



# Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Policy

2022 -2027



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# Foreword

The highway infrastructure in Swindon is the biggest capital asset that Swindon Borough Council (SBC) own. It is valued at well over £1 billion pounds and is vital to the town's economic and social prosperity.

Although our roads are currently amongst the safest in the South West, our highway network is growing busier and larger, as new businesses and residents are attracted to the facilities we offer and our vision to create the vibrant and prosperous Swindon of 2030. The growth of the town, together with the financial pressures we continue to face, mean that we must become smarter; more flexible and innovative in our approach to managing highway assets within the funding that is available.

This Highway Infrastructure Asset Management (HIAM) Policy has been prepared to demonstrate how commitment to long-term asset management for our highway infrastructure will support the delivery of the priorities and pledges embedded within the Vision for Swindon 2030, and ensure that our highway infrastructure continues to support the growth of the town for years to come.



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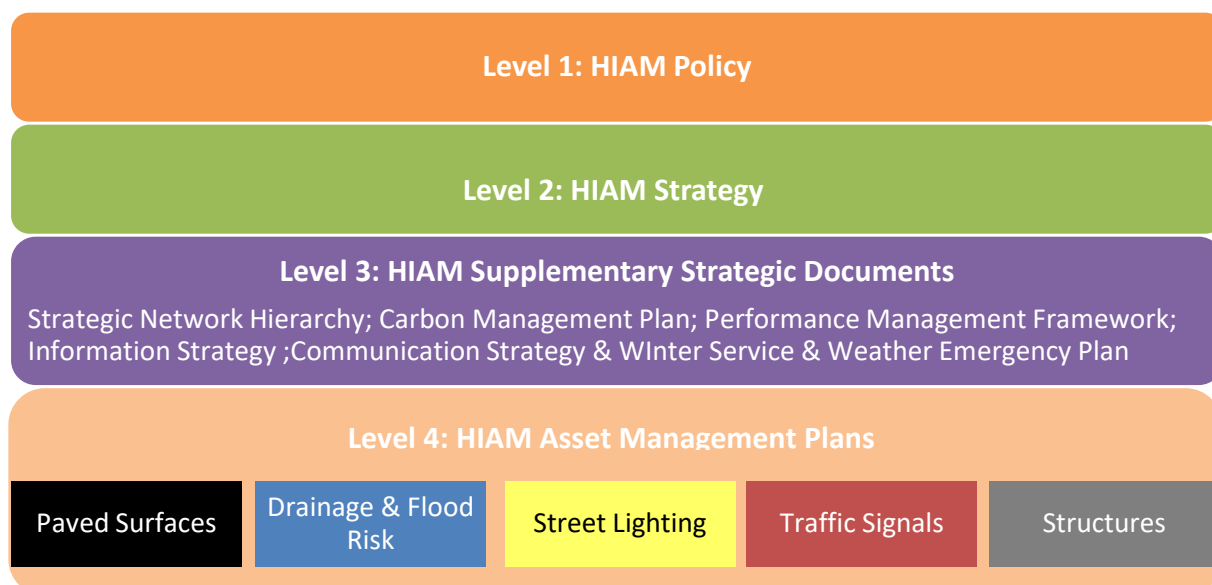
# 1.0 Context

The Vision for Swindon 2030 sets out how Swindon Borough Council (SBC) will shape the borough and deliver the growth to allow the community to prosper. To deliver the vision, SBC has developed a series of priorities and pledges, which enable officers to prioritise their work.

These priorities and pledges have been used to influence the Highway Infrastructure Asset Management (HIAM) Policy and Strategy, which have been approved by Cabinet and are available to view on the SBC website. These high-level documents are supported by a suite of Supplementary Strategic Documents (SSD's) which have an influence on the management of all asset groups and Asset Specific Operational; Inspection; Maintenance and Management Plans.

A summary of the HIAM Asset Management Framework and status of this HIAM Policy within the hierarchy of this suite of documents is illustrated in figure 1.

