

Agenda Item	7
Report No	LA/23/26

The Highland Council

Committee: Lochaber Area

Date: 11 May 2026

Report Title: Area Roads Capital Programme 2025/26 Update

Report By: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an update on the Area Roads Capital Programme 2025/26.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:-

- i. **Note** the final budget allocation for Lochaber area for 2025/26;
- ii. **Note** the works completed on the approved list to date; and
- iii. **Approve** the additional works as completed which were 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 a monitoring update report and therefore an impact assessment is not required.

5 Background

- 5.1 On 27 January 2025 at the Lochaber Committee, Members approved the prioritised Area Roads Capital Programme
(<https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5114/lochaber-committee>)

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 sets out the total investment into Road Capital over the 3 years.
(https://www.highland.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/83023/item_13_place_based_approaches_to_strategic_capital_planning_and_asset_management_14_march_2024)
- 6.2 For 2025/26 a total investment of £21.15m was agreed.
- 6.3 The £21.15m is to be distributed with a strategic allocation and a base capital allocation.
- 6.4 The local allocation for Lochaber was set at: -

Budget	Overlay/Inlay	Surface Dressing	Total
Base capital budget allocated	£690,293	£505,467	£1,195,760
Strategic capital budget allocated	£734,900		£734,900
Structures			£100,000
Infrared Patching Contract			£105,450
A total allocated for Lochaber			£2,030,660

- 6.5 The FY2025/26 Lochaber Area Capital Works can be found on **Appendix 1** of this report.

7 Road Structural Maintenance Programme

- 7.1 The FY2025/26 prioritised list for Lochaber was approved on 27 January 2025 is detailed within Area Roads Capital Programme (<https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5114/lochaber-committee>)
- 7.2 The approved list was reviewed following winter and once the effects of the weather on the road network could be assessed.
- 7.3 Factors influencing the changes included:-
- Additions as road conditions deteriorated, roads not previously identified were added;
 - Safety defect inspections; and
 - Approved capital schemes that remain to be completed, and prioritised ranking of the road network.
- 7.4 All roads are inspected either monthly, quarterly or annually for safety hazards depending on their priority. Roads are also inspected while preparing the works programmes. Severity of winter weather can have a significant impact on roads, accelerating road defects. Road inspections, specific concerns raised through Members and Community Councils, public complaints are considered for inclusion in the works programmes.
- 7.5 The updated prioritised list is detailed within **Appendix 1**. Completed schemes have been identified.

Designation: Assistant Chief Executive - Place

Date: 24 March 2026

Author: Kristen MacLeod, Road Operations Manager – Lochaber

Background Papers: N/A

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Lochaber Area Capital Works
FY2025/26 (March 2026 Update)

Appendix 1 – Lochaber Area Capital Works FY2025/26 (April 2026 Update)

Road No	Scheme	Works	Budget	Committee Approval	For Homologated Approval	Status
U2377	Invernevis Road	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation	23/01/2024		Completed
U1570	MaColl Terrace	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation	23/01/2024		Completed
A861	Roshven	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation	23/01/2024		Completed
A884	Acharn Bridge South	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation	23/01/2024		Completed
B8007	Ardery	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation	23/01/2024		Completed
B8008	Morar loop Road	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
C1094	Glen Etive	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
C1144	Kinlochhourn	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
C1164	Blarmachfoldach	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1900	Ardnevis Road, Claggan	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U01040	Airor - Knoydart	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1010	Loch Treigh Road	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1006	Insh Road - Spean Bridge	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1064	Achintee Road	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1349	Ormsaigbeg	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
B8007	Kilochoan	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
B8004	Clunes	Overlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1361	Torr Na Faire	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed
U1361	Monument Hill Road	Inlay	Area Capital Allocation		11/05/2026	Completed