

Full Council 20 April 2023 – Schedule of written responses to Members' questions not answered at the meeting

Agenda Reference	Question	Response
10E	<p>Councillor Mahil submitted the following to the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services, Councillor Filmer:</p> <p>“The state of Medway’s roads has now become a standing joke, with them being described as Swiss Cheese and suitable for plastic ducks! This has an impact not just on the condition of people’s vehicles but on the overall economy and reputation of Medway.</p> <p>Can the Portfolio Holder please tell us what are the plans to rectify this very serious infrastructure problem, not just for the immediate future, but for the long term?”</p>	<p>Thank you for your question, Councillor Mahil.</p> <p>Our highways network consists of 831km of carriageway and 1,400km of footways, making it one of the largest assets owned by the Council. As a Highway Authority with the statutory duty to maintain the public highway, fulfilling that duty with such an extensive network is extremely challenging, as is the case up and down the country.</p> <p>Alongside a robust annual resurfacing programme, we also undertake programmed inspections at different intervals throughout the year, and respond to safety-critical repairs, such as potholes, on a reactive basis.</p> <p>The effects of extreme weather events contribute to the number of defects appearing on our highway network, and this is not a situation unique to Medway.</p> <p>We’ve repaired 12,040 carriageway defects between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023: an increase of over 3,000 from the previous year as a result of the snow in December last year. We know there is more to be done and we continue with our efforts to address the condition of the network.</p>