

www.westsussexhighways.org

better.roads@westsussex.gov.uk



Frequently Asked Questions – Better Roads Programme

What is the Better Roads Programme?

The Better Roads Programme is a £30m two-year scheme targeting rural and residential roads in West Sussex in need of repair.

It is above and beyond the annual road maintenance programme which we do each year.

Is my road being resurfaced?

You can check if your road is being improved by:

- Visiting www.westsussexhighways.org and typing your road into the “Search our current programme” search bar.
For example: ‘North Road’ or ‘High Street’.
If your road is being repaired, it will appear in the search results.
- Following @WSCCNews via Twitter for announcements.

Letters will be delivered to homes in affected roads before the work starts.

Please bear in mind, dates are subject to change because of factors such as the weather.

Why is my road not on the list?

We undertake surveys and routine inspections of all our roads so we can record their condition.

The information we gather decides how we prioritise roads for maintenance or repair or maintenance.

The list of roads being repaired over the next 12 months has been published on www.westsussexhighways.org

It may be your road has been designated for repair in our longer term plan.

Can I request for my road to be part of the programme?

If you consider your road to be in a very poor condition, please report this to us providing as much detail as you can, together with photographs if possible, so we can investigate further.

To report a pothole or defect online click here: [Report a Fault](#)

You can also call us on 01243 642105 or e-mail: highways@westsussex.gov.uk

What is an ‘unclassified’ road?

Unclassified – are local roads intended for local traffic. They can be rural country lanes or residential roads. They are maintained by the County Council. 60% of roads in the UK fall within this category.

The Better Roads Programme is targeting these local roads only.

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Will you be doing private roads?

Private roads are not maintained by the County Council and will not be included in the Better Roads programme. The responsibility to repair and maintain private roads lies with the street owners. These are usually the people who live on the road.

I live on a main road. When is my road getting fixed?

Our regular 'business as usual' highways works programme is running at the same time. Your road may be on this list. Visit www.westsussexhighways.org and use the "search our current programme" search bar to check.

What sort of repairs will be taking place?

Roads need repairing for two reasons: Either to prevent problems in future, or to renew the road surface when it has worn out.

To prevent problems in future, we will carry out surface dressing, thin micro-asphalt surfacing and patching work.

To renew the road when it has worn out, we will remove the old surface and replace it with a new one.

How will the Better Roads Programme benefit the residents of West Sussex?

Studies have forecast that if money is invested up front on high quality road surfaces, it will save millions of pounds in maintenance costs over the next 20 years.

By investing heavily now in upgrading road surfaces, it will be cheaper in the long run to maintain them and stop them deteriorating.

Will the repairs cause disruption on the county's roads?

In some cases, there will be full road closures and associated diversion routes.

Residents will be informed in advance of planned road works in order to minimise any inconvenience or delays.

How will this affect other West Sussex road works, will you be employing more teams?

Extra teams will be used for the Better Roads Programme. There will be no impact on the day-to-day 'business as usual' maintenance of the network.

When is the programme due to start?

April 2014.

How long will the Better Roads Programme last?

It is scheduled for the next two financial years - 2014/15 and 2015/16.

Why have you not published specific dates and times for work to start in your letter or on your website?

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For us to start work on your road we have to get a notice. Notices are issued to make sure different operators (e.g. utility companies) aren't trying to work on the same road at the same time.

We have about 260,000 notices in West Sussex a year.

To co-ordinate all this, notices are issued with a date range – known as the 'validity period'. Work can start at any time during this period.

The best way to check the start date is on the yellow 'Advance Warning' boards placed in your street.

Will you be working over weekends?

No.

The only exception will be the surface dressing treatments we do over the summer.

We have to squeeze these into the summer months when the weather is dry, which is why they take place seven days a week.

Ends