

10 December 2025



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URGENT BUSINESS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Doug Wilkinson

Dear Councillor

COUNCIL – 11 December 2025

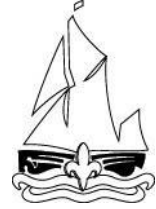
With the agreement of the Chairperson, please be advised that the following **urgent item of business** had been brought forward for consideration at the above meeting.

- 17 a) URGENT BUSINESS - Supplementary Estimate - Maldon District Council Roadways / Car Park (Pages 3 - 6)

Yours faithfully

Chief Executive

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**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE / DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND
COMMUNITIES**

**to
COUNCIL
11 DECEMBER 2025**

URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE - MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL ROADWAYS / CAR PARK

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To request £142,000 supplementary funding for works previously approved by the Council to conduct essential resurfacing of Maldon District Council roadways, together with two pay and display car parks.
- 1.2 This is as a result of preparatory works revealing unforeseen structural works. This together with increased material costs require Council approval of the supplementary budget request.
- 1.3 This matter is brought forward for consideration with the agreement of the Chairperson to avoid delay in the planned works which is likely to lead to rescheduling of the works as well as potentially increasing the costs.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council gives approval for the investment of £142,000 for additional remedial works to the assets concerned in order to ensure that the subsequent resurfacing works are undertaken in a way which maximises the life of the new surface.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 Capital schemes previously approved, and changes requested

- 3.1.1 The 2025/26 capital programme bids included an item for road resurfacing works as: Promenade Park Emergency Road = £55,000, Cobbins Chase = £18,000, and Riverside Park Library Car Park = £25,000, totalling £98,000.
- 3.1.2 The capital programme also includes an item for resurfacing of the Pay and Display Car Parks at Butt Lane / White Horse Lane totalling £190,000, supporting the Council's commitment to car park maintenance within its Car Park Strategy.
- 3.1.3 As the above works have been started, it has become clear that additional previously unplanned and unforeseen works will be required to deliver the overall schemes as originally intended (i.e. with an improved surface and so an extended useful life). This is due to the base layers below the current surface being in a worse state than had

been anticipated before the ground was opened. This along with an overall increase to material costs has resulted in a shortfall in the budget requirement.

- 3.1.4 This report therefore requests additional funding to ensure that works can achieve the previously approved objective, ensuring that the new surface is laid on a base which is fit for purpose so that the useful life of both surface and base will be significantly extended.
- 3.1.5 At the level of £142,000, this request falls within the delegations to the Council, and cannot be determined by the Strategy and Resources Committee, hence this report.
- 3.1.6 The contractor is already on site, and there is an advantage to the Council in determining a way forward quickly in order to retain the contractor as planned. Delay is likely to lead to rescheduling of the works with the contractor, as well as potentially increasing the costs. Waiting until the Strategy and Resources Committee in January 2026 and progressing to the Council in February 2026 would create an avoidable eight-week delay.
- 3.1.7 Members have previously expressed a preference (budget planning in the Finance Working Group and the Strategy and Resources Committee) to invest where appropriate to ensure that the Council's assets are left in a good state for the successor authority arising through the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) process. Increasing the funding to ensure that appropriate necessary works are undertaken is in line with this general approach and support the Council's Car Park Strategy.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 It is considered that approval of additional funding would enable the works to leave the assets in the desired condition (properly repaired and with extended useable life) as previously approved and will ensure that council funds are used consistent with our best value duty.
- 4.2 The completion of the resurfacing work on these car parks reflects the Council's commitment within its Car Park Strategy to provide well-maintained facilities, and specifically to invest in infrastructure, improve and maintain surfaces.

5. IMPACT ON PRIORITIES AS SET OUT IN THE CORPORATE PLAN 2025 - 2028

5.1 Supporting our communities

- 5.1.1 The assets considered in the report are key elements of the local infrastructure. Maintaining them in a way that supports the ongoing useability will be supportive of our communities.

5.2 Investing in our District

- 5.2.1 The assets considered in the report are valuable assets held by the Council. Investing in them helps maintain the overall standard of the district and delivers on its commitments within its Car Park Strategy.

5.3 Growing our economy

- 5.3.1 Subject to procurement regulations, use of local contractors will support local business.

5.4 Protecting our environment

- 5.4.1 The works proposed do not extend the assets and encroach on green spaces but maintain existing built assets in an appropriate way.

5.5 Delivering good quality services

- 5.5.1 The assets concerned are a very visible part of the services provided for residents. Currently, the asset quality is deteriorating. Additional investment will address this and extend the overall life of the assets.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – Visible impact.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – Maintaining road and car park surfaces reduces trip hazards and accessibility at a suitable level.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk (including Fraud implications)** – Leaving surfaces in a poor condition risks trips or falls and possible claims being brought against the Council.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – The report recommends an additional £142,000 of funding be applied. This is available within the total held as the general fund general reserve (general fund balance), and recognises the income generated from the pay and display car parks.

Scheme	Previous budget (£)	Additional requested (£)	Proposed revised budget (£)
Promenade Park Emergency Road Cobbins Chase Riverside Park Library Car Park	98,000	82,000	180,000
Butt Lane/White Horse Lane (Pay and Display)	190,000	60,000	250,000
Total	288,000	142,000	430,000

- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.
- (vi) **Impact on Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation** – None directly, however, will ensure that the Council's assets are left in a good state for the successor authority arising through the Local Government Reorganisation.

Background Papers: None.

Enquiries to:

Ben Jay, Director of Finance,

Sue Green, Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities.

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