

ITEM: 09 POTHOLE CHALLENGE

Report Author: Gordon Oliver **Position:** Principal Transport Policy Officer
Telephone: 01628 796097 **Email:** gordon.oliver@rbwm.gov.uk

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To inform the Cycle Forum about the Council's Pothole Challenge programme.

2. Supporting Information

- 2.1 The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has been successful in securing £293,000 of government grant to tackle potholes during 2014/15.
- 2.2 Record amounts are being spent on improving the borough's roads this year. In addition to resurfacing 31 miles of local roads and responding to emergency maintenance requests, a dedicated team has been set up to locate and repair potholes and other road surface problems, using high quality, permanent repairs.
- 2.3 The Pothole Challenge team will be dedicated to seeking out potholes, cracks and other imperfections, including those that are below traditional intervention thresholds. The team will be working their way around the borough on an area-by-area basis over the coming months.
- 2.4 The Cycle Forum has previously expressed concerns about the quality of road surfaces in the Royal Borough. This was also one of the key concerns that came out of last year's residents' survey, with 45% of respondents indicating that they wanted to see a greater emphasis on road and pavement repairs.
- 2.5 The additional money from the government will make a big difference to roads which were damaged over the winter. The works carried out by the Pothole Challenge Team will deliver significant improvements in conditions for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.
- 2.6 As the work progresses updates will be posted on the council website at www.rbwm.gov.uk/potholes.
- 2.7 Members of the Cycle Forum are encouraged to report potholes in the usual way through the Council's online 'fix-it' form or through third party applications such as FixMyStreet.com. Defects that are judged to be an emergency will be dealt with promptly, while minor problems will be picked up as part of the area-by-area patching works.

3. Conclusions

- 3.1 The Pothole Challenge and wider resurfacing programme will deliver significant improvements to the condition of the local road network, which will improve safety and comfort levels for cyclists and other road users across all parts of the Royal Borough.

4. Recommendation

4.1 It is recommended that members of the Cycle Forum:

- **note the contents of the report**