

# ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2020

## TASK AND FINISH MONITORING REPORT TASK AND FINISH REVIEW 2017/18 – A REVIEW OF THE MAINTENANCE PROVISION OF HIGHWAY HEDGEROWS AND VERGES

### Purpose:

To provide an update for information and consideration on delivering the recommendations developed by the Task and Finish Group and subsequently approved by Executive Board.

### To consider and comment on the following issues:

Members to consider and note the contents of the report which provides an update on progress on delivering the recommendations developed by the Task and Finish Group.

### Reasons:

The report provides a progress update on delivery of the Task and Finish Group's Recommendations approved by Executive Board on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision:** No

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-** Councillor Hazel Evans

### Directorate

#### Name of Head of Service:

Steve Pilliner

#### Report Author:

Richard Waters

#### Designations:

Head of Highways & Transport

Highways and Transport Services  
Manager

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### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

The Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee agreed in November 2017 to set up a Task and Finish Group to review the maintenance provision of highway hedges and verge rows.

The Task and Finish Group presented a report of their subsequent findings which included five recommendations regarding the future management of highway verges. The group's report along with their recommendations were adopted by Executive Board on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The attached report provides brief background regarding:

- the scope and objectives of the Task and Finish Group's work;
- it's methodology;
- the Group's recommendations;
- progress report on the actions allied to the Task and Finish Group recommendations.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

Yes

## IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **S.G.Pilliner**

Head of Highways and Transport

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>

### Risk Management Issues

Highway verges are mown primarily to ensure the safety of the travelling public and a risk based approach is adopted on all verge moving areas. Particular attention is given to junctions and bends to ensure visibility.

### Physical Assets

Carmarthenshire has the second largest highway network in Wales and much of that network is rural in nature. This rural network provides significant 'green' corridors of highway verge which we manage, within the resources we have available, to ensure public safety but also with a high regard to biodiversity and promoting natural habitats.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **S G Pilliner**

Head of Highways and Transport

1. Local Member(s) - N/A
2. Community / Town Council - N/A
3. Relevant Partners - N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**  
**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THERE ARE NONE**