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DFI ROADS SOUTHERN DIVISION

Report to

**NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Annual Report 2026/27

Puffin Crossing and Resurfacing on the Dromore Road, Ballynahinch.

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Foreword

I have pleasure in submitting the Roads 2026/27 Annual Report on the work of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Roads across the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.

This report deals with works completed across the Council area during the year 2025/26 and sets out our initial proposals for schemes to be undertaken in the year 2026/27.

The road network is Northern Ireland's largest and most valuable public strategic infrastructure asset valued at approximately £37bn. It provides real benefits for our citizens, our communities and the economy. It delivers for people every day by providing and maintaining the things that we all need to go about our daily lives. It is recognised that there is much more to do as we seek to improve and protect the vital road network. In an effort to do this we have published the new Road Maintenance Strategy that will put us in a strong position to progress a modern, data-driven approach to maintaining the road network, ensuring that resources are used as effectively and efficiently as possible. It seeks to raise maintenance standards by delivering higher-quality, longer-lasting repairs and targeting investment where it is needed most.

The Department will continue to prioritise delivery of essential services for maintaining public safety, protecting the transport network, and addressing regional imbalance. To help address historic underfunding additional funding has been allocated to essential maintenance and enhancing signs and lining and builds upon the existing level of service.

While a formal Budget has not yet been agreed by the Executive, for planning purposes, an opening indicative allocation for structural maintenance of approximately £98m is being provided, which is approximately £30m higher than the opening allocation in the previous year. From this allocation the Department has targeted approximately £12.5m towards a Roads Recovery Fund. This funding will enable the delivery of the highest priority resurfacing, roadside stability and drainage projects. Further details of those projects to be delivered within the Newry, Mourne and Down Council area are contained within this report.

For many years, the Department has operated within a constrained Resource budget and has continued to prioritise key essential services. This means that Limited Service policy will continue for routine maintenance activities such as defect repair, grass cutting and gully emptying. The Limited Service policy allows the Department to repair defects greater than 50mm on all roads including low trafficked rural roads and on high trafficked roads defects greater than 20mm will also be repaired, subject to available resources. The Department will aim to cut all sightline grass at least twice between April and October on more heavily trafficked roads and once a year on other roads when it is safe to do so. This aims to balance the need for road safety while protecting our environment and encouraging biodiversity. However, sightlines at bends and junctions will be cut as frequently as required to ensure public safety. The Department has included additional funding towards improving the quality of patch repairs also increasing its Resourcing funding to continue to improve the extent and quality of patch repairs, enhancing our ability to clean drainage, and enhancing signage repair and refreshing white lines.

To help prioritise, the Department is developing a Transport Strategy 2035, which sets out a long-term vision and strategic framework for the region. The Strategy aims to support economic growth, strengthen regional balance, and enhance connectivity, while promoting a more sustainable transport system. It brings together key transport policy objectives within a

single overarching framework, providing greater clarity on the context for the Department's decisions and the actions required across government to support delivery of these strategic outcomes.

In parallel, Local Transport Plans are being developed alongside councils' Local Development Plans to ensure a more integrated approach to transport and land use planning

The Department recognises the importance of investing in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and the Everyday Active Travel Urban Delivery Plan will provide a firm basis for the development of improved walking, wheeling and cycling networks in our larger towns and cities over the next ten years and beyond. The Department will also continue to invest in pedestrian enhancement measures that make our streets more inclusive and accessible for everyone and will continue to work closely with councils to better understand your five-year Greenway and active travel priorities.

Road safety also remains a high priority for the Department, and we are committed to working proactively to make our roads safer and address the needs of all road users.

In January this year the Department launched the Speed Limit Review consultation, and officials are now working through the responses to consider potential changes to speed limit policy on all our roads.

The Local Transport & Safety Measures (LTSM) programme continues to be an important method of providing road safety schemes across the road network.

Requests for LTSM improvements, including the provision of footway schemes or upgrading works, will continue to be assessed with progression of priority improvements within the funding available.

The introduction of part-time 20mph zones at schools across the north is a significant intervention that has helped to ensure that children, parents and staff feel safer as they travel to and from school on a daily basis. In June 2025, it was confirmed that an additional 40 schools will benefit from this key safety measure bringing the total delivered since 2020/21 to 273 schools.

Regarding Major Projects in the council area, the Department is committed to the delivery of the Newry Southern Relief Road, a scheme being delivered as part of the Belfast Region City Deal and the A1 Junctions Phase 2 project which will provide significant safety benefits to those travelling to / from the area. Minister Kimmins also announced the progression of the A24 Ballynahinch Bypass, to be delivered sequentially to the A1 Junctions Phase 2 project. Further detail on these schemes is provided within the content of the report. The timeline for all major projects within the Department's portfolio will be kept under review as progression has been impacted by the A5WTC appeal process.

I hope that you find this report informative. I, along with a representative from our Section Offices, Hugh Morgan and Bronagh Gillespie, look forward to meeting the Council.

Cindy Noble
Divisional Roads Manager (Acting)

Southern Division - Senior Management Structure



Cindy Noble
Divisional Manager (Acting)

DfI Roads wishes to build upon the good working relationships it has with Council Members and Officers. The Divisional Senior Management Team is listed below. Day to day operational matters should be raised with the relevant Senior Engineers whose details are listed at the start of each section.



Andrew Graham
Network Planning Manager

Development Control, Private Streets, Local Development Plans and Street Lighting



David McCullagh
Network Development Manager

Improvements and minor works.



Alan McMurray
Network Maintenance Manager

Maintenance of existing road network.

Major Projects Southern Managers Major works schemes (>£5M).



Keith Cunningham



David Hamilton

About Southern Division

Southern Division is one of four Divisions within DfI Roads. It spans the local Council areas of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon; Ards & North Down; and Newry, Mourne and Down Council Areas (see map below).



In Southern Division we are responsible for approximately 8000 km of public road together with 1275 bridges, 121 signalised junctions, 189 stand alone signalised pedestrian-controlled crossings, approximately 83,000 streetlights and over 740 illuminated signs. We carry out functions under the headings:

- **Major Projects South** – Major capital projects (>£5M) on Key Transport Links.
- **Network Maintenance** – Maintenance of the existing network. Maintenance activities include resurfacing, surface dressing and drainage works as well as grass cutting, gully emptying, patching, embankment / verge maintenance, fencing and provision of the Winter Service.
- **Network Development** - Improvements to the existing network to improve safety and traffic progression including Minor Works and Local Transport & Safety Measures.
- **Network Planning** - Regulation of additions to the network proposed by developers.

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SECTION 1 - PLANNING & STREETLIGHTING

Network Planning Manager Andrew Graham

Andrew is supported in Newry, Mourne and Down by the following staff:



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1.1 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

Planning Applications

In carrying out their planning functions Councils have a duty to consult a range of statutory bodies. DfI Roads on behalf of the Department for Infrastructure has entered into an agreement with each Council to provide views and advice on roads and transportation related issues.

DfI Roads in its consideration of planning applications, takes into account aspects of development which could prejudice traffic progression and safety in terms of junction capacity, access arrangements, parking standards and provision, road width, radii, gradients, drainage and sight lines. This consideration usually involves site visits and technical work. Compliance with transport policy and compatibility with road infrastructure is considered as well as any need for developer led improvements. Proposals are also checked for potential encroachment upon any future road lines. A detailed Transport Assessment may be required for larger developments where potential traffic impact may extend to road junctions some distance from the development site and where infrastructure improvements are deemed necessary as mitigation. For smaller developments a Transport Assessment Form is required to be completed by the applicant in order to ascertain the likely impact.

In the case of housing developments, the Private Streets (NI) Order 1980 is applied if a planning application includes streets which are to become public and maintainable by the Department. Development Control along with the associated Private Streets team determines the area to be adopted, arranges for the calculation of the bond amount, supervises construction of the streets and, following satisfactory completion by the developer, complete the process for adoption into the public road network. Should the developer not complete the street, DfI Roads can take appropriate enforcement action under the Private Streets Order to ensure satisfactory completion of works funded by the bond.

Other Development Control work includes participating in pre-application discussions and planning meetings, preparation of evidence and presentation of this at Planning Appeals. Assistance is given with enforcement cases associated with breaches of planning control. Input is provided for the use of planning case officers at Council Planning Committee meetings with attendance by Development Control Officers as required.

Please see Table 1, which shows all the consultations that our Development Control team dealt with during the reporting period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area.

TABLE 1: Planning Consultations

Consultation Details	Southern Division	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area
Number of consultations	3608	1731
Number of Pre-Planning Enquiries	61	23

Of the above, **39** were housing developments involving the Private Streets (NI) Order 1980. Creating approximately 3.0 km of new road and 2.6 km of new footway.

