

# Highways and street furniture maintenance – Reading Borough Council

**Service Manager**

Vaughan Norris

**Number of Staff & Equipment**

2 full time staff, on a needs-led basis

**Service Provided**

Maintenance of public highway: all emergency highway repairs should be completed within 24 hours.

**Specification**

Repairs to the highway should be uniform and avoid the use of ‘black top’ tarmac except as an interim repair to make the site safe. However, due to the cost of matching high specification materials, it is not always possible to reinstate with anything other than macadam.

All street furniture painted when the need arises. N.B. litter bins are currently cleaned/redecorated by StreetCare Services. Lamp and banner columns are currently cleaned/redecorated by the Street Lighting Term Contractor (SSE Contracting). Responsive repairs and inspections: the Council has a duty to maintain the highway for the safe use of the public throughout the Borough including the RBID area. This will include surface potholes/defects and other highway related equipment such as bollards, fences/barriers, signs, lighting, gullies and fixed planters. In the central area, each street is formally “walked” and inspected on a weekly basis. Routine Maintenance: for non-hazardous defects and repairs of a more minor nature, the Council will respond with the works taking place within the Highways Team’s programme. This could be as a result of routine inspections, follow-ups to temporary responsive repairs and/or third party reports. Typically this would be small areas of surface repair/patching, straightening/replacing damaged signage, white and yellow lines, repairs/replacement of damaged

bollards/barriers, repairs to gullies/drainage, repairs/replacement of seats and notice boards. Budgets for this type of work are limited and therefore repairs will tend to be driven more by safety concerns than appearance. Painting of other street furniture such as electrical control cabinets, bollards, railings, trading posts, cycle hoops etc are carried out as the need arise. Licensing functions: responsible for license management of scaffolds and hoardings. Network Management Section is responsible for the licensing of cranes.

**Statutory undertaker functions:** responsible for co-ordination of street works e.g. gas, electricity, redevelopment, construction work.

***Responsible for enforcement of obstructions on the highway such as advertising boards, goods on the pavement; and for the maintenance of new highway schemes/proposals, banners, bollards, road markings and signs***

**Performance Measure**

**Maintenance of public highway:** all emergency highway repairs should be completed within 24 hours.

**Non-compliance Procedure**

Escalation to Service Manager or through RBC's formal Complaints Procedure.

**Existing Value of Contract/Service**

Street furniture annual repair budget for BID area about £12,000 awaited from Vaughan Norris Status: urgent. Patching and Reinstatement and Resurfacing and Call out for bid area about £170,000.

**Boundary Area**

Area RBID 3