

## Annex - Overview & Scrutiny Recommendation Response Pro forma

*Under section 9FE of the Local Government Act 2000, Overview and Scrutiny Committees must require the Cabinet or local authority to respond to a report or recommendations made thereto by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such a response must be provided within two months from the date on which it is requested<sup>1</sup> and, if the report or recommendations in questions were published, the response also must be so.*

*This template provides a structure which respondents are encouraged to use. However, respondents are welcome to depart from the suggested structure provided the same information is included in a response. The usual way to publish a response is to include it in the agenda of a meeting of the body to which the report or recommendations were addressed.*

### Issue: Streetworks Management

**Lead Cabinet Member(s):** Cllr Andrew Gant, Cabinet member for Transport Management

**Date response requested:**<sup>2</sup> 25 March 2025

### Response to report:

*Enter text here.*

### Response to recommendations:

Recommendation	Accepted, rejected or partially accepted	Proposed action (if different to that recommended) and indicative timescale (unless rejected)
1. <b><i>That the Council should explore different models for compliance and enforcement with regard to highways works, including the use of technology and crowdsourcing to report issues.</i></b>	Accept	Network Management are always looking at ways and means to improve how compliance on the network is managed and improved and are keen to embrace new technologies. This is demonstrated through the introduction of new technologies e.g. Symology Aurora as our management system and being early adopters for new powers to better manage the highway e.g. Lane Rental application. A significant amount of work has been undertaken to adopt latest technologies.

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<sup>1</sup> Date of the meeting at which report/recommendations were received

<sup>2</sup> Date of the meeting at which report/recommendations were received

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		<p>The service has received additional investment to allow for increased 'boots on the ground' to proactively investigate and manage works.</p> <p>All users of the highway, including our Oxfordshire Together volunteers and Fixmystreet superusers Members of the public, volunteers are all able and encouraged to use fixmystreet to report issues identified. Issues reported on fixmystreet will be triaged and allocated to officers to investigate and respond promptly. The services traffic control centre actively monitor the highway network and when delays are identified will check to see if any works are taking place in the affected area and will use this data driven intelligence to dispatch street works officers to investigate potential breaches where identified.</p> <p>The council is currently letting a new contract for parking enforcement and officers will ensure when finalising the specification officers consider the use of enforcement officers to support qualified officers with basic compliance of works.</p>
<p><b>2. That the Council should increase enforcement on 'street scars' and ensure proper reinstatement of road surfaces after works.</b></p>	<p>Partially accept</p>	<p>The service has received additional investment to allow for increased 'boots on the ground' to proactively investigate and manage works including street scars. Statutory Undertakers are bound via the Code of Practice for the</p>

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		<p>Reinstatement of Openings on the Highway to match the colour of their reinstatement to the colour of the road surface, however as the road surface will fade with age the 'scar' will very often be more prominent than the surrounding surface. Where the incorrect colour is used officers will enforce legislation to ensure the Statutory Undertaker reinstates correctly.</p> <p>Unfortunately the council can rarely ask for full width reinstatements to be made when works are carried out as legislation does not allow statutory undertakers to carry out reinstatements that improve the condition of the highway. Only when a statutory undertakers works are expected to cause failure of the wider area of highway can this be requested.</p>
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