Examples of major applications being dealt with are included in Table 2.

TABLE 2: Planning Consultations – Major applications

Application	Location, Town / Townland
LA07/2025/0186/F Residential housing development of 176 No	Watson's Road / Doran's Hill, Newry
LA07/2025/0186/F Residential housing development of 1100 units	Saul Road / Ballyhornan Road, Downpatrick
LA07/2023/2965/F new community facility building and outdoor space	Clonallon Road, Warrenpoint

Roads (NI) Order 1993, Article 80

Article 80 applies to new vehicular accesses or agricultural accesses onto unclassified roads. It covers proposals such as new driveway entrances or alterations where planning permission is not required. During the reporting period DfI Roads dealt with **10** Article 80 applications.

Development Control also provides evidence in respect of associated Article 84 appeals which are determined by the Planning Appeals Commission.

Development Control also gives advice on various ad-hoc matters such as placing of planters and signage.

1.2 PRIVATE STREETS - ADOPTIONS

Completed Works 2025 – 2026

TABLE 3: Private Streets – Adoption numbers

Adoption Details	Southern Division	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area
Number of adoptions	53	11

TABLE 4: Adoption locations

Adoption locations	Date of Adoption
Clanbrassil Middle, Tollymore	30/05/25
Boirinn View, Warrenpoint	08/10/25
River Lodge, Hilltown	20/11/25
Sawhill Park, Annalong	07/01/26
Todds Hill Lane, Saintfield	10/02/26
Carquillan, Newry	21/11/25
Milltown Avenue, Burren	22/10/25
Greenan Gate, Newry	01/04/25
Woodvale, Bessbrook	09/04/25
Lodge Meadows, Hilltown	30/07/25
Mourneview Close, Kilkeel	03/03/26

During the reporting period Private Streets Section has been successful in adopting a total of 11 private developments comprising 2151 metres of carriageway and 293 metres of footway, into the publicly maintained road network.

1.3 PRIVATE STREETS - ENFORCEMENT

Private Streets Section continues to invoke enforcement proceedings against developers who fail in their responsibility to provide road bonds before commencement of work on site. This takes the form of a series of warning letters followed, if necessary, by enforcement action.

Private Streets Section continues to work with developers on backlog housing sites with the objective of having work completed to an adoptable standard. Where it becomes evident that a developer is either no longer trading or is incapable or unwilling to complete the work, DfI Roads will consider initiating enforcement action. This may result in the need for DfI Roads to complete the works and recover the costs from the road bond under Articles 13 and 15 of the Private Streets Order 1980.

Planned Works 2026 – 2027

DfI Roads plan to complete the following sites through enforcement in the coming year.

TABLE 5: Private Streets – Enforcements

Enforcement location
The Rocks, Castlewellan
Magheraknock Park, Ballynahinch

Property Certificates

Private Streets Section coordinates the DfI Roads response to Property Certificate Enquiries. A total of **9433** Property Certificate Enquiries were processed during the reporting period in Southern Division.

The Planning Portal which was launched in December 2022 can be used to submit, view and comment on planning applications online by accessing the following link:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/planning-portal>.

1.4 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Advice

The Department provides advice to the Council area as requested, on road safety and traffic progression issues for Local Development Plans and Community Plans as well as work on strategic development planning applications.

The table below shows all consultations dealt with, during the reporting period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area.

TABLE 6: Local Development Plan Consultations

Consultation Details	Southern Division	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area
Number of Formal consultations	4	1
Number of Informal Consultations	2	1

1.5 STREET LIGHTING

The total number of streetlights in Southern Division is approximately 84,000, of which 24,000 (30%) are in the Newry, Mourne and Down Council area.

Completed Works 2025 – 2026

TABLE 7: Street Lighting – completed

Location	Scheme Description
Abbey Way / William Street / Killmorey Street, Newry	Replacement
Catherine Street, Newry	Replacement
Millvale Park, Newry	Replacement
Derramore Crescent, Newry	Replacement
Greenfield Park, Newry	Replacement

Street Lighting Maintenance

Since April 2015, in line with reductions in available staff, DfI Roads only repairs those defective streetlights reported by the public or their representatives. In order to facilitate this process, reports of defective lights can now be made directly online via the NI Direct website at the web address: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/report-street-light-fault>

Reports made via this web page automatically generate a works order to the appropriate contractor to have the defect repaired.

Reports can also be made by telephone at 0300 200 7899.

Priority is given to emergency defects i.e. those defects posing a direct structural or electrical hazard, then to groups of lights out, groups of lights burning continuously and finally to individual lights out.

Repair of faults to streetlights

Our response times are: -

Emergency, responded to a Road Traffic Collision within an hour and a half to site (1.5 hrs) where a streetlighting column has been damaged. This is only to make safe and protect the public from danger to exposure of live cables or the column falling.

Urgent, respond within twenty-four hours (24 hrs). This is to reinstate a knockdown of a column possibly at a critical junction.

Normal lamp maintenance within five days (5 days). It is not always possible to fulfil the 5 day response. This can be down to a combination of factors. The number of outages on the system, cable faults on the cable network or staff shortages. We also try to ensure that at least 95% of streetlights are recorded as working on the LMS at anytime, subject to budget being available.

Planned Works 2026– 2027

TABLE 8: Street Lighting – planned

Location	Scheme Description
Latt Crescent, Newry	Replacement
Canal Street, Newry	Replacement
Tullamona Park, Attical	Replacement
Avoca Lawns, Warrenpoint	Replacement

SECTION 2 - NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Development Manager: David McCullagh

David is supported in Newry, Mourne and Down by:



Trevor Maxwell
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LOCAL TRANSPORT AND SAFETY MEASURES

The Regional Transportation Strategy (RTS) identified the importance of Local Transport and Safety Measures (LTSM) and highlighted some of the principal initiatives to be addressed, including:

- local improvements in towns across the North to assist pedestrians and cyclists.
- local highway infrastructure measures to improve safety, such as collision remedial schemes and traffic calming schemes; and
- Network Development schemes (minor works).

LTSM expenditure tends to be widely spread and most communities benefit, as an individual scheme is relatively low cost in comparison to the cost of projects on the Strategic Works programme. They are usually very visible measures and provide good value for money in terms of a safer road transport system, which benefits society, the economy, the environment; and actively contributes to everyone's quality of life.

Types of LTSM projects include:

- Minor Works and Micro Schemes
- Traffic Management
- Pedestrian Measures
- Traffic Calming
- Collision Remedial
- Safer Routes to School
- Bus Priority Measures
- Cycling Measures
- Road and Lane Closures
- Legislation

2.1 COMPLETED WORKS 2025 – 2026

TABLE 9: Carriageways / Minor Works completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	Dublin Road / Dominic Street, Newry	Signalised junction upgrade.	Complete
A0007	Belfast Road / Main Street / Todds Hill, Saintfield	Signalised junction upgrade.	Complete
U6283	Francis Street / Dominic Street, Newry	Signalised junction upgrade.	Complete

TABLE 10: Pedestrian Measures completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
B0007	Dromore Road, Ballynahinch	Provision of a Puffin Crossing and 2 no. Pedestrian Islands.	Complete
B0079	Edward Street, Newry	Pedestrian guard rail at school.	Complete
C0216	McKnights Hill, Bessbrook	2 no. pedestrian Islands.	Complete
C0339	Glenvale Road, Newry	Dropped kerbs. (4 locations)	Complete
U0051	Ballymaglave Road, Spa	Infill footway.	Complete
U0229	Tullybrannigan Road, Newcastle	Dropped Kerbs. (8 locations)	Complete
U6280	Catherine Street, Newry	Pedestrian guard rail at school.	Complete
U6501	Drumreagh Park, Rostrevor	Dropped kerbs. (2 locations).	Complete

Provision of a new crossing and resurfacing works on Dromore Road, Ballynahinch



TABLE 11: Cycling Measures completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	A2 Clough to Dundrum (Phase 2)	1.6 km of Shared Footway / Cycleway.	Complete

TABLE 12: Traffic Calming completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
U5500	Dungormley Estate, Newtownhamilton	Traffic cushions and road humps.	Complete

TABLE 13: Safer Routes to Schools completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
C0174	St Joseph's Primary School, Convent Hill, Bessbrook	Upgrade to Safer Routes to School signs.	Complete
C0213	St. Teresa's Primary School, Tullyherron Road, Mountnorris	Part time 20 mph speed limit.	Complete
C0281	St. Patrick's Primary School, St. Patrick's Road, Saul, Downpatrick	Part time 20 mph speed limit.	Complete
U4328	St. Matthew's Primary School, Dolly's Brae, Magheramayo, Ballyward	Part time 20 mph speed limit.	Complete
U5209	St. Oliver's Primary School, Roxborough Road, Carrickvaddy	Part time 20 mph speed limit.	Complete
U6137	Killowen Primary School, Killowen Old Road, Rostrevor	Part time 20 mph speed limit.	Complete
U6290	St Clare's Primary School, Courtney Hill, Newry	Upgrade to Safer Routes to School signs.	Complete

TABLE 14: Road Signs, Markings, and Bollards completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	Carlins Cove, Rostrevor	Pedestrian warning signs and slow road markings.	Complete
A0002	Glassdrumman Road, Annalong	Tourist signs.	Complete
A0002	Blackstaff Road, Clough	Slow markings.	Complete
A0002	Rostrevor Road, Warrenpoint	Pedestrian crossing warning signs and slow road markings.	Complete
A0007	Downpatrick Street, Crossgar	T Bar marking.	Complete

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0007	Saintfield Road Roundabout, Crossgar	Roundabout plates.	Complete
A0024	Main Street, Ballynahinch	“Keep Clear” markings.	Complete
A0027	Tandragee Road, Newry	Road to left and road to right warning signs and slow marking.	Complete
A0027	Tangragee Road, Newry	Installation of marker posts.	Complete
All Routes into Village	Cullyhanna Gateways	New speed signs and dragon’s teeth road markings.	Complete
B0007	Burren Crossroads, Newry	Advance directional signs and road markings.	Complete
B0007	Chapel Hill Road, Mayobridge	School signs x 2.	Complete
B0007	Chapel Hill Road, Mayobridge	Playground signs x 2.	Complete
B0007	Killyleagh Street, Crossgar	“Keep Clear” markings.	Complete
B0027	Kilkeel Road, Hilltown	Chevron Signs and bend warning signs.	Complete
B0133	Maytown Road, Bessbrook (Lisnalee Crossroads)	2 no. Slow Road markings.	Complete
B0176	Killough Road, Downpatrick	Slow markings and chevrons.	Complete
C0318	Attical Bog Road, Newry	School warning sign.	Complete
C0318	Attical Bog Road, Newry	School ahead road markings	Complete
C0322	Millvale Road, Ballyward	Horse warning sign.	Complete
U0107	Drumnaconagher Road, Annacloy	School ahead markings.	Complete
U1225	Mearne Road, Downpatrick	Slow markings.	Complete
U5327	Upper Fathom Road, Newry	“Not suitable for HGV’s” signage.	Complete
U5500	Dungormley Estate, Newtownhamilton	Playground warning signs.	Complete
U5656	John F Kennedy Park, Bessbrook	T Bar road marking.	Complete
U6076	Cloghanramer Road, Newry	Enhance existing playground signs.	Complete
U6106	Cabragh Road, Mayobridge	Bend warning sign.	Complete
U6290	Abbey Way, Newry	Replacement parking restriction plate.	Complete

TABLE 15: Speed Limits completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
U0213	Burrenreagh Road, Bryansford	Extension of existing 40mph speed limit.	Complete

TABLE 16: Waiting Restrictions completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
B0079	Upper Edward Street, Newry	Coach parking bay with waiting restrictions.	Complete
U6206	Savoy Lane, Newcastle	Limited waiting restrictions.	Complete

TABLE 17: Accessible Parking Bays completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
C0224	Main Street, Forkhill	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
C0281	31 Saul Street, Downpatrick	Removal of Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U5653	39 The Gardens, Bessbrook	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U5656	John F Kennedy Park, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete
U6010	St Dillons Avenue, Downpatrick	Removal of 3 no. Accessible Parking Bays.	Complete
U6281	7 John Martin Gardens, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete

TABLE 18: Accessible Parking [Dropped kerbs/mobility ramps] completed

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
U6501	Drumreagh Park, Rostrevor	Dropped Kerb for Accessible Parking Bay.	Complete

2.2 PLANNED WORKS 2026 – 2027

Note: the delivery of the schemes listed below will be dependent on availability of Contractor resources.

TABLE 19: Carriageways / Minor Works planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	Bridge Street, Newry (at Albert Basin / Buttercrane Quay)	Signalised junction upgrade.	Planned
A0025	Irish Street / St Patrick's Avenue, Downpatrick	Signalised junction upgrade.	Planned
A0025	Market Street / Church Street Junctions, Downpatrick	Signalised junction upgrade.	Carried forward from 25/26

TABLE 20: Pedestrian Measures planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0025	Monaghan Street, Newry	Puffin upgrade.	Planned
A0028	Downshire Road at Windsor Hill Primary School, Newry	Puffin Crossing.	Planned
A0027	New Street, Newry	Puffin Crossing.	Carried forward from 25/26
B0001	Ardglass Road, Downpatrick	Puffin Crossing.	Carried forward from 25/26
B0079	Upper Edward Street, Newry	Dropped kerbs at coach bay and provision of pedestrian guardrail.	Complete
C0217	Chapel Road, Meigh, Newry	Dropped Kerbs.	Carried forward from 25/26
C0217	Chapel Road, Meigh, Newry	Provision of 5 metres of pedestrian guardrail at junction.	Planned
U1113	The Square, Clough	Infill footway.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6193	Milltown Industrial Estate, Warrenpoint	Dropped kerbs and footpath extension.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6351	Spelga Park, Hilltown	Dropped Kerbs.	Complete

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
U6539	Knockchree Avenue, Kilkeel	Provision of dropped kerbs at entrance to Kilkeel Primary School.	Complete

TABLE 21: Cycling Measures planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0050	A50 Castlewellan to Newcastle (Phase 2)	1.8 km of Shared Footway / Cycleway.	Planned

Collision Remedial

The Department annually receives data from the PSNI relating to collisions on the network where injuries have been sustained. This information is assessed to identify clusters where incidents have occurred. These clusters are identified for further examination to determine the nature of the collisions, contributory factors and possible patterns. When engineering methods can be applied to address or improve the situation design proposals are then drawn up and implemented on a priority basis.

While we regret and are concerned about all road traffic collisions and give a high priority to collision reduction and prevention measures, councillors can hopefully appreciate that traffic collisions can be caused by a wide range of contributory factors, not all of which can be influenced or controlled by the provision of engineering measures.

The following schemes are planned for delivery in the Council area in the current financial year.

TABLE 22: Collision Remedial planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0024	Church Road / Spa Road, Ballynahinch	HFS & Signs and road markings.	Planned
A0024	Drumaness Road, Ballynahinch	Signs and road markings.	Planned
B0006	Manse Road, Derryboye	Signs and road markings.	Planned
B0176	Killough Road, Downpatrick	Signs and road markings.	Planned

TABLE 23: Road Signs, Markings, and Bollards planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	South Promenade, Newcastle	“Keep Clear” road markings.	Planned
A0002	Carlins Cove, Rostrevor	2 no. “SLOW” road markings.	Planned
A0002	24 Kilbroney Street, Newry	T-Bar road marking.	Planned
A0002	Rostrevor Road, Warrenpoint	2 no. pedestrian warning signs.	Planned
A0024	Main Street, Ballynahinch	“Keep Clear” road marking.	Complete
A0025	Newtown Road, Camlough	Series of bend warning signs and “SLOW” road markings.	Carried forward from 25/26
A0025	Camlough Road, Newry (at entrance to Derrybeg)	“Keep Clear” road marking.	Planned
A0027	Tandragee Road, Newry (at Drumbanagher wall)	Junction ahead warning signs and installation of 15 no. marker posts with “SLOW” road markings.	Planned
A0029	Fords Cross, Silverbridge	Enhance existing warning and directional signage on New Road / Silverbridge Road and Newry Road with associated road markings.	Planned
A0050	Bann Road, Castlewellan	Bend warning signs.	Complete
B0007	Rathfriland Road / Finnis Road, Dromara	Provide 2 “SLOW” road markings.	Planned
B0007	Upper Dromore Road / Greenan Road, Burren	2 no. Directional signs.	Planned
B0027	Moyad Road, Kilkeel	Bend warning sign and Junction ahead warning signs.	Complete
B0027	Kilkeel Road, Hilltown	Additional chevron warning signs.	Complete
B0030	Cullaville Road, Crossmaglen	30 roundels and “SLOW” road markings.	Planned
B0113	Newry Road, Forkhill	Road to the right warning sign and “SLOW” road markings.	Carried forward from 25/26
B0113	Dromintee Road, Newry	Bend warning signs and “SLOW” road markings.	Planned
B0113 / C0217	Meigh Crossroads, Meigh	Enhance existing warning signage on Railway Road, Chapel Road and at the crossroads with associated road markings.	Planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
B0133	Junction of Keadybeg and Maytown Road, Whitecross	Bend warning signs and "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
B0135	Cullyhanna Village	Road markings on each approach road into Cullyhanna.	Planned
B0175	Edendarriff Road / Magherahamlet Road, Spa	New chevron signage.	Complete
C0027	Blaney Road Crossroads, Crossmaglen	Staggered junction signs and "SLOW" road marking.	Planned
C0216	Kidds Road, Bessbrook, Newry	"Keep Clear" road marking.	Carried forward from 25/26
C0218	Dorans Hill, Newry	Pedestrians in carriageway signs and "SLOW" road markings.	Carried forward from 25/26
C0219	Cottage Road, Killeen, Newry	Bend ahead warning sign and "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
C0278	Loughinisland Road, Loughinisland	Additional marker posts and chevron signs.	Complete
C0316	Ballyardle Crossroads, Kilkeel	Advanced warning signs and associated road markings at crossroads.	Planned
C0332	Springfield Road, Warrenpoint	T bar road marking.	Carried forward from 25/26
C0334	Derryleckagh Road Newry	New Give Way sign and "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
C0366	Ballyhornan Road, Downpatrick	Enhance existing warning and chevron signs and provide additional marker posts.	Complete
C0366	Ballyhornan Road, Downpatrick	Provide 2 "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
U2112	Altnadue Road, Leitrim	Bend warning signs.	Complete
U5261	Sturgan Brae, Camlough, Newry	Staggered junction and series of bends warning signs.	Carried forward from 25/26
U5289	Ferryhill Road, Newry	2 no. Chevron Warning signs.	Planned
U5327	Upper Fathom Road, Newry	"Not suitable for HGV's" advisory signage.	Planned
U5390	Molly Road, Jonesborough	"Not suitable for HGV's" advisory signage.	Carried forward from 25/26
U5435	Tievecrom Road, Newry	Junction ahead warning sign.	Planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
U5460	Larkins Road, Crossmaglen	2 no. Multiple Bend warning signs and "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
U5500	Dungormley Estate, Newtownhamilton	"SLOW" road markings.	Planned
U5650 / U5653 / B0112	Ballynabee Road, Convent Gardens, Church Road and Fountain Street, Bessbrook	4 no. Pedestrian Warning signs and associated road markings.	Planned
U6076	Cloughanramer Road, Newry	New "Give Way" sign at the junction of Glen Road.	Planned
U6129	Old Road, Mayobridge	"Slow" road markings.	Planned
U6193	Milltown Industrial Estate, Warrenpoint	30mph speed limit signs.	Planned
U6289	1 Quay Street, Newry	T Bar road marking.	Planned
U6292	Ballyholland Road, Newry	Pedestrian warning signs and "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
U6292	Crieve Road, Newry	Pedestrians in carriageway signs and "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
U6294	Cochron Road and Plunkett St Newry	2 No. School Warning signs and 2 no. "SLOW" road markings.	Planned
U6294	Shandon Park, Newry	30 & 40 roundel road markings.	Planned
U6338	The Grange Meadows, Kilkeel	T bar road marking.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6573	Knockchree Avenue, Kilkeel	Roundabout sign and "SLOW" road marking.	Carried forward from 25/26

TABLE 24: Speed Limits planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0025	Strangford Road Downpatrick	Proposed extension to 30mph and 40 mph speed limit.	Planned
C0315	Longstone Road, Annalong	Proposed 40mph speed limit.	Planned

TABLE 25: Waiting Restrictions planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	South Promenade, Newcastle	Waiting restrictions.	Planned
U6206	Railway Street, Newcastle	Limited waiting restrictions.	Carried

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
			forward from 25/26
U6206	Savoy Lane, Newcastle	Extension to waiting restrictions.	Planned
U6209	Park Avenue, Newcastle	Waiting restrictions.	Planned

TABLE 26: Accessible Parking Bays planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
A0002	15 Seaview, Warrenpoint	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
A0025	4a Downpatrick Road, Strangford	Removal of Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
C0329	16 Bridge Street, Rostrevor (Outside Pharmacy)	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6280	23 Mountain View Park, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6280	30 Clanrye Avenue, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6285	195 Barcroft Park, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6285	129 Barcroft Park, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6281	12 Daisy Hill Gardens, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6280	47 College Gardens, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
B0079	9 Patrick Street, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
C0174	9 Ferrons Terrace, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Carried forward from 25/26
U6294	51 Drumgullion Avenue, Newry	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned
B0007	3 Duke Street, Warrenpoint	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
C0281	52 Saul Street, Downpatrick	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned
U6700	3 Kildare Court, Ardglass	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned
U6800	13 St Malachys Avenue, Castlewellan	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned
U6103	3 Quoile Terrace, Ballynahinch	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned
U6007	5 Meadowlands, Downpatrick	Accessible Parking Bay.	Planned

TABLE 27: Accessible Parking [Dropped kerbs/mobility ramps] planned

Road Number	Road Name, Location	Scheme Description	Status
U6011	Oriel Drive, Downpatrick	Dropped kerbs.	Complete
U6281	James Connolly Park, Newry	Dropped kerbs.	Planned

Accessible Parking Bays – General

Individual Accessible Parking Bay applications will be assessed before the completion of the necessary legislative process. Successful applications are required to be notified in local newspapers offering the opportunity for the public to submit their views.

Any objections must be fully considered before the application can progress to the Legislative Stage. Due to the processes involved, approved applications are required to be grouped and processed in batches of two or maybe three occasions during the year.

Deillumination of signs

The Department is continuing to develop a programme of replacing internally illuminated bollards with retroreflective boards, as resources permit, thus helping to reduce energy costs.

Legislation

All proposals to introduce or amend legislation are subject to successful completion of the necessary processes. This includes Accessible Parking Bays, Speed Limits, Traffic Regulation Orders (such as one-way), Parking and waiting restrictions (such as yellow lines) etc. A notice of intention of proposals is published in local papers which offers the opportunity for the public to submit their views on the proposals. Objections, when received, must be fully considered and addressed before any scheme can be taken forward for implementation.

SECTION 3 - NETWORK MAINTENANCE

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Alan is supported by the following staff:



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EXPLANATION OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

Resurfacing and Strengthening

Roads generally fail by cracking and rutting. They usually do not fail suddenly, but gradually deteriorate due to the impact of traffic, age and weathering. Wear normally appears as either excessive permanent deformation of the whole or part of the carriageway structure or is associated with the cracking of the bituminous layers.

Roads are normally designed for an operational life of 20 years. During this period and beyond, there is a need for the highway authority to intervene at times to either treat or replace the top layer of bituminous material known as the "surface course" or to provide additional depth to preserve the underlying structure of the road and extend its life.

Resurfacing is the application of a layer of this mixed material of 40mm minimum thickness. It strengthens the road, seals it against the ingress of water, and improves skidding resistance and riding quality.

Surface course Bitumen Macadam (Bitmac) has an expected life of 7-12 years which can be extended by subsequent surface dressing. Bitmac is a more flexible material than Asphalt and more suitable for the deformation and movement associated with weaker underlying ground conditions.

Asphalt resurfacing is more appropriate to heavily trafficked roads and junctions having a robust roadbase. It is more expensive and has a longer expected life of 15-20 years.

Resurfacing of existing roads can usually be carried out on top of the existing surface (overlay) but where drainage or kerb levels or bridge heights are restricted the existing surface may need to be removed before the resurfacing takes place.

Surface Dressing

This process involves spraying a bitumen emulsion binder onto the existing road surface, followed by a layer of stone chippings, which is then rolled. This seals the road preventing ingress of water thus extending the life expectancy of the road and also helps to improve the skid resistance on the surface.

Drainage Works

The quick and effective drainage of surface water from the carriageway contributes significantly to road safety and helps to prevent damage to the road itself. Improvement works carried out include the upgrading of the existing drainage facilities to ensure effective dispersal of surface water and prevent as far as possible the occurrence of standing water or flooding

of the road. In many cases the provision of new drainage facilities has to be undertaken including the installation of road gullies, pipes and manholes leading to a suitable discharge point.

Grass Cutting

Grass cutting is carried out for road safety reasons rather than for amenity purposes. The Department's grass cutting policy has evolved to focus on protecting wildlife and promoting biodiversity when managing roadside verges. A single swathe will be cut along the verges on the strategic road network twice per year. Other areas that are needed for road safety purpose, such as sightlines at junctions, will also be cut at least twice each year with additional cuts as and when needed. A similar approach will be introduced on heavier trafficked rural roads and on lighter trafficked rural roads, one cut will be carried out late in the growing season where it is safe to do so.

