 standalone signalised pedestrian Controlled Crossings, 83,412 streetlights and over 1000 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.

Department for Infrastructure
Southern Division HQ
Marlborough House
Central Way
CRAIGAVON
BT64 1AD

Tel: 0300 200 7899 (24 hours a day)

E-mail: dfiroads.southern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

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

SECTION 1- PLANNING AND STREETLIGHTING

Planning Manager Aloysius Loughran

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



Kieran Conlon

Senior Engineer (Acting)

Private Streets
Marlborough House
Craigavon

Telephone: 0300 200 7899

Email: marlboroughhouseprivatestreets@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk



David Sheard

Senior Engineer (Acting)

Development Control
Marlborough House
Craigavon

Telephone: 0300 200 7899

Email: marlboroughdevelopmentcontrol@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk



Joseph O'Neill

Senior Engineer (Acting)

Street Lighting Depot
Carn Industrial Estate
Portadown

Telephone: 0300 200 7899

Email: streetlightingsouthern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

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 2022 to 31 March 2023 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	3865	1440
Number of Pre-Planning Enquiries	91	37

Of the above consultations, 61 were for approval of housing developments involving the Private Streets (NI) Order 1980. Creating approximately 4.5 km of new road and 2.5 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
LA08/2023/1815/F Housing	Glenloughan Park, Scarva
LA08/2022/0528/F Housing	Commercial Road, Banbridge
LA08/2022/1200/F Housing	Tullygally Road, Craigavon
LA08/2022/1084/F Housing	Highfield Heights, Craigavon
LA08/2021/1319/F Housing	Kilvergan Road, Aghacommon
LA08/2022/0189/F Housing	Madden Road, Keady

Another application of significance is provided in Table 3.

TABLE 3: Planning Consultations - Significant Applications

Application	Location, Town / Townland
LA08/2022/0001/F Industrial	Mandeville Business Park, Craigavon

Licensing of Pavement Cafes Act (NI) 2014

Development Control also responds to the Council in respect of applications under the Licensing of Pavement Cafes Act (NI) 2014 and gives advice on various ad-hoc matters such as placing of planters and signage.

Roads (NI) Order 1993, Article 80

Article 80 applies to new vehicular accesses on to unclassified roads or agricultural accesses on to classified and unclassified roads. It covers proposals such as new driveway entrances and dropped kerbs and is used where planning permission is not required. During the reporting period DfI Roads dealt with 30 Article 80 applications.

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

1.2 Private Streets - Adoptions

Completed Works 2022-2023

TABLE 4: Private Streets – Adoption numbers

Adoption Details	Southern Division	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council area
Number of adoptions	60	24

TABLE 5: Adoption locations

Adoption locations	Date of Adoption
Killuney Meadows, Armagh (Stage 1)	07/04/2022
Newry Road, Banbridge (Stage 1)	08/04/2022
Carbet Road, Portadown (Stage 1)	12/04/2022
Drumaran View, Gilford (Stage 6 & 7)	10/06/2022
Woodville Gate, Lurgan (Stages 6 to 8)	24/06/2022
Madden Heights, Armagh (Stage 1)	02/08/2022
Ballynadrone Meadows, Magheralin (Stage 10)	05/08/2022
Deanery Demesne, Armagh (Stages 1 & 2)	21/09/2022
Lagan Gate, Aghagallon (Stage 4 & 5)	23/09/2022
Edenbrook, Banbridge (Stages 1 & 2)	20/10/2022
Parkview, Lurgan (Stage 1)	31/10/2022
Bramble Meadows, Clonmore (Stages 1 to 4)	07/11/2022
Fort Manor, Banbridge (Stage 2)	08/11/2022
Castlewellan Road, Banbridge (Stages 1 & 2)	22/11/2022
Linen Lane, Dromore (Stages 1 & 2)	08/11/2022
Colane Lane, Aghagallon (Stage 1)	22/11/2022
Bocombra Meadows, Portadown (Stage 4)	02/12/2022
Loughans View, Gilford (Stage 1)	10/01/2023
Old Fort Lodge, Craigavon (Stages 8 & 10)	04/01/2023
Atherton Square, Lurgan (Stages 1 & 2)	06/01/2023

Adoption locations	Date of Adoption
Deerings Wood, Lurgan (Stage 2)	09/01/2023
Ashgrove Lodge, Lurgan (Stages 3 to 5)	16/01/2023
Parsons Gate, Portadown (Stages 1 to 3)	08/02/2023
Baltylum Meadows, Portadown (Stage 9)	27/02/2023

During the reporting period Private Streets Section has been successful in adopting a total of 24 private developments comprising 3705 metres of carriageway, 1400 metres of footway and 104 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.

