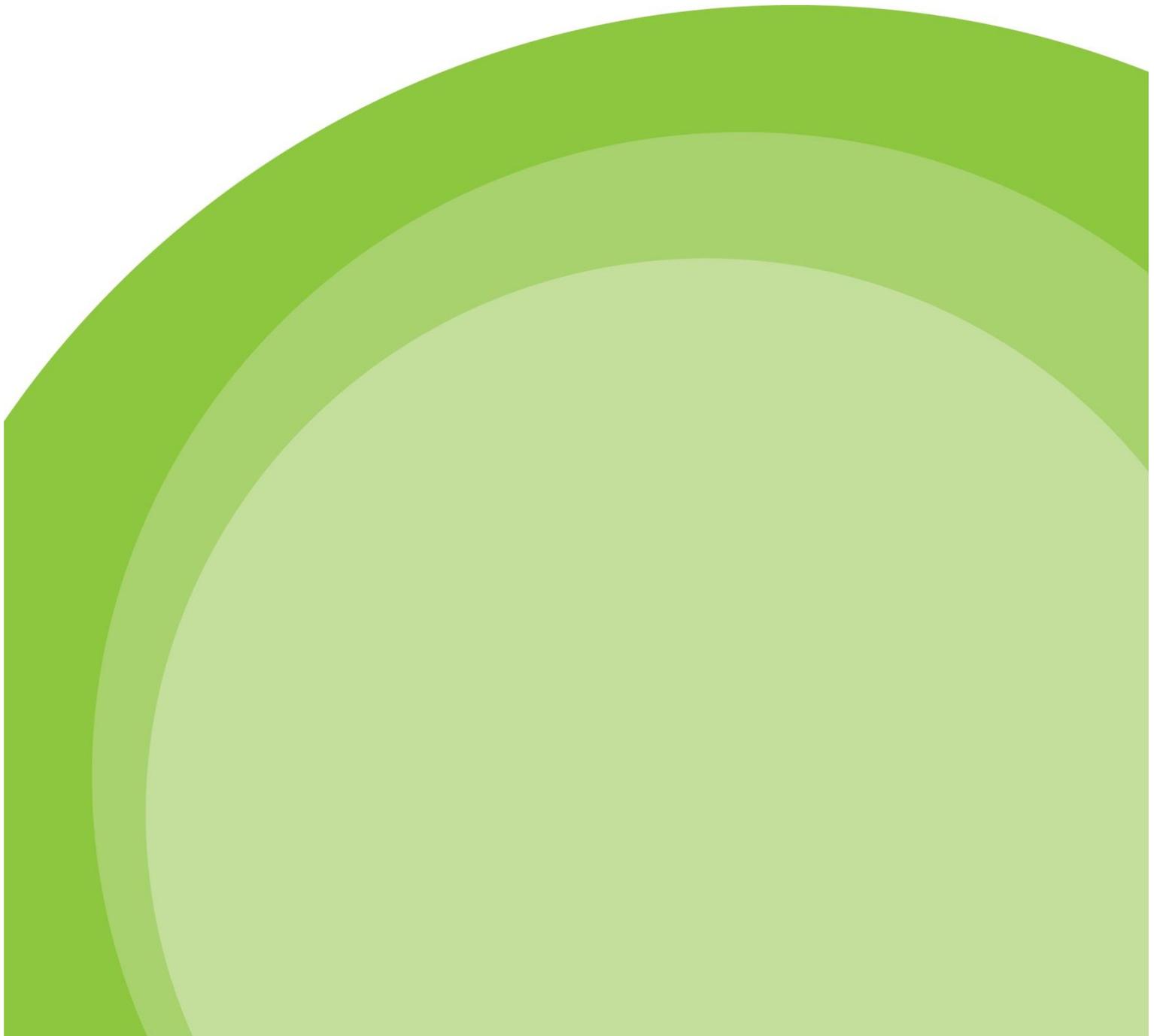




Draft Highways Asset Management Policy

2017-2022



Highways Asset Management Policy for Central Bedfordshire

The local highway network is the largest and most visible community asset for which local authorities are responsible. It is used daily by the majority of residents and those passing through Central Bedfordshire and is fundamental to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the community. It helps to shape the character and quality of the local areas that it serves and makes an important contribution to wider local authority priorities, including regeneration, social inclusion, community safety and health.

The current gross replacement value of Central Bedfordshire's highway network and associated assets is approximately £1.6 billion. As such the council places a high significance on the highway infrastructure and the long term investment in its management, development and maintenance.

How this is achieved is set out in Central Bedfordshire's Highways Asset Management Strategy. This strategy takes into account current and projected financial pressures and explains how available funds and resources should be utilised to maximise their benefit.

Central Bedfordshire Council recognises the vital role played by the local highway network in supporting the authority's vision and its strategic priorities. Therefore, how we invest is critical to achieving the best use of the available funding and resources; to deliver the right outcome for our customers and secure the optimum lifecycle and condition of the assets. Our primary focus will be on achieving the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Deliver Great Highways Services

We will continue to be a high performing authority that is results focused and uses its resources well, investing in the right treatment at the right time to secure a long term sustainable future for the highway infrastructure for the authority. We contribute to the achievement of the outcomes and priorities, outlined in Central Bedfordshire Council's Five Year Plan. We will support the development of an effective and safe transport system that helps facilitate a high quality of life, by meeting the needs of the individual, whilst remaining responsive to the changing needs of businesses and the local economy. Our approach ensures that the condition and performance of our highway assets are enhanced and monitored, in order to help optimise planned maintenance programmes.

Outcome 2: Create Stronger Communities

We will adopt an effective Asset Management approach that will ensure that the highway infrastructure assets support the delivery of services and the local economy, taking into account the long term performance of the asset. Local communities will benefit from the positive effects of investment. We will endeavour to integrate new and existing communities where development takes place and provide an integrated transport system that maximises value to the community and minimizes negative environmental impacts.

Outcome 3: Become A More Efficient and Responsive Highways Service

We will make the best use of resources available to us to provide the optimum levels of planned maintenance activities over the lifecycle of all asset types. This will allow the effective coordination of works to reduce road closures and their impacts, as well as providing maximum network availability and reliability. We will treat people as individuals who matter to us, providing timely responses explaining what we do and why. Working closely with our partners and stakeholders to deliver an efficient and responsive service.



A great place to live and work

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