

Highways Infrastructure Asset Management Policy

2023-2026



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Milton Keynes City Council has the responsibility for managing the highway infrastructure and we recognise the essential role that the highway 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. For us to achieve our vision for the future of Milton Keynes the effective management of the highway infrastructure is key. Therefore, the council places high importance on the long-term investment in its management, improvement, and maintenance.

Milton Keynes City Council Plan for 2022-2026 approved by Council on 15th June 2022 sets out a clear vision for Milton Keynes,

The Plan sets out how Milton Keynes City Council will deliver our [Strategy for 2050](#), which is our long-term vision for our city and the future, seeking to ensure that everyone in Milton Keynes can lead happy, healthy lives.

The plan explains our priorities and key objectives: for Milton Keynes to be a thriving city, a progressive city, and a sustainable city. It also gives details of the outcomes that we want to see by 2026.

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

“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 related to the Council Plan, acknowledging the importance of our highways network infrastructure and the approach we take to ensure the effective maintenance of the associated assets. The next phase of the Local Transport Plan is currently being developed and will reflect the updated Council plan. This policy will be reviewed in line with the next Council plan review.

We recognise the importance of our highway 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 city.

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 a risk-based approach to manage the network infrastructure based upon the establishment of local levels of service.

The Highways Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy (HIAMS), supported by this policy and our highways infrastructure asset plan governs how highways infrastructure asset management will be delivered in Milton Keynes. This strategy considers forecasted financial pressures and outlines how the available resources will be utilised / prioritised to maximise the benefits and minimise whole life costs in the most sustainable manner in support of the authorities target of attaining a carbon neutral position by 2030.

This approach uses a systematic risk based strategic principle that enables us to make decisions over what services we want to provide and what we can achieve within our financial envelope. 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 can plan for appropriate and timely interventions to minimise the impact and deliver improvements to the network.

