

November Meeting

Devon Highways Board met in November at the Rydon Depot and the group were joined by Rob Shaw and Nick Boulton.

During the Health and Safety update, Nigel Card advised that there continues to be a large number of issues associated with drivers ignoring traffic direction on many sites. These incidents are being reported to the police. The existing red and yellow card system for personal staff safety was also discussed and it was agreed that further reinforcement of this system should be undertaken.

The current year's programme was reviewed with particular discussions on areas of concern. This included drainage, slurry sealing, road markings and high friction surfacing.

The programme for next year was also discussed and early indications are that there will be an enhancement of approximately £10m to the capital budget. The board agreed that some of this should be used to clear legacy issues and increase surface dressing and drainage works.

Reflecting on feedback from the team days, it was agreed that opportunities should also be taken to ensure drainage features in the vicinity of capital schemes are reviewed in scheme development.

Chris Watkins joined the meeting and presented a paper on the streamlining works ordering processes. There has been some joined up project work looking at this process from end to end and general consensus that an earlier review by stakeholders should be beneficial.

Devon Highways Board gave approval to go ahead with a trial in both Tiverton and Newton Abbot and a further report will review progress. The board approved an updated revision of general carriageway treatments put forward by the technical appraisal panel. This permits the use of spray injection patching, cold lay materials and mulching and chippings on 7-10 road categories.