Gully Emptying

In 2026/27 as in the previous year, the Department currently aims to maintain the level of service and inspect and clean, where necessary, all gullies once annually.

Roads Recovery Fund

In 2026/27, approximately £12.5m has been allocated to a Roads Recovery Fund from the structural maintenance budget specifically designed to address the roads which have been worst affected by recent under investment. £10m of this investment is being targeted towards rural roads. We will use this fund to carry out short lengths of resurfacing rather than repairing a large number of individual potholes in problem areas. Section Engineers, and their staff, across the Division are identifying the worst locations for inclusion on our works programmes. This work will reduce the number of potholes across the network and help prevent additional defects from forming.

Defects

Section Office staff regularly inspect the local network for actionable defects in accordance with the Road Maintenance Guidelines. These guidelines classify the local roads according to traffic volume and establish corresponding deadlines for the repair of any defects identified. Also, in an effort to maximise our effectiveness in delivering key road maintenance functions, we ask that members of the public and elected representatives who have access to the internet to please report road defects via the DfI online reporting facility provided by NI Direct; <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/problems-roads-and-streets>. Alternatively, faults that are considered to be an emergency can be reported by telephone as shown on Page 61.

Street Works

TABLE 28: Street Works by Utility companies

Number of Notifications in Southern Division	Number of Notifications in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Number of Inspections Carried Out	Percentage of those inspected that were unsatisfactory
14,725	5,038	1,088	3.85

3.1 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE COMPLETED WORKS 2025 – 2026

Completed Surfacing

TABLE 29: Resurfacing – Road Network completed

Total length completed
17.25 km

TABLE 30: Resurfacing – Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Merchants Quay, Newry
A0002	Sugar Island, Newry
A0025	Newry Road, Rathfriland
A0025	Rathfriland Road Roundabout, Newry
A0025	Downpatrick Road / Castleward Road, Strangford
A0027	New Street, Newry
A0027	Canal Street, Newry
A0029	Armagh Road, Newtownhamilton
B0002	Dromore Road, Ballynahinch
B0007	Ballynahinch Road, Crossgar
B0008	Hilltown Road, Newry
B0025	Rathfriland Road, Hilltown
B0030	Cullaville Road, Crossmaglen
B0175	Ballynahinch Road, Spa
U6200	Sunningdale, Newcastle
U6294	Canal Quay, Newry
U6294	Erskine Street, Newry
U6294	Ardmore Road, Newry

TABLE 31: Surface Dressing completed

Total length completed
150.56 km

TABLE 32: Surface Dressing locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Station Road, Ardglass
A0002	Claragh Road, Clough
C0217	Railway Road, Meigh
C0219	Flagstaff Road, Newry
C0219	Cottage Road, Newry
C0221	Tullymacreeve Road, Newry
C0222	Skerriff Road, Cullyhanna
C0223	Carrickrovaddy Road, Newtownhamilton
C0272	Carrickmannon Road, Saintfield
C0280	Middle Tollymore Road, Newcastle
C0281	Sawmills Road, Castlewellan
C0284	Ballyhosset Road, Downpatrick
C0285	Ballee Road, Downpatrick
C0285	Bonecastle Road, Downpatrick
C0287	Corrigs Road, Newcastle
C0287	Churchill Road, Newcastle
C0308	Loughinisland Road, Loughinisland
C0308	Craigs Hill Lane, Ballynahinch
C0312	Teconnaught Road, Annacloy
C0312	Tullynacree Road, Annacloy
C0331	Upper Edentrumley Road, Mayobridge
U0130	Magherahamlet Road, Ballynahinch
U0145	Tullyree Road, Kilcoo
U0151	Blacks Lane, Ballynahinch

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U0151	Mountview Road, Ballynahinch
U0153	Mountview Road II, Ballynahinch
U0207	Ardaghy Road, Castlewellan
U0220	Green Road, Darragh Cross
U0223	Glenview Road, Ballynahinch
U0228	Ballynagross Road, Downpatrick
U0244	Ballygilbert Road, Killough
U0244	Ballygilbert Road II, Killough
U0249	Coniamstown Road, Downpatrick
U0249	Ballystrew Road, Downpatrick
U0251	Struell Wells Road, Downpatrick
U0307	Lake Road, Downpatrick
U0308	Ballykeel Road, Downpatrick
U0343	Drumnaghan Road, Seaforde
U1177	Ballydonety Road, Downpatrick
U1205	Ballylig Road, Downpatrick
U1216	Tullynasoo Road, Castlewellan
U1216	Leitrim Road, Castlewellan
U1217	Cauley's Pipe Road, Castlewellan
U1222	Bog Road, Kilcoo
U1224	Saul Road, Downpatrick
U1224	Chaple Lane, Drumaroad
U1224	Drumanaghan Road, Seaforde
U1226	Station Road, Castlewellan
U2112	Grove Road, Spa
U2112	Magherahamlet Road II, Ballynahinch
U5012	Tunnel Road, Jerrettspass
U5035	Creggan West Road, Whitecross
U5061	Rathcarberry Road, Bessbrook

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U5082	Lurgana Road, Belleek
U5085	Drumhna honey Lane, Belleek
U5088	Chapel Lane, Belleek
U5139	Tullyneil Road, Newtownhamilton
U5152	Kesh Road, Camlough
U5223	Correnshigo Road, Newry
U5247	By Lislea Chapel, Newry
U5253	Barkers Road, Newtownhamilton
U5255	Tullyvallen West Road, Newtownhamilton
U5270	Church Road, Meigh
U5294	Killeen School Road, Newry
U5311	Drummond Road, Crossmaglen
U5330	Bog Road, Newry
U5340	Cloghoge Mountain Road, Newry
U5341	Newtown Road, Newry
U5349	Carrewamean / The Hip, Jonesborough
U5383	Lake Road, Cullyhanna
U5444	Kilnasaggart Road, Jonesborough
U5445	Morgans Lane, Jonesborough
U5458	Cornoonagh Road, Newry
U5466	Edenappa Road, Jonesborough
U5475	Old Road, Newry
U5477	Drumboy Road, Culloville
U6004	Carrickrovaddy Road, Belleek
U6021	Lisnaree Road, Rathfriland
U6081	Drumnascamp Road, Newry
U6087	Greenhill Road, Rathfriland
U6127	Leitrim Road, Hiltown
U6134	Glenloughan Road, Kilkeel

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U6141	Mullaghariif Road, Hilltown
U6147	Drumreagh Road, Rostrevor
U6191	Mullavat Road, Newry
U6231	Gove Road, Kilkeel
U6247	Ballykeel Road, Kilkeel
U6252	Millbay Road, Kilkeel
U6253	Drummanamore Road, Kilkeel
U6258	Lurganreagh Road, Kilkeel
U6281	Daisy Hill Road, Newry
U6292	Temple Hill Road, Newry

TABLE 33: Roads Recovery completed

Total length completed
11.97 km

TABLE 34: Roads Recovery locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Blackstaff Road, Ballykinler
C0174	McClenaghans Hill, Newry
C0203	Cortamlat Road, Altnamackan
C0204	Carrickannany Road, Belleek
C0217	Tullywinney Road, Whitecross
C0219	Ferryhill Road, Newry
C0226	Cranny Road, Mullaghbawn
C0277	Ballywillan Road, Crossgar
C0292	Ballymaglave Road, Spa
C0320	Mill Road, Kilcoo
C0322	Ballydrumman Road, Leitrim

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U0061	Drumboy Road, Finnis
U0120	Craig Hill Lane, Ballynahinch
U0141	Moneylane Road, Dundrum
U0256	Palentine Road, Clough
U0344	Beechview Road, Crossgar
U0354	Craig Road, Crossgar
U0384	Drumnaconnel Road, Saintfield
U4219	Ribadoo Road, Leitrim
U4325	McCartan's Road, Leitrim
U5007	Lesh Road, Lisummon
U5021	Keadymore Road, Mount Norris
U5060	Scotchmill Lane, Whitecross
U5065	Aghincurk Road, Newtownhamilton (Near Carty's Farm)
U5100	Priest Bush Road, Whitecross
U5101	Greyhillen Road, Whitecross
U5111	Clogharevan Road, Bessbrook
U5213	Aughanduff Road, Newry
U5237	Courtney Road, Lislea
U5329	Glac Road, Lislea
U5361	Murray's Road, Creggan
U5368	Cashel Mountain Road, Mullaghbawn
U5424	Lurgancullenboy, Glassdrumman
U5429	Oldbridge Road, Forkhill
U5432	Kilnasaggart Road, Jonesborough
U5446	Edenappa Road, Jonesborough
U5465	Carrive Grove Road, Forkhill

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U5650	Father Cullen Park, Bessbrook
U5650	Hill Street, Bessbrook
U6074	Drumiller Road, Newry
U6120	McNallys Lane, Newry
U6200	Sabbath Hill, Ballymartin
U6280	Main Avenue, Derrybeg
U6290	Ballyholland Road, Newry
U6300	Moyra Crescent, Saintfield
U6300	Moyra Drive, Saintfield
U6300	Lexington Avenue, Saintfield
U6401	Essmore, Warrenpoint
U6403	Clonallon Gardens, Warrenpoint
U6700	Whiterock Drive, Ardglass

Completed Footway Resurfacing

TABLE 35: Footway Resurfacing completed

Total length completed
7.39 km

TABLE 36: Footway Resurfacing locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
B0025	Kilbroney Road, Rostrevor
B0025	St Mary's Street, Rostrevor
U5500	Dungormley Estate, Newtownhamilton
U6009	Benderg Avenue, Downpatrick
U6009	Knockcree Road, Downpatrick
U6200	Greenhill Park, Newcastle
U6200	Commedagh Park, Newcastle
U6200	Slieve Shannagh Park, Newcastle
U6200	Drinnahilly Park, Newcastle
U6402	Iveagh Road, Warrenpoint
U6539	Manse Road, Kilkeel

Completed Drainage Maintenance Works

TABLE 37: Drainage completed locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Minerstown Road, Downpatrick
A0002	Kilkeel Road, Ballymartin
B0112	Fountain Street, Bessbrook
B0175	Spa Road, Ballynahinch
C0285	Bonecastle Road, Downpatrick
C0289	Drumcullan Road, Downpatrick
C0308	Clonvarnaghan Road, Castlewellan
C0325	Lackan Road, Castlewellan
C0332	Springfield Road, Warrenpoint
C0365	Greencastle Road, Kilkeel
U0119	Grove Road, Ballynahinch
U0120	Mountview Road, Ballynahinch
U0144	Whitefort Road, Castlewellan
U0239	Kilclief Road, Downpatrick
U0314	Corbally Road, Downpatrick
U0369	Glasswater Road, Crossgar
U2214	Glebe Road, Strangford
U5075	Derrywilligan Road, Bessbrook
U5097	Old Mount Road, Newtownhamilton
U5158	Craigmore, Bessbrook
U6082	Lisnamulligan Road, Hilltown
U6204	St. Brigids Cottages, Drumsesk Road, Rostrevor

3.2 STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROPOSED WORKS 2026 – 2027

Proposed Surfacing

TABLE 38: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network planned

Total length planned
3.00 km

TABLE 39: Resurfacing – Trunk Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Warrenpoint Road, Newry
A0002	Greenbank Roundabout, Newry
A0027	Tandragee Road Roundabout, Newry
A0028	Armagh Road Roundabout, Newry
A0028	Custom Station Roundabout, Newry
A0028	Carnbane Way, Newry

TABLE 40: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network planned

Total length planned
7.98 km

TABLE 41: Resurfacing – Remaining Road Network locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
B0007	Rathfriland Road, Dromara
U0125	Old Grand Jury Road, Saintfield
B0180	Bryansford Village
U6194	Old Warrenpoint Road, Newry
A0027	Shephards Way, Newry
A0027	Shepherds Way Roundabout, Newry
U6280	Clanrye Avenue, Newry
B0113	Drumintee Road, Meigh
B0113	Maytown Road, Bessbrook

Road Number	Road Name, Location
B0112	Church Street / Main Street, Bessbrook
B0079	Fathom Line, Newry
A0029	New Road, Silverbridge
B0007	Chapel Hill, Mayobridge

TABLE 42: Surface Dressing planned

Total length planned
163.04 km

TABLE 43: Surface Dressing locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Killough Road, Ardglass
C0226	Cranny Road, Mullaghbawn
C0282	Ballyculter Road, Downpatrick
C0288	Crawfordstown Road, Drumaness
C0292	Ballymacarn Road, Ballynahinch
C0315	Ballyveaghore Road, Annalong
C0323	Leitrim Road, Castlewellan
C0324	Clarkhill Road, Castlewellan
C0324	Wood Road, Castlewellan
C0335	Ardarragh Road, Newry
C0338	Benagh Road, Newry
C0338	Dessert Road, Newry
C0365	Cranfield Road, Kilkeel
C0374	Ballylone Road, Saintfield
C6178	Ballyrussell Road, Warrenpoint
U0109	Magheralone Road, Drumaness
U0114	Old Belfast Road, Ballynahinch
U0116	Old Park Road, Drumaness

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U0116	New Line Road, Seaforde
U0119	Grove Road, Spa
U0120	Craighill Road, Ballynahinch
U0146	Craig Road, Downpatrick
U0165	Keelstown Road, Downpatrick
U0167	Dromara Road, Ballynahinch
U0180	Craigy Road, Saintfield
U0180	Lisbane Road, Saintfield
U0183	Old Bridge Road, Castlewellan
U0194	Old Belfast Road, Saintfield
U0214	Market Road, Castlewellan
U0215	Largy Road, Castlewellan
U0219	Bog Road, Kilcoo
U0226	Drumlee Road Castlewellan
U0282	Grangecam Road, Downpatrick
U0348	Cuttyshane Road, Killyleagh
U0350	Tullykin Road, Crossgar
U0354	Craig Road, Downpatrick
U0359	Pear Tree Road, Saintfield
U0373	Greens Road, Darragh Cross
U0384	Drumnaconnell Road, Saintfield
U1208	Ballytrussan Road, Downpatrick
U1229	Tullyskeagh Road, Downpatrick
U4211	Carrigagh Road, Finnis
U4356	Bannonstown Road, Leitrim
U5007	Lesh Road, Newry
U5086	Carrickgollogy Road, Belleek
U5113	Buckleys Lane, Bessbrook

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U5126	Levin Road, Newtownhamilton
U5128	Hughes Lane, Belleek
U5148	Fort Road, Newry
U5150	Carrowbane Road, Bessbrook
U5184	Lowes Lane, Camlough
U5188	Mountain Road, Camlough
U5237	Dungormley Road, Newtownhamilton
U5237	Courtney Road, Newry
U5269	Ballintemple Road, Meigh
U5274	Wood Road, Meigh
U5310	Assan Road, Crossmaglen
U5368	Cashel Mountain Road, Newry
U5377	Drummill Road, Cullyhanna
U5378	McShanes Road, Cullyhanna
U5398	Barrawully Road, Jonesborough
U5399	Adavoyle Road, Jonesborough
U5400	Low Road, Jonesboroough
U5401	New Line Road, Drumintee
U5402	Old Road, Jonesborough
U5405	Donaldsons Road, Crossmaglen
U5424	Murrays Road, Crossmaglen
U5437	Carrickbroad Road, Jonesborough
U5441	Castle Hill, Jonesborough
U5450	Loughross Road, Crossmaglen
U5455	Monog Road, Crossmaglen
U5466	Bog Road, Forkhill
U5466	Glassdrumman Road, Crossmaglen
U6017	Shinn Forth Road, Newry

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U6036	Longstone Hill, Newry
U6050	School Road, Newry
U6063	Rock Road, Newry
U6151	Back Road, Glassdrumman
U6240	Pats Road, Ballymartin
U6290	Ballyholland Road, Newry
U6292	Monkshill Road, Newry

TABLE 44: Roads Recovery planned

Total length planned
12.00 km

TABLE 45: Roads Recovery locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0002	Shore Road, Kilclief x 4
A0025	Castleblaney Road, Newtownhamilton
B0176	Killough Road, Downpatrick x 2
C0204	Carrickgallogly Road, Bessbrook
C0204	Carrickgallogly Lane, Belleek
C0282	Ballyhornan Road, Downpatrick x 4
C0290	Demense Road, Seaforde
C0374	Ballylone Road, Saintfield
U0154	Ballywillwill Road, Castlewellan
U0184	Tullywest Road, Ballynahinch
U0213	Burrenreagh Road, Bryansford
U0214	Market Road, Castlewellan
U0221	Fofanny School Road, Kilcoo
U0226	Drumlee Road, Castlewellan
U4211	Carrigagh Road, Finnis

Road Number	Road Name, Location
U5103	Dungormley Road, Newtownhamilton
U5125	Outleckan Road, Belleek

Proposed Footway Resurfacing

TABLE 46: Footway Resurfacing planned

Total length planned
2.20 km

TABLE 47: Footway Resurfacing locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0025	Camlough Road, Newry
A0050	Bann Road, Castlewellan
B0112	Deramore Road, Bessbrook
U5140	Castleblayney Street / Monaghan Road, Newtownhamilton
U5501	Shambles Lane, Newtownhamilton
U6009	Struell Road, Downpatrick
U6009	Ardmore Road, Downpatrick
U6009	Ardfern, Downpatrick
U6204	Marguerite Court, Newcastle
U6700	Phennick Way, Ardglass
U6900	Harmony Park, Drumaness

Proposed Drainage Works

TABLE 48: Drainage planned locations

Road Number	Road Name, Location
A0007	Belfast Road, Saintfield
A0021	Saintfield Road, Ballynahinch
A0024	Seaforde to Drumaness
A0050	Bann Road, Castlewellan
A0050	Castlewellan to Newcastle
U0144	Whitefort Road, Castlewellan
U0213	Burrenreagh Road, Castlewellan
U6280	Killeavy Road, Newry

3.3 ROUTINE MAINTENANCE COMPLETED WORKS 2025 – 2026

Grass Cutting

Grass verges along rural roads were mowed according to the Department's policy.