DfI Roads is currently carrying out works on the following development sites through enforcement action:

Planned Works 2023 – 2024

TABLE 6: Private Streets – Enforcements

Enforcement location
Drumna Walk, Lurgan
Birchwood Manor, Birches, Portadown

Property Certificates

Private Streets Section coordinates the DfI Roads response to Property Certificate Enquiries. Property Certificate numbers are not available for the full year 2022/23, as the new NI Planning Portal was launched in December 2022 and the old system is not available.

The Planning Portal 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 Local Development Plans

Advice

The Department can provide advice to the Council area on transportation matters for Local Transport Plans and Community Plans as well as work on strategic development planning applications.

The table below shows all consultations dealt with, during the reporting period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 within the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Area.

TABLE 7: Local Development Plan Consultations

Consultation Details	Southern Division	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council area
Number of formal consultations	2	1
Number of informal consultations	0	0

1.5 Street Lighting

The total number of lights in Southern Division is approximately 83,412 of which approximately 33,724 (40%) are within the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area.

Completed Works 2022 – 2023

TABLE 8: Street Lighting – completed

Location	Scheme Description
Pinebank, Craigavon	Replacement
Drumgor Road, Craigavon	Replacement
Brownlow Road, Craigavon (Phase 2)	Replacement
Malcolm Road, Lurgan	Replacement
Flush Place, Lurgan	Replacement
Banbridge Road, Lurgan	Replacement
Parkmore, Craigavon	Replacement
Seagoe Road, Portadown	Replacement
Silverwood Industrial Estate, Lurgan	Replacement
Carrigart, Craigavon	Replacement
Aldervale, Craigavon	Replacement
Aghalee Road, Aghagallon	Replacement
Ardowen, Craigavon	Replacement
Tandragee Road, Portadown	Replacement
Drumgor West Road, Craigavon	Replacement
Tarry Drive, Lurgan	Replacement
Brownstown Road, Portadown (Phase 1)	Replacement
Larchwood, Banbridge	Replacement
Ashley Gardens, Banbridge	Replacement
Baird Avenue, Donaghcloney	Replacement
Donagh Park, Donaghcloney	Replacement
Hillview Park, Donaghcloney	Replacement
Cavanacaw Park, Armagh	Replacement

Location	Scheme Description
Jubilee Park, Armagh	Replacement
Loughgall Road, Armagh	Replacement
Legacorry Road, Richhill	Replacement
Ashley Heights, Armagh	Replacement
Ashley Close, Armagh	Replacement
Hillside Avenue, Hamiltownbawn	Replacement
Keady Street, Markethill	Replacement
Langs Crescent, Armagh	Replacement
Coolmilish Road, Markethill	Replacement
Ballymore Road, Armagh	Replacement
Kilmore Road, Kilmore	Replacement
LED Upgrading Scheme ABC Area	2200 Units

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 on line 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 2023 – 2024

TABLE 9: Street Lighting – planned

Location	Scheme Description
Fort Street, Banbridge	Replacement
Kernan Road, Portadown	Replacement
Lurgan Road, Portadown	Replacement
Cherryville Park Area, Lurgan	Replacement
Sandhill Park, Lurgan	Replacement
Ballyhannon Road, Portadown	Replacement
Victoria Place & Gardens, Banbridge	Replacement
Ashgrove Road, Portadown	Replacement
Brooke Gardens, Banbridge	Replacement
Mourneview Park, Tandragee	Replacement
Mellifont Park and Sperrin Park, Armagh	Replacement
Hill Street, Milford	Replacement
Church Street, Keady	Replacement
EGLISH Park, Teagey	Replacement
Turnberry Green, Tandragee	Replacement

SECTION 2 - NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Development Manager: Ryan Gough

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



David McCullagh
Senior Development Engineer

Development
Marlborough House
Central Way
Craigavon
BT64 1AD

Tel: 0300 200 7899

Email: tnindcraigavon@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

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
- 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
- Legislation

2.1 Completed Works 2022 – 2023

TABLE 10: Carriageways / Minor Works completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0010 / U4469 / U4470	Scarva Street / Commercial Road / Downshire Place, Banbridge	Junction realignment and signalisation at Scarva Street / Commercial Road / Downshire Place to improve pedestrian safety and traffic progression.	Complete

Scarva Street / Commercial Road / Downshire Place, Banbridge



Junction realignment and signalisation to improve pedestrian safety and traffic progression.

