

Agenda Item	4
Report No	DSA/10/25

The Highland Council

Committee: Dingwall and Seaforth

Date: 26 May 2025

Report Title: Area Roads Capital Programme 2024/25 Update

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an update on the Area Roads Capital Programme 2024/25.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to **Note**:

- i. the final budget allocation for Dingwall and Seaforth area for 2024/25;
- ii. the works completed on the approved list to date; and
- iii. the additional works identified and prioritised throughout the year.

3 Implications

3.1 **Resource** - All work will be managed within budget allocations with the Council delivering its legal responsibilities.

3.2 **Legal** - The combined programme for Structural Resurfacing and Structural Integrity Improvements enables the Council to meet its duty under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 within the Local Committee Area.

3.3 **Risk** - The level of investment across Highland falls short of the budget requirements to maintain a steady state condition of the road network. Deterioration of the overall network will occur with a corresponding risk to the travelling public. An increase in damage claims can also be expected, as the road defects develop.

3.4 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** - No implications arising from this report.

3.5 **Gaelic** - This report has no impact on Gaelic considerations.

4 Impacts

- 4.1 In Highland, all policies, strategies or service changes are subject to an integrated screening for impact for Equalities, Poverty and Human Rights, Children's Rights and Wellbeing, Climate Change, Islands and Mainland Rural Communities, and Data Protection. Where identified as required, a full impact assessment will be undertaken.
- 4.2 Considering impacts is a core part of the decision-making process and needs to inform the decision-making process. When taking any decision, Members must give due regard to the findings of any assessment.
- 4.3 This is an update report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5 Background

- 5.1 On 19 February 2024 at the Dingwall and Seaforth Committee, Members approved the prioritised Area Roads Capital Programme (Report DSA/02/24) for Dingwall and Seaforth Area.

At the time of approving the report the Highland Council had not set its budget for the 2024/25 financial year.

6 Budget

- 6.1 The Highland Council Budget was set on 14 March 2024, where Members agreed the Roads Capital Budget Allocation for 2024/25 as part of a 3-year investment into Roads. Item 6.10 of Place Based Approaches to Strategic Capital Planning and Asset Management (Report HC/05/24) sets out the total investment into Road Capital over the 3 years.
- 6.2 For 2024/25 a total investment of £20.70m was agreed.
- 6.3 The £20.70m is to be distributed with a strategic allocation and a base capital allocation.
- 6.4 The local allocation for Ross and Cromarty was set at:-
- Base capital allocation = £1,847,928.
 - Strategic allocation = £1,349,000.
 - Structures = £100,000.
 - A total for Ross and Cromarty of £3,296,928
- 6.5 The Ross and Cromarty Committee has been replaced by Dingwall and Seaforth; Black Isle and Easter Ross; and Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh Area Committees. However the capital budget was not disaggregated to the individual committees. Consequently the programmes developed reflect the road mileage in each of the current committee areas.
- 6.6 Each year the strategic budget of £1,349,000 is allocated exclusively in turn to one of the three areas. For FY2024/25 the strategic budget was allocated to Dingwall and Seaforth.

- 6.7 Taking into account overheads that cannot be disaggregated for Dingwall and Seaforth the local area allocation amounted to £38,380.
- 6.8 Allowing for the Strategic Allocation this increased the capital budget to £1,387,380

7 Road Structural Maintenance Programme

- 7.1 The FY2024/25 prioritised list for Dingwall and Seaforth that was approved on 19 February 2024 is detailed within Area Roads Capital Programme (Report DSA/02/24).
- 7.2 The approved list was reviewed following winter and once the effects of the weather on the road network could be assessed. Roads staff regularly attend the Dingwall and Seaforth Area Business Meeting where the list of priorities was reviewed, pre-prioritised and agreed.
- 7.3 Factors influencing the changes included:-
- additions as road conditions changed and roads not previously identified were added;
 - 3rd parties carrying out their works in the same locations; and
 - addition of strategic schemes
- 7.4 The updated prioritised list is detailed within **Appendix 1**.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 18 March 2025

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(Ross and Cromarty)

Background Papers: Area Roads Capital Programme (Report DSA/02/24)
Place Based Approaches to Strategic Capital Planning and
Asset Management (Report HC/05/24)

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Dingwall and Seaforth Area Capital Works
FY2425 (April 2025 Update)

Appendix 1 – Dingwall and Seaforth Area Capital Works FY2425 (April 2025 Update)

Scheme		Works	Budget	Committee Approval	Status	Comments
A862	Conon Bridge - Muir of Ord	Surface Dressing	Area Capital Allocation	29-Jan-24	Patched but not surface dressed	Surface dress in 25/26
U3027	Gairloch Cresc Conon	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation	29-Jan-24	Completed	
A862	Station Road	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	
A862	High Street - Conon Bridge	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	
A862	Proby St	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	
A862	Greenhill St	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	
A862	Newton Rd	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Deferred	Patching completed 14 Feb 25
A834	Mill Street	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	
U4484	Harbour Road, Dingwall	Overlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	Including part of Ferry Road
A862	Great North Rd with SRTS	Inlay	Strategic Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	
C1213	Tulloch Castle Dr (f/w)	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation	Approval Sought	Completed	