TABLE 49: Grass cutting completed

Total Length cut
5,465 km

Defects

Section Office staff regularly inspect the local network for actionable defects in accordance with the Road Maintenance Guidelines. These guidelines classify the local roads according to traffic volume and establish corresponding deadlines for the repair of any defects identified.

TABLE 50: Defects details

Description	Detail Total
Total priority defects recorded	25,428
Total repaired within specified timescales	17,722

Public Liability Claims

TABLE 51: Public Liability Claims details

Description	Detail Total
Total claims received	1,335
- vehicular damage	678
- personal injury	53
- property damage	7
Total claims settled	633
Total claims rejected	105

Please note that statistics above for total claims settled are claims where compensation was paid, and statistics for total claims rejected are for claims where no compensation was paid.

The Department's road related claims data between 2019/20 to 2025/26 can be accessed via the following webpage; <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/road-asset-maintenance-directorate-management-information-roads-related-claims-period-20212022-20252026>

The link to general information relating to road related claims on NI Direct is via the following webpage; <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/claim-compensation-due-road-or-street-problem>

3.4 MAINTENANCE OF STRUCTURES

Highway Structures include bridges, sign gantries and retaining walls. All bridges must be capable of carrying 40 tonne vehicles and this requirement has led to the ongoing assessment of bridges in the area.

Structures Section manages the 1,275 bridges and culverts with a span of 1.8m and greater within the Division, 552 of which are in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area. Smaller structures are managed by the local Section Office.

TABLE 52: Structures Maintenance Schemes Completed 2025/26

Structures maintenance work completed within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council during 2025/26.

Name, Location	Scheme Description
Quoile Bridge, Downpatrick	Maintenance and impact repairs.
Silverbridge, Armagh	Maintenance and impact repairs.
McCombs Bridge, Rathfriland	Maintenance and impact repairs.
Ardglass Road, Ballyhornan	General bridge maintenance.
Longstone Hill, Rathfriland	General bridge maintenance.
Magheratimpany Road, Ballynahinch	General bridge maintenance.
Jericho Road, Shrigley	General bridge maintenance.
Drin Road, Finnis	General bridge maintenance.
Clarkhill Road, Castlewellan	General bridge maintenance.
Wood Road, Castlewellan	General bridge maintenance.
Manse Road, Seaforde	General bridge maintenance.
Ummeracam Road, Silverbridge	General bridge maintenance.
Clonvarghan Road, Castlewellan	General bridge maintenance.
Ballywillwill Road, Castlewellan	General bridge maintenance.
Burren Road, Ballynahinch	Bridge strengthening.

Vehicle Restraint Systems Upgrade Completed 2025/26

There were no Vehicle Restraint Systems (VRS) upgrades undertaken within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council during 2025/26.

TABLE 53: Structures Maintenance Schemes Planned 2026/27

Structures maintenance work proposed within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for 2026/27.

Name, Location	Scheme Description
Barnmeen, Longstone Hill, Rathfriland	General bridge maintenance.
Ballydogherty Road, Mountnorris	General bridge maintenance.
Drumbanagher Road, Jerrettspass	General bridge maintenance.
Ringclare Road, Rathfriland	General bridge maintenance.
Ballagh Road, Newcastle	General bridge maintenance.
Drummill Road, Silverbridge	General bridge maintenance.
Garveys Road, Silverbridge	General bridge maintenance.
Mullaghans Bridge, Mullaghbawn	Parapet repairs.
Ballymacarn Road, Ballynahinch	Retaining wall repairs.
Ballydyan Road, Ballynahinch	General bridge maintenance.
Cassey Water Bridge, Killowen	Extensive bridge repairs and restoration.
Kilkeel Harbour Bridge, Kilkeel	Concrete repairs to bridge supports.
Newry Road, Mayobridge	Parapet repairs.
Eight Mile Bridge, Hilltown	Parapet repairs.
Leitrim Bridge, Hilltown	Parapet repairs.
Ballymackilreiny Road, Lowtown	Parapet repairs.
Shepherds Way / Carbane Way, Newry	VRS full replacement into bridge parapet.
Keady Road, Newtownhamilton	2 VRS sections repaired.

Other maintenance schemes within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area will be dependent on the available budget within the year. All other bridges are inspected routinely. This generates an ongoing programme of maintenance / repairs to bridges and other structures.

TABLE 54: Vehicle Restraint Systems Upgrade Planned 2026/27

Name, Location	Scheme Description
Killard Road, Ballyhornan	Two areas of repair work required.
Ballydugan Road, Downpatrick	Planned terminal replacement.

3.5 LANDS SECTION

The DfI Lands Team manage the Divisions lands assets and are responsible for the acquisition of land required for road improvement schemes. The work also involves processing abandonments of land, disposal of land assets that are no longer required and dealing with a range of land queries.

Abandonments

Abandonments of public rights-of-way such as sections of adopted roads and footways are procedures separate from the planning process. These involve a public consultation exercise which informs DfI Roads' decision.

TABLE 55: Abandonments

Road Name, Location	Date	Area (Sqm)
Carneyhaugh Business Park, Newry	24 October 2025	71 Sqm
Church Hill, Jonesborough	4 February 2026	21 Sqm

Stopping Up Orders

There were no Stopping Up Orders within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area in 2025/26.

3.6 WINTER SERVICE

TABLE 56: Winter Service - dates of operations

Description	Start date	Completion date
Official winter maintenance period 2025-2026	13 October 2025	30 March 2026
Salting Operations in this period	68	

TABLE 57: Winter Service - details of operations

Description	Details
Depot location in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area	Newry Depot, Springhill Road, Carnbane Industrial Estate, Newry Castlenavan Depot, Newcastle Road, Seaforde
Number of gritters used during 1 gritting action	12
Number of personnel involved in gritting operation in Southern Division	135
Length of roads salted in Council area	833 km
Total volume of salt used during 2025-2026 winter season in Southern Division.	11,665 tonnes



SECTION 4 – MAJOR PROJECTS SOUTH

Major Projects Southern Managers for the Newry, Mourne & Down areas are Keith Cunningham and David Hamilton

Keith and David are supported by the following staff:



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MAJOR PROJECTS SOUTH

4.1 NEWRY SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD

The Newry Southern Relief Road is being developed to provide a strategic link between the A1/N1 Belfast to Dublin corridor and the A2 Warrenpoint Road, bypassing Newry City Centre. The proposed road link, which was estimated in the range £110 - £130m, comprises a single carriageway, widened to incorporate a climbing lane (2+1 lane) with a maximum gradient of 6%. It is one of the three infrastructure projects being taken forward by the Department within the Belfast Region City Deal, which has allocated £93.4m to the project. Currently there is a large shortfall in the overall funding of £21.8m, the Department is engaging with BRCD partners to discuss the shortfall.

In April 2024 former Infrastructure Minister John O'Dowd reviewed the previous decision made on the form of the bridge over the Newry Ship Canal, in the absence of an Executive, under the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Act 2022 and concluded that the decision for a 50m span fixed bridge remained unchanged.

In August 2023 the Department published a prioritised list of major road schemes that will continue to be progressed, this is available at:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/news/department-publishes-major-roads-prioritisation-programme>

There are several reasons why the prioritisation of projects, currently in the pipeline, was necessary, including the challenging budgetary position and constrained resources (in terms of finance and staff) and, importantly, the Department's commitments under the Climate Change (NI) Act 2022. The publication of the prioritised list of major road schemes, explains that development work on the Newry Southern Relief Road will continue to progress towards the next key decision regarding publication of draft Orders.

The draft Statutory Orders and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) have been completed and were published on 21st January 2025. This opened the formal public consultation period, which closed on 4 March 2025. The project team are currently considering approx. 200 No. consultation responses and will prepare a report/SUB for the Minister's consideration on the way forward. There is a high likelihood that a Public Local Inquiry will be held, timing of this event is yet to be determined.

You will be aware; the Department lodged an appeal against the High Court ruling issued in June 2025 in relation to the previously authorised section of the A5WTC between south of Strabane and Ballygawley.

The Court of Appeal heard part of this case on 9 and 10 December 2025 but subsequently referred a specific issue under section 52 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 back to the High Court for further consideration. Judgment on that issue was delivered on 11 March 2026, and the matter will now return to the Court of Appeal for determination.

The issues being examined in the A5WTC case are relevant to the approval of all major infrastructure projects and it is therefore considered appropriate not to make decisions on these projects until there is clarity that the final determination of these proceedings will provide, specifically relating to the application of section 52 in the context of approval of major projects.

Taking decisions on other major projects at this stage could introduce uncertainty, increase the risk of similar legal challenges arising and moving ahead at this time could result in further delay.

In conjunction with considering the consultation responses and the A5 judgement, in relation to the proposed scheme, work is continuing with the Outline Business Case being updated. Also as and when required members of the project team are available to meet landowners and other parties affected by the scheme proposals.

Additional scheme information is available at;

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/newry-southern-relief-road-overview>



Image of the proposed Fathom Roundabout at B59 and Warrenpoint Roundabout at A2

4.2 A1 JUNCTIONS PHASE 2 (A1J2)

This proposal, which is estimated to cost in the range of £120m - £130m (currently under review), involves the construction of four grade separated junctions (flyovers) to facilitate the closing up of all openings in the central median and installation of a continuous central median concrete safety barrier along a 25 km stretch of the A1 dual carriageway between Hillsborough Roundabout and Loughbrickland, improving road safety for all road users on the A1.

The grade separated junctions will be located at:

- Listullycurran Road;
- Gowdystown Road;
- Skeltons Road / Drumneath Road; &
- Waringsford Road.



Existing Compact Grade Separated Junction at Pantridge Link, Hillsborough

In addition, the proposal includes the provision of a northbound on-slip from the Castlewellan Road, Banbridge, a link road from the Milebush Road to the existing Hillsborough Road junction at Dromore and the closure of nine road junctions along this section of the A1.

All other roads will then operate on a left in - left out basis. A number of private accesses onto the A1 are also proposed for closure.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and draft Statutory Orders were published in March 2019 and the Public Inquiry into the scheme was held in March 2020. The Public Inquiry Inspector issued his report to the Department on 19 October 2020. Following the publication of the Departmental Statement on 28 January 2021, the Statutory Orders for the scheme were then made, with the Stopping Up (of Private Accesses) Order coming into operation on 24th June 2021 and the Direction Order on 16th July 2021.

On-site works for the advance ground investigations and archaeological investigations are now complete.

The former Infrastructure Minister John O'Dowd, on 2 July 2024, announced in the NI Assembly that the scheme will now proceed to the procurement stage.

Whilst the procurement process commenced in December 2024 with the Department expecting the contract to be awarded in 2026, due to the A5 WTC judgement, the scheme has subsequently been delayed. Ahead of the outcome of the A5 WTC judgment, work is ongoing to update the Business Case and necessary contract documents.

Subject to a favourable decision on the A5 WTC appeal, approval of the Business Case, clearing the remaining statutory procedures and the necessary funding being made available, the Department would move to issue the Invitation to Tender, and the making of the Vesting Order with an anticipated construction start date of Summer 2027.

It is expected that it will take three years to construct the scheme.

Additional scheme information is available at:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/a1-junctions-phase-2-overview>

4.3 A24 BALLYNAHINCH BYPASS

The proposed A24 Ballynahinch Bypass aligns to the east of the town, from a new roundabout at the junction of the A24 Belfast Road and the A21 Saintfield Road to a new roundabout located at the existing junction of the B2 Downpatrick Road and the A24 Drumaness Road. A compact grade separated junction connects the B7 Crossgar Road with the proposed bypass. The 3.1km bypass, which was estimated in the range £50m - £60m, comprises of a single 2-lane carriageway bypass with widening to provide overtaking opportunities. A 'Park & Share' facility to accommodate 27 parking bays is proposed on the northern side of the scheme. The main objectives are to improve journey times, journey time reliability and safety. The bypass would provide a route for strategic traffic that would reduce traffic congestion on Ballynahinch and enhance the town centre environment.

The Direction Order for the A24 Ballynahinch Bypass was made on 16 July 2021. The statutory processes are now largely complete however, the Vesting Order for the scheme cannot be made until funding has been secured to deliver the project. Development work had been substantially concluded, including preparation of a draft business case.

In August 2023 the Department published a prioritised list of major road schemes that will continue to be progressed, and all other schemes paused and their place on a future major works programme will be informed by emerging transport plans and a decision by a future Infrastructure Minister.

The A24 Ballynahinch Bypass was previously included in the list of schemes that were paused. However, a review of the Major Projects Prioritisation programme, concluded in December 2024 by the former Infrastructure Minister, John O'Dowd, resulted in a reassessment of the scheme. Consequently, on 12 March 2025, Minister Kimmins announced that the A24 Ballynahinch Bypass had been reinstated within the prioritised list of road schemes.

The scheme is currently at the business case development stage and, subject to the necessary approvals and the availability of funding, will progress to procurement.

Since the Minister's announcement, officials have been reviewing and updating the previously completed development work to ensure it complies with current standards, policies and prevailing conditions. Delivery of the scheme will also need to be sequenced alongside the A1 Phase 2 Road Improvement Scheme, with construction proceeding subject to available funding, programme priorities and A5WTC outcome.

Additional scheme information is available at;

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/a24-ballynahinch-bypass-overview>



Image of Southern Junction at Drumaness Road

SECTION 5 - STRANGFORD LOUGH FERRY SERVICE

Responsibility for the Strangford Ferry no longer falls under the remit of DfI Roads Southern Division, responsibility has transferred to the Department's Public Transport Operations Division.

General Level of Service

In general, the ferry service has operated smoothly throughout the period April 2025 to March 2026. Of a total of 22,150 scheduled sailings, 16 were cancelled due to fog, 66 sailings were cancelled due to stormy weather, and 33 sailings were lost as a result of mechanical and technical issues. This represented an overall reliability of 99.82% for the year.

During this period the ferry service also provided an additional 137 off schedule sailings.

Strangford and Portaferry Harbours

The marshalling system in Strangford continued to operate at weekends and on busy holidays from April to mid-September. This alleviated most of the congestion from the remainder of the village.



SECTION 6 - ENGAGING WITH DfI ROADS

Public Interface

To maximise our effectiveness in delivering key road maintenance functions, we ask that members of the public and elected representatives who have access to the internet please report road defects via the DfI online reporting facility provided by NI Direct; <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/problems-roads-and-streets>.

Alternatively, faults that are considered to be an emergency (during working hours) can be reported by telephone to 028 90 540540.

Section Offices will be opened to the public from 10am - 12noon with meetings outside of this able to be arranged by appointment also.

Emergency Out of Office Hours Assistance

We have a call centre to deal with calls outside normal office hours. DfI Roads personnel can be called upon to deal with emergencies such as flooding, obstructions such as fallen trees, and when requested by Emergency Services, in clearing up after road traffic collisions. Routine roads related matters are not dealt with by this service and should be raised with DfI Roads offices during normal working hours.

The Emergency out of Hours telephone number is: 0300 200 7899

Reports of Flooding can be directed to the Flooding Incident Line 0300 2000 100 (24 hours a day).

DfI Roads Contact Details

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Area

Report a fault - (eg, street lights, pot holes, blocked gullies, etc)

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/problems-roads-and-streets>

Maintenance – We have two section offices covering the district, one in Newry & Mourne and one in Down.

Newry and Mourne Section Office - NewryMourneandDownWest@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Down Section Office - NewryMourneandDownEast@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Traffic

Down - tninddownpatrick@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Newry and Mourne - tnindcraigavon@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

General

dfiroads.southern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Street Lighting

streetlightingsouthern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Strangford Ferry

StrangfordFerry@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Telephone

During working hours Emergencies: **Tel: 028 9054 0540**

Out-of-Hours Emergencies: **Tel: 0300 200 7899**

DfI Roads website

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk>

TRAFFICWATCH website

www.trafficwatchni.com

Floodline Incident Line

The Flooding Incident Line is available 24 hours a day, every day. You can report flooding problems on roads or burst water mains and blocked drains. **Telephone: 0300 2000 100**