TABLE 11.1: Pedestrian Measures completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
C0156	Drumgor Road, Craigavon	Provision of Toucan Crossing.	Complete
C0201	Kernan Hill Road, Craigavon	Provision of Toucan Crossing.	Complete
C0351	Ballygowan Road, Banbridge	Dropped Kerbs.	Complete
U4462	Churchview Drive, Banbridge	Dropped Kerbs.	Complete
U4468	Downshire Gardens, Banbridge	Dropped Kerbs x 3.	Complete
U4504	Castle View, Gilford	Dropped Kerbs.	Complete
U7014	Cavanacaw Road, Armagh	Pedestrian islands.	Complete
U7014	Cavanacaw Road, Armagh	Footway.	Complete

Kernan Hill Road, Craigavon



Provision of Toucan Crossing.

Cavanacaw Road, Armagh



Provision of a new footway.

TABLE 11.2: Cycling Measures completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
F1399	Craigavon Lakes, Legahory / Drumgor	Widening of 5m segregated Pedestrian / Cycleway.	Complete
U1383	Drumgor Road West, Craigavon	Provision of 3m shared Footway / Cycleway.	Complete

TABLE 12: Traffic Calming completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
U7014	Cavanacaw Road, Armagh	Traffic and pedestrian islands.	Complete

TABLE 13: Road Signs, Markings, and Bollards completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0003	Monaghan Road, Armagh	Milford Directional sign erected.	Complete
A0029	Main Street, Charlemont	Roundabout signage erected.	Complete
A0029	Moy Road, Armagh	'No Through Road', sign erected at Conroys Lane junction.	Complete
A0050	Castlewellan Road, Banbridge	Double white lines.	Complete
A0050	Old Manse Road, Banbridge	Double white lines and arrows.	Complete
A0050	Ballyward Road, Moneyslane	SLOW road marking.	Complete
A0050	Ballyward Road, Moneyslane	'Blind summit' sign.	Complete
B0002	Lurgan Road, Dromore	Advanced 'Junction Ahead' sign.	Complete

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0007	Rathfriland Road, Moneyslane	Double white lines.	Complete
B0007	Rathfriand Road, Moneyslane	50mph speed limit signs.	Complete
B0077	Loughgall / Red Lion Road, Portadown	'SLOW' markings put in place on approach to crossroads.	Complete
B0128	Blackwatertown Road, Armagh	'SLOW' markings put in place near bend.	Complete
B0134	Mowhan Road, Markethill	Reflective marker posts installed at U8093 junction.	Complete
C0182	Derrycaw Road, Moy	'No Through Road' sign erected at Mullens Hill junction.	Complete
C0188	Ballycrummy Road, Armagh	30mph signs erected along this stretch as well as a few adjoining roads.	Complete
C0196	Derrynoose Road, Keady	'SLOW' markings put in place near bend.	Complete
C0328	Banbridge Road, Kinallen	40mph speed limit signs.	Complete
U1356	Clounagh Park, Portadown	T-Bar marking put in place at property no.11.	Complete
U7446	Kinnegoe Road, Moy	'Unsuitable for HGV' signs erected at either end of road.	Complete
U7616	Narrow Tirnascope Road, Richhill	'Unsuitable for HGV' signs erected at either end of road.	Complete
U8462	Madden Row, Keady	T-Bar markings refreshed/amended at property. no. 14	Complete

TABLE 14.1: Traffic Orders (Road & Lane Closures) completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
Various	Various	Various-approx 4100 no.	Complete

TABLE 14.2: Accessible Parking Bays completed

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0025	Downpatrick Street, Rathfriland	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
B0002	Francis Street, Lurgan	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
B0003	Main Street, Scarva	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U1414	Spelga Park, Lurgan	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U4453	Bignian View, Dromore	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U7529	Annahaugh Park, Loughgall	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete

2.2 Planned Works 2023 – 2024

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

TABLE 15: Carriageways / Minor Works planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0003	Portadown Road, Armagh	Resurfacing and widening.	Planned 23/24

