

**EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
LEAD MEMBER - TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT
POLICY SUMMARY**

Highway Maintenance - Consideration of Character

Purpose of Policy

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) recognises the impact of the local highway network on the character of conservation areas.

The purpose of this policy is to set out the approach to management of highway assets of particular historical interest and highway assets within the Conservation Areas designated by Local Planning Authorities.

In carrying out this policy ESCC will meet its statutory obligations and will also support the Council's Priorities, Local Transport Plan and Highway Service Outcomes.

Policy Statement

1. When undertaking highway maintenance on any part of the network, consideration is given to the latest specification and standards required and the value for money and whole life cost of materials and solutions. Unique historic materials will be preserved where practical.
2. Reactive repairs of safety defects may be carried out with standard, non-historic materials.
3. For maintenance work identified on the annual works programme:
 - a. A forward maintenance programme is prepared annually and will be shared with local planning authorities so that they can consider the impact on conservation areas and highlight other assets of historical interest at other locations in advance of any works taking place.
 - b. Local planning authorities will be given the opportunity to determine if they wish to meet the additional costs of using preferred alternative materials and the subsequent maintenance costs.
 - c. The County Council will have regards to the impact of maintenance on the character of conservation areas as part of the assessment of durability of the materials used and the budget available.

Note the above is in reference to long term planned works and does not apply to reactive repairs of safety defects.

4. In conservation areas, street lighting columns will be painted in the appropriate local colour.

Conservation Areas of More than Local Importance.

The following conservation areas of more than local importance were agreed at the Lead Member Meeting of the 15 October 2007:

Eastbourne - Meads Street

Hastings - Norman Road, East Ascent, Maze Hill & Kenilworth Road

Lewes - Western Rd (Irelands Lane to High Street), High Street (Western Rd to Friars Walk).

Wealden - High Street, Alfriston

Rother - Citadel Area of Rye taken to be the following streets:

Watchbell Street,

Church Square,

Mermaid Street,

Market Street,
West Street,
East Street,
Conduit Hill,
East Cliff,
High Street & The Mint

Supporting Information

Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Code of Practice 'Well-managed highway infrastructure', 2016

Streets for All, Advice for Highway and Public Realm Works in Historic Places, 2018

Environment Act, 1995

Version control

Date of last review: