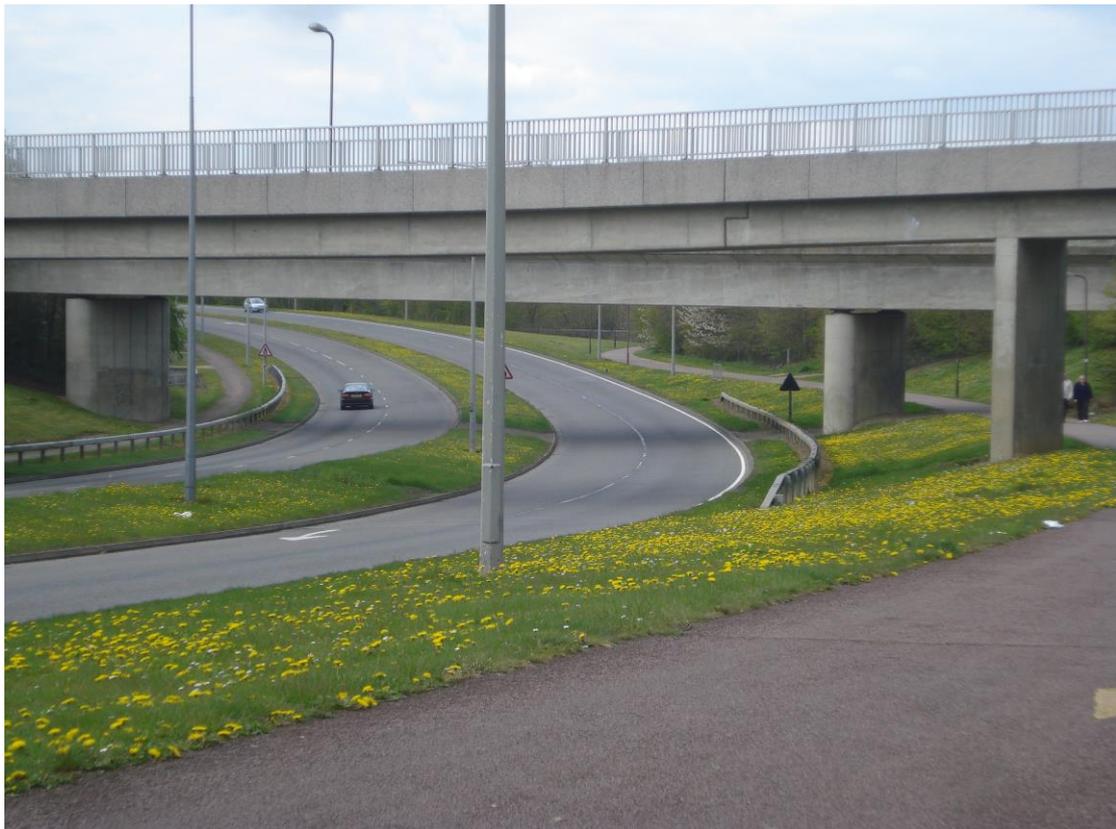


# Highway Asset Management Policy 2017



# Highways Asset Management Policy

Milton Keynes Council has the responsibility for managing the highway infrastructure and we recognise the essential role that the highways infrastructure has in supporting the Council's wider vision and plan.

The highway infrastructure is the most valuable asset under our control and is currently valued at circa £5.5 billion. In order for us to achieve our vision for the future of Milton Keynes the highways infrastructure is key. Therefore the council places high importance on the long term investment in its management, development and maintenance.

Milton Keynes Council Plan for 2016-2020 sets out a clear vision for Milton Keynes, which is driven by three headline objectives;

- that Milton Keynes will be
  - a place of opportunity
  - an affordable place
  - a healthy place.

The Council Plan is supported by a vision which is outlined in the current Local Transport Plan.

*“By 2031, Milton Keynes will have the most sustainable transport system in the country, increasing its attractiveness as a place to live, work, visit, and do business. There will be a real transport choice to satisfy individual preferences and encourage more sustainable travel behaviour.*

*The transport system will provide fast and efficient movement of people and goods, and will be accessible for all. Everyone will have access to key services and amenities, including employment, health, education, retail and leisure.*

*Transport networks, including the unique grid road and Redway networks, will be expanded and fully integrated into new developments and regeneration areas to support more sustainable communities.*

*Connectivity to local towns, major cities, and international transport gateways and networks will be first class, and Milton Keynes will embrace new technology, being an exemplar for the latest developments in information technology, fuel technology, and new forms of transport.*

*The council will work in partnership with all sectors and the wider community to deliver the transport vision and strategy.”*

This policy is directly related to the Council Plan, acknowledging the importance of our road network infrastructure and the approach we take to ensure the effective maintenance of the associated assets. A commitment was made in the current Council Plan to review the existing policy.

This revised policy aligns to the council value of Making a Difference Every Day. It will ensure that our resources are targeted in the most effective way and do the best we can for Milton Keynes.

We recognise the importance of our road network to the quality of life for citizens and the efficiency and productivity of our businesses. We see the importance of continuing to make the best use of our assets to ensure that we continue to grow and prosper as a borough.

Following the publication of new national guidance in October 2016, (*Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure: A Code of Practice*), a greater emphasis is placed on the promotion of an integrated approach to manage the network based upon the establishment of local levels of service through risk based assessment.

The Highways Asset Management Strategy (HAMS), supported by this policy, governs how highways asset management will be delivered in Milton Keynes. This strategy takes into account financial pressures and outlines how the available resources will be utilised/ prioritised in order to maximise the benefits and minimise whole life costs in the most sustainable manner.

This uses a systematic risk based strategic approach that enables us to make decisions over what services we want to provide and what we can achieve within our financial resources. It enables us to identify the best allocation of our resources for the management, operation, preservation and enhancement of the highway infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future demands. It also provides a clear understanding of assessment and likelihood of asset failure and any subsequent consequences in order that we are able to plan for appropriate and timely interventions and improvements to the network.