TABLE 16.1: Pedestrian Measures planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0003	Avenue Road, Lurgan	Controlled crossing upgrade.	Planned 23/24
B0028	Garvaghy Road, Portadown	Controlled crossing upgrade.	Planned 23/24
B0078	Brownstown Road, Portadown	Controlled crossing upgrade.	Planned 23/24
U1386	Moylinn / Tullygally, Craigavon	Dropped kerbs in vicinity of St. Anthony's Primary School.	Completed 23/24

TABLE 16.2: Cycling Measures planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0027	Mandeville Road, Craigavon	Provision of 5m segregated – shared footway / cycleway.	Planned 23/24 (Subject to Contractor Availability)
F1384	Cherry path (part of Blackpath network under Drumgor West Road), Craigavon	Upgrade of 5m shared footway / cyclepath	Planned 23/24 (Subject to Contractor Availability)

Collision Remedial

The Department annually receives data from the PSNI relating to collisions on the network where injuries have been sustained. This information is assessed to identify clusters where incidents have occurred. These clusters are identified for further examination to determine the nature of the collisions, contributory factors and possible patterns. When engineering methods

can be applied to address or improve the situation design proposals are then drawn up and implemented on a priority basis.

While we regret and are concerned about all road traffic collisions and give a high priority to collision reduction and prevention measures, councillors can hopefully appreciate that traffic collisions can be caused by a wide range of contributory factors, not all of which can be influenced or controlled by the provision of engineering measures.

The following schemes are planned for delivery in the Council area in the current financial year.

TABLE 17: Collision Remedial planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0028	Gosford Road, Markethill	Hard shoulder markings at Loughgilly.	Planned 23/24

TABLE 18: Road Signs, Markings, and Bollards planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0029	Moy Road, Armagh	Side road to left and right warning signs on approach to Allistragh Lane.	Planned 23/24
B0002	Markethill Road, Tandragee	Erect two number horse warning signs.	Planned 23/24
B0003	Tassagh Road, Keady	Side Road to left and right warning signs and 'SLOW' markings on approach to Annvale Road.	Planned 23/24
B0128	Blackwatertown Road, Armagh	Chevron signs and reflective marker posts to be put in place on bend.	Planned 23/24
B0131	Grange Road, Kilmore	Chevron signs and reflective marker posts to be put in place on bend.	Planned 23/24
C0163	Coharra Road, Portadown	Side Road to left and right warning signs and 'SLOW' markings on approach to Cushenny Road junction.	Planned 23/24
U1409	Tarry Lane, Lurgan	School Children sign and 'School' roadmarkings.	Complete 23/24
U8281	Granemore Road, Keady	Blind summit warning signs and 'SLOW' markings on both approaches to hill.	Planned 23/24

TABLE 19.1: Traffic Orders (Road & Lane Closures) planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
Various	Various	Estimated 400+no. Road & Lane Closure applications.	Planned 23/24

TABLE 19.2: Accessible Parking Bays planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
A0026	Dromore Street, Banbridge	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
B0003	Main Street, Scarva	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U1353	Ballybay Park, Portadown	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U1388	Pinebank, Craigavon	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U1403	Manor Park, Lurgan	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U1404	James Street, Lurgan	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U4450	Church View, Dromore	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U4450	Gallows Street, Dromore	Accessible Parking Bay x 2.	Planned 23/24
U4450	Maypole Park, Dromore	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned 23/24
U7529	Annahugh Park, Loughgall	Install one Accessible Parking Bay at property no.6 and remove two nearby that are no longer required.	Planned 23/24

TABLE 20: Accessible Parking [Dropped kerbs/mobility ramps] planned

Road Number	Road Name	Scheme Description	Status
U1388	Pinebank, Craigavon	Lower kerbs in vicinity of property no.305.	Complete 23/24

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 4 - NETWORK MAINTENANCE

Maintenance Manager: Alan McMurray

Alan is supported by the following staff:



Desmond Blacker

Section Engineer Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon East
Carn Industrial Estate
Craigavon
BT63 5RH

Tel: 0300 200 7892

Email: ArmaghBanbridgeandCraigavonEast@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk



Ciarán McKenna

Section Engineer Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon West
Ballinahonemore Road
Armagh
BT60 1JD

Tel: 0300 200 7892

Email: ArmaghBanbridgeandCraigavonWest@infrastructureni.gov.uk



Robert Twinem
Senior Engineer (Acting)

Structures, Maintenance Support and Lands
Marlborough House
Craigavon
BT64 1AD

Tel: 0300 200 7899

Email: SouthernMaintenance@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

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.