Figure 1: SBC HIAM Documents Suite - Hierarchy



## 2.0 The Strategic Vision

The Vision for Swindon 2030 sets out how SBC will shape the borough, and deliver growth that allows communities to prosper; families to live healthy and happy lives; and children to fulfil their potential. The Vision for Swindon 2030 states that:

‘By 2030, Swindon will have all of the positive characteristics of a British city with one of the UK’s most successful economies; a low-carbon environment with compelling cultural, retail and leisure opportunities and excellent infrastructure. It will be a model of well managed housing growth which supports and improves new and existing communities.

Swindon will be physically transformed with existing heritage and landmarks complemented by new ones that people who live, work and visit here will recognise and admire. It will remain, at heart, a place of fairness and opportunity where people can aspire to and achieve prosperity, supported by strong civic and community leadership.’

In order to deliver the Vision for Swindon 2030, SBC has developed a series of priorities and pledges, which will enable Councillors and Officers to prioritise their work and ensure that SBC is using its increasingly limited resources to effectively pursue the Vision for Swindon 2030. This Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Policy has been developed to reflect the six priority areas of the vision.

## 3.0 Policy Statement

**Priority One:** Build an economy that works for you: creating more well-paid jobs, attracting further investment in our town and making Swindon a great place to start and grow businesses.

**HIAM Policy Statement:** By adopting a risk-based approach to asset management, we will **increase the resilience** of key transport routes to **promote consistent journey times**, support the economy and help businesses to grow.

**Service Level:** Increase the resilience of key transport routes and promote consistent journey times.

**Priority Two:** Protect and enhance our heritage, cultural and leisure facilities: delivering improvements now and securing long-term investment.

**HIAM Policy Statement:** We will ensure that existing highway infrastructure is managed in a way that **protects** the character of heritage; cultural and leisure amenities.

We will ensure that proposals for new highway infrastructure include **biodiverse** and **sustainable solutions** that **enhance** the character of heritage; cultural and leisure amenities.

**Service Level:** Protect and enhance Swindon's character.

**Priority Three:** Deliver sustainable growth: through high quality affordable homes alongside infrastructure to support our growing town.

**HIAM Policy Statement:** We will target investment into the highway network and adopt a risk-based approach to asset management by regularly inspecting and maintaining highway infrastructure to keep Swindon moving safely as it expands.

**Service Level:** Keep Swindon moving safely.

**Priority Four:** Equip all our young people with the education and skills they need: through additional and enhanced skills and higher education opportunities.

**HIAM Policy Statement:** Our long-term approach to recruitment; training and development will provide opportunities for young people to work in an environment where they can develop enhanced skills and enter into higher education.

**Service Level:** Offer apprenticeship and career grade roles that provide a route to development.

**Priority Five:** Make Swindon greener and more sustainable: we will help residents reduce their environmental impact and as a Council, we will be carbon neutral by 2030.

**HIAM Policy Statement:** We will ensure that proposals for new highway infrastructure promote **sustainable travel choices**. We will develop a highways specific carbon management plan to measure the impact of our activities and work to become **carbon neutral** by 2030.

**Service Level:** Make Highways greener and more sustainable.

**Priority Six:** We will make Swindon safer, fairer and healthier: by helping people to help themselves while always protecting our children and adults, increasing health and wellbeing facilities and tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

**HIAM Policy Statement:** We will regularly **engage with communities** to ensure that our Highways are **accessible** to all and facilitate healthy travel choices.

We will **work in partnership** to reduce accidents; violence and crime on the Highway network.

**Service Level:** Ensure Highways are accessible; facilitate healthy travel choices and are safe.



## 4.0 Review Process

This HIAM Policy was reviewed and updated in November 2021. The document will be updated where appropriate to align with any future revisions to the priorities and pledges within the Vision for Swindon 2030. This review process will be managed and implemented by the SBC HIAM Group.

**Highway Infrastructure Asset Management**

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