Highway Policy and Strategy Statement
Summary of Policy Statements in support of the Highway Asset Management Plan (HIAMP)

2015

The policies in this document are a formal, approved set of statements with which Salford City Council as the Highway Authority will comply. It will support Salford’s ‘Operational Policies and Standards for Highway and Street Lighting Maintenance’.

Each policy provides a statement of intent and links to the available supporting documentation in Salford’s City Council’s Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (HIAMP) and associated Appendices. In addition the policies will identify any minimum service standards that apply and provide a short introduction and scope of guidance as appropriate.

Highway Infrastructure and Standards

Introduction

This policy covers the requirements, specifications, standards and details for new construction on the highway.

In order to comply with its obligations Salford City Council must ensure that appropriate standards are applied to the design and construction of new highways and infrastructure. These standards will support future maintenance operations, ensure that the expected life of any new construction is achieved and that all aspects concerning safety are properly considered.

Scope of the Policy

The policy covers all new infrastructures on the highway, including renewals, replacements and new additions to the network. The standards are appropriately used for:

- Routine, reactive and structural maintenance works.
- All new highway related improvement schemes.
- All externally funded works on, or affecting the network
- All new developments which will be adopted as Public Highway in conjunction with Highway Status

Additional Information

Salford City Council manages and maintains a set of standard drawings and specifications which provide specific information regarding construction details. In addition to this all third parties that are considering highway works as described above should be aware of current Department for Transport, Design Guides and Highway Specifications

Policy Statement

Salford City Council as Highway Authority shall make available or provide guidance on how to access all standard details and specifications related to the design and construction of highways and associated assets in Salford. This will ensure that these standards are applied correctly and appropriately to the standards set out by the City council.
**Highway Status - Adoption**

**Introduction**

This policy covers the adoption and the extinguishment of highways maintainable at public expense.

The Highway Authority has a responsibility to manage the processes required for the creation of publicly maintainable highway, the recording of its extent and the extinguishment (stopping-up) of highway rights.

**Scope of the Policy**

The following legislation defines the relevant issues pertinent to the creation of adopted highway, status enquiries and to the extinguishment of highway rights of way under the following Acts:

- Highways Act
- Town & Country Planning Act 1990

**Additional Information**

Salford City Council maintain a ‘List of Streets’ maintainable at public expense and are able to provide information regarding highway status and its extent. Answering enquiries and search enquiries incurs costs and the City Council will recoup these costs as income.

**Policy Statement**

Salford City Council as the Highway Authority will adopt new roads and associated land, manage the status of those roads, and extinguish highway rights in line with appropriate legislation and City Council standards.

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**Structural Highway Maintenance**

**Introduction**

This policy covers planned structural maintenance activities on the highway network.

The policy supports and enables the Highway Authority to fulfil its responsibility to maintain the network in a safe condition and ensures within available budgets that the structural (long term) needs of highway assets are maintained efficiently and effectively.

**Scope of the Policy**

This policy covers all maintenance work that is not of a routine or reactive nature and is deemed to increase or retrieve the structural life of that asset. The list of treatments and improvements is extensive but would mainly include:

- Resurfacing, structural repair and reconstruction of roads and footways.
- Bridge strengthening and replacements
- Renewal and upgrades of existing equipment, such as traffic control and information systems.

**Policy Statement**

Salford City Council as the Highway Authority shall identify and prioritise structural maintenance treatments on any part of the network by using systems of regular highway inspections, course or visual condition surveys and other asset information as appropriate.

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Routine and Reactive Maintenance

Introduction

This policy covers routine and reactive maintenance activities on the network and describes any adopted service standards.

The policy supports and enables the Highway Authority to fulfil its responsibility to maintain the network in a safe condition. It is supported by minimum service standards, relevant legislation and the Codes of Practice.

Scope of the Policy

The policy should be applied to all constituent parts of the highway asset such as carriageways, footways, structures, drainage, street lighting, traffic management systems, signs and lines and verges.

The policy covers all inspections, routine and reactive maintenance activities, including:

- Emergency response (hazards on the highway).
- Emergency repairs
- Drainage, culverts and water courses
- Routine activities including; inspections, weed control, verge, gullies, signs and lining.

Policy Statement

Salford City Council as the Highway Authority shall manage a service which provides a comprehensive highway inspections process, emergency response regime and range of maintenance activities which meet the requirements of the relevant legislation to maintain safe passage on the highway network.

Network Management and Streetworks

Introduction

The policy covers the management of utility companies including the movement of traffic on Salford’ highway Network.

The New Roads & Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA) gives utility companies powers and duties to work in the highway to install and maintain apparatus. The legislation also gives the City Council, as the street Authority, a duty to protect the highway asset, minimise inconvenience to highway users and reduce risks to safety arising from utility works (street works).

The Traffic Management Act 2004 (TMA) gives the City Council, through Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) as the Traffic Authority, the duty to facilitate the expeditious movement of traffic on its network and neighbouring networks.

Scope of Policy

The policy covers the regulation and coordination of all road & street works on the highway ensuring that all licensed works, road works and street works including other activities and events are programmed, coordinated and notified in accordance with the appropriate legislation and Permits through Transport for Greater Manchester.
Policy Statement

Salford City Council shall fulfil its duties under the NRSWA & TMA by regulating and coordinating road works and street works on or affecting the highway network. In addition, appropriate inspections shall be carried out on street works in order to determine compliance with National specifications concerning reinstatement quality and signing & guarding.

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Maintenance of Severe Weather Conditions

Introduction

This policy covers the routine and reactive activities that will be implemented during periods of severe weather.

The policy is specific to maintenance of the network in severe weather and winter conditions. In these instances large parts of the network may be adversely affected at any one time therefore, special arrangements to keep the highway network functioning, need to be implemented.

Scope of the Policy

This policy covers the City of Salford’s response to all winter and extreme weather emergencies, which include some of the following:

- Flooding
- Wind damage (falling trees and other debris)
- Winter ice and snow events. (salting and snow clearance)

Additional Information

In the event of severe weather Salford City Council will operate their Winter Maintenance and Emergency Response Plan. This document sets out the preparation and response, outlines the service that can be expected and how the resources will be deployed with due regard to the scale of the event.

Policy Statement

Salford City Council as Highway Authority shall manage a service which provides a comprehensive highway emergency response strategy which meets the requirements of the relevant legislation to maintain safe passage on the network so far as is reasonably possible, by keeping the network free from obstructions and the effects of ice and snow.

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**Enforcement and Prosecution**

**Introduction**

This policy describes how the Council deal with illegal activities on the Highway and for which Salford City Council as the Highway Authority has a duty to control and manage.

Certain activities on the highway are not permitted and some are only permitted by consent or license from the Highway Authority. This policy supports and enables the regulatory duties placed upon Salford as Highway Authority by relevant legislation, keeping the Highway safe and available for passage.

**Scope of the Policy**

The policy is intended to cover all legal responsibilities of landowners adjacent to the public highway and illegal or unauthorised activities on the highway, including:

- Encroachments
- Obstructions
- Deposits on the highway
- Damage to the highway infrastructure
- Trading
- Unauthorised signs or structures
- Any other interference as defined in the legislation which affects highway safety or causes danger.

**Policy Statement**

Salford City Council as the Highway Authority shall fulfil its responsibility to keep the highway free from any unlicensed or illegal activity using its powers, where practicable, to prevent, enforce and if necessary prosecute offenders.

**Licensing and Consents**

**Introduction**

This policy covers activities on the Highway that are allowed but require management and control. It will provide direction and guidance and links to standard forms.

The policy identifies activities permitted on the highway, normally through the application and issue of licences and consents such as Scaffold, Hoards, Builders Skips and Tables and Chairs. Certain requirements will be placed on the applicant and failure to meet these may result in enforcement action or prosecution.

**Scope of the Policy**

The policy covers all third party activities on or affecting the highway where licence or consent is required. A licence or consent would normally be applicable through the following:

- Highways Act 1980
- New Roads and Street Works Act 1991
Policy Statement

Salford City Council as Highway Authority shall, where Legislation exists, require all third party activities on, or affecting the highway to be controlled by licence or consent.

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Electrical Infrastructure

Introduction

This policy covers the management of Electrical Infrastructure within the City of Salford’s highway Network.

Salford City Council is responsible for managing, monitoring and inspection of all the installation and operation of electrical and lighting systems within their highway and infrastructure network. A duty of care strategy and inspection regime is situated within the HIAMP and the City Councils Operational Policies and Standards for Highways and Street Lighting.

Scope of Policy

The Policy covers the maintenance of street lighting and electrical equipment within the highway network, including its testing and inspection procedures.

Additional Information

The introduction of LED, on over 90% of the street lights within City of Salford, has ensured best value in terms of energy consumption. It is therefore, part of this Policy Statement to consider the potential provision of both green and renewable energy, for all new street lighting and illuminated signs proposals within the City.

Policy Statement

Salford City Council shall fulfil its duty of care and legal obligations to maintain the electrical infrastructure in accordance with the Code of Practice for ‘Well Lit Highways’, Legal requirements and Regulations. It will also continue to invest in the current network and specify to new developers, the use of green and renewable energy such as LED wherever possible.

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The Policy Statements are approved as a document by:

The City Mayor........................................................................................................

The Strategic Director for Environmental and Community Safety.................................................................