Gully Emptying

In 2023/24, 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. Open outlets are also cleaned once per year.

Rural Roads Fund

In 2023/24, 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 58.

Street Works

TABLE 21: 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
25,765	12,113	4,209	46.75%

STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE COMPLETED WORKS 2022 – 2023

Completed Surfacing

TABLE 22: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network completed

Total length completed
1.7 Km

TABLE 23: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0028	Newry Road, Loughgilly

TABLE 24: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network completed

Total length completed
12.6 Km

TABLE 25: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name
C0181	Clonmore Road (Tullyroan Road), Tullyroan
C0182 & U7396	Derryscallop Road, Charlemont
C0183	Grange Blundell Road, Loughgall
U7487	Vicarage Road, Derryhale

TABLE 26: Surface Dressing completed

Total length completed
152.6 Km

TABLE 27: Surface Dressing locations

Road Number	Road Name
B0002	Mullahead Road, Tandragee
B0003	Fergort Road, Middletown
B0003	Ballinaskeagh Road, Milltown

Road Number	Road Name
B0003	Loughbrickland Road, Milltown
B0028	Summerisland Road, Address
B0131	Derrycoose Road, Address
B0131	Blackisland Road, Address
C0161	Derrymacfall Road, Portadown
C0162	Corcullentragh Road, Portadown
C0170	Ballymore Road, Tandragee
C0172	Terryhoogan Road, Scarva
C0176	Shanecracken Road, Markethill
C0184	Maydown Road, Armagh
C0185	Maydown Road, Armagh
C0185	Knappagh Road, Killylea
C0193	Drumhillery Road, Drumhillery
C0193	Drumhillary Road, Middletown
C0203	Chalybeate Road, Newtownhamilton
C0206	Redrock Road, Markethill
C0207	Seagahan Road, Armagh
C0212	Upper Lisdrumchor Road, Glennane
C0228	Drumantine Hill Road, Jerrettspass
C0328	Banbridge Road, Kinallen
C0343	Poyntzpass Road, Loughbrickland
C0343	Bann Road, Poyntzpass
C0355	Rowantree Road, Dromore
C1960	Derrynoose Road, Carnagh
U1005	Diamond Lane, Aghalee
U1006	Orken Lane, Aghalee
U1007	The Hollow Road, Aghalee
U1019	Killaghy Road, Lurgan
U1035	Rock Lane, Aghalee

Road Number	Road Name
U1049	Derryhirk Road, Charlemount
U1073	Bridge Road, Lurgan
U1084	Derrycarne Road, Portadown
U1105	Bailiffs Lane, Derryadd
U1113	Tullydagan Road, Lurgan
U1156	Foy Lane, Portadown
U1157	Off Foy Lane, Portadown
U1158	Off Foy Lane, Portadown
U1160	Foy Road, Portadown
U1162	Derrycarne Road, Portadown
U1181	Derrycarne Road, Portadown
U1205	Drumnabreeze Road, Donaghcloney
U1205	Drumnabreeze Road, Donaghcloney
U1206	Taughlumny Road, Donaghcloney
U1319	Off Hunters Hill Road, Gilford
U1322	Thows Lane, Portadown
U1371	Breagh Road, Portadown
U4031	Parkrow Road, Dromore
U4032	Caughy's Road, Dromore
U4065	Edenordinary Road, Banbridge
U4082	Old Bann Road, Lawrencetown
U4110	Mount Ida Road, Banbridge
U4113	Kilmacrew Road, Banbridge
U4147	Huntly / Milltown Road, Banbridge
U4191	Quarry Road, Banbridge
U4204	Old Newry Road, Banbridge
U4206	Springwell Loaning, Banbridge
U4238	Tullyorior Road, Annaclone
U4238	Tullyorior Road, Annaclone

Road Number	Road Name
U4240	Circular Road, Annaclone
U4294	Carrick Road, Jerrettspass
U4295	Ballymore Road, Jerrettspass
U4296	Tullymore Road, Jerrettspass
U4297	Rock Meeting Road, Jerrettspass
U4301	Blue Hill Road, Annaclone
U4311	Creevy Loop, Jerrettspass
U4316	Glenhead Road, Ballyward
U4319	Glenhead Road, Ballyward
U4343	Glenburn Road, Annaclone
U4362	Ballymore Road, Jerrettspass
U4369	Flush Road, Ballyward
U4371	Glascar Road, Banbridge
U7006	Desart Lane Lower, Armagh
U7014	Cavanacaw Road, Armagh
U7302	Drumcoote Road, Armagh
U7347	Drumduff Lane, Benburb
U7348	Edenderry Lane, Benburb
U7532	Cushenny Road, Portadown
U7534	Cushenny Road , Portadown
U7592	Sturgeons Hill Road, Richhill
U7781	Glebe Hill Road, Scarva
U7789	Moores Lane, Scarva
U7790	Tullymacann Road, Scarva
U7864	Mossview Road, Jerrettspass
U8042	Derrycughan Road, Markethill
U8242	The Cairn Road, Armagh
U8397	Off Madden Road, Keady
U8494	Off Hanslough Road, Middletown

Road Number	Road Name
U8496	Doogary Lane, Middletown
U8585	Lower Clay Road, Carnagh
U8591	Derrynoose Road, Carnagh (at Chapel)

TABLE 28: Roads Recovery completed

Total length completed
17.6 km

TABLE 29: Roads Recovery locations

Road No	Road Name, Location
C0205	Cladymore Road, Markethill
U8481	Hanslough Road, Middletown
U8487	Doohat Road / Curragh Lane, Derrynoose
U8535	Crossdall Road / Rowan Road, Derrynoose
U8542, U8545 & U8453	Tivnacree Road, Carnagh
U8546	Glassdrummond Road, Derrynoose
U8561	Madden Road, Keady
U8592	Drumnavil Road, Derrynoose
U8593 / U8596	Carrickabolie Road / Crossnenagh Road, Carnagh
U8717	Tullybrick Lane, Armagh

Completed Footway Resurfacing

TABLE 30: Footway Resurfacing completed

Total length completed
1.218 Km

TABLE 31: Footway Resurfacing locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0028	Killylea Road, Armagh
U7003	Longstone Estate, Armagh
U7013	Orangefield, Armagh

Completed Drainage Maintenance Works

TABLE 32: Drainage completed locations

Road Number	Road Name
A0003	Northway, Portadown
A0004	Dungannon Road, Portadown
A0027	Marlaco Road, Hamiltonsbawn
A0050	Gilford Road, Portadown
B0002	Seagoe Road, Portadown
B0077	Loughgall Road, Armagh
B0133	Main Street, Mountnorris
C0184	Maydown Road, Tullysaran
C0208	Derryraine Road, Armagh
U1247	Cranny Road, Bleary
U1400	Ballynamoney Lane, Craigavon
U7009	Nialls Crescent, Armagh
U8061	Seaboughan Road, Markethill

STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROPOSED WORKS 2023 – 2024

Proposed Surfacing

TABLE 33: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network planned

Total length proposed
3.15 Km

TABLE 34: 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

TABLE 35: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network planned

Total length proposed
12 Km

TABLE 36: 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

Road Number	Road Name
U4149	Point Road, Banbridge

TABLE 37: Surface Dressing planned

Total length proposed
89 Km

TABLE 38: 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
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	Ballymorán Road, Armagh
C0202	Killyfaddy Road, Armagh
C0206	Damoily (Redrock) Road, Armagh

Road Number	Road Name
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
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

Road Number	Road Name
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
U4241	Church Road, Annaclone
U4251	Clay Road, Banbridge
U4276	Closkelt Road, Moneyslane
U4277	Splitbog Road, Loughtown
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

Road Number	Road Name
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
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 39: Roads Recovery planned

Total length proposed
21 Km

TABLE 40: Roads Recovery locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
C0340	Glaskerbeg Road, Milltown
B0025	Hilltown Road, Rathfriland
C0184	Milltown Road, Benburb
C0186	Carrickaness Road, Benburb
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

Proposed Footway Resurfacing

TABLE 41: Footway Resurfacing planned

Total length proposed
1.1 Km

TABLE 42: Footway Resurfacing locations

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

Proposed Drainage Works

TABLE 43: Drainage planned 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

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE COMPLETED WORKS 2022 – 2023

Grass Cutting

The grass verges on all rural roads were cut twice, with additional cutting carried out at sightlines as required.

TABLE 44: Grass cutting completed

Total Length cut	5,561.17 Km
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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 45: Defects details

Description	Detail
Total priority defects recorded	30,797
Total repaired within specified timescales	74%

Public Liability Claims

TABLE 46: Public Liability Claims details

Description	Detail
Total claims received	429
- vehicular damage	352
- personal injury	65
- property damage	12
Total claims settled	221
Total claims rejected	130

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.

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.

Structural Maintenance Schemes Completed Works 2022 – 2023

TABLE 47: Structures – completed

Location	Scheme Description
Moylinn Bridge, Lake Road, Craigavon	Removal of pedestrian footbridge.
Papermill Bridge, Keady Road, Armagh	Bridge repairs.
Battlehill Bridge, Portadown	Bridge repair.
Butterwater Bridge, Armagh	Bridge repair.

Structural Maintenance Schemes Planned Works 2023 – 2024

TABLE 48: Structures – planned

Location	Scheme Description
Moylinn Bridge, Lake Road, Craigavon	Replacement design to be progressed with planning permission.
Shillington Bridge, Northway, Portadown	Deck repairs.
Clare Glen, Tandragee	Bridge repairs.
Fourtown School Road, Banbridge	Bridge repairs.
Kilvergan Road, Craigavon	Bridge repairs.
Tassagh Bridge, Keady	Bridge repairs.

Vehicle Restraint Systems Upgrade Planned Works 2023 – 2024

TABLE 49: Vehicle Restraint Systems Upgrade - planned

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

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 50: Abandonments and Stopping Orders

Abandonment Orders	Date	Area
B0003, Main Street, Markethill	30 June 2022	4.3 Sqm Road
Stopping-Up Orders		
There were no Stopping Orders in Financial year 2022/23.		

WINTER SERVICE

TABLE 51: Winter Service - dates of operations

Description	Start date	Completion date
Official winter maintenance period 2022-2023	17 October 2022	2 April 2023
Salting Operations in this period	82	

TABLE 52: 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 2022-2023 winter season in Southern Division	18,397 tonnes



SECTION 4 - MAJOR PROJECTS SOUTH

Major Projects Team South Manager (Acting) Brian McClelland

Brian is supported by the following staff:



Neville Dynes

Major Projects Team South
Marlborough House
Central Way
Craigavon
BT641AD

Tel: 0300 200 7899

E-mail: southern.SRI@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk



Cyril (Sid) Stevenson

Major Projects Team South
Marlborough House
Central Way
Craigavon
BT641AD

Tel: 0300 200 7899

E-mail: southern.SRI@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

MAJOR PROJECTS SOUTH

4.1 A1 Junctions Phase 2 (A1J2)

This proposal, which is estimated to cost in the range of £65 - 75m (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.

In August 2023 the Department published a prioritised list of major road schemes that will continue to be progressed link; [Department publishes major roads prioritisation programme | Department for Infrastructure \(infrastructure-ni.gov.uk\)](#). There are a number of reasons why the prioritisation of projects currently in the pipeline was necessary, including the challenging budgetary position and constrained resources (in terms of finance and staff) and, importantly, the Department's commitments under the Climate Change (NI) Act 2022.

Transport policies and plans are currently being reviewed and updated to align with these commitments and this work will help define what major transport infrastructure projects should be included within any future major roads programme.

Due to financial and resourcing pressures the Department can only deliver those road projects where there are identified alternative funding streams such as Flagship and City and Growth Deal projects. The A1J2 scheme however is identified within the prioritised list as a scheme which will continue to progress towards the next key decision on procurement, which will be informed by the Department's emerging transport plans, the business case approval and a decision from a suitably empowered decision maker.

Current work on the contract documents for A1J2 is to be concluded and a future decision on the subsequent progression of the scheme will be made once the Department's emerging transport policies and plans have been developed to a sufficient stage, in particular the Regional Strategic Transport Network Transport Plan (RSTNTP).

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 2023. 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

As you will be aware following a restructuring exercise the Department has adopted a new approach in relation to dealing with some queries. It is perhaps worth refreshing on this process and the background to it.

The Department lost a significant number of staff in 2015 through the Voluntary Exit Scheme which was implemented across the whole of the Northern Ireland Civil Service. As a result of this Divisions had to develop new staffing structures across all work areas to try to maintain an acceptable 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 the past received over 19,000 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**