

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 15 FEBRUARY 2018

**Question to Helen Fisher
Cabinet Support Member for Highways and Transport**

By Ron Clarke

Question

Four years ago Councillors were informed that a two year survey would be undertaken in the whole of Staffordshire to examine all drains. The purpose of the exercise was to identify those drains which needed to be cleared more often than others and to record those drains which were be in need of repair.

Has the County Council drawn up a chart and a schedule of all the drains in Staffordshire, this would save unnecessary cleaning of some drains and give more time for others to be cleaned on a regular basis?

Reply

You will be pleased to hear that we have now captured nearly all the information on the 185,000 gullies and drains in Staffordshire. As you can imagine this has been no small feat. We actually took an update to this to the Prosperous Select Committee on 14th November 2017.

We now have a database that holds the relevant information for each gully and is allowing us to begin a new risk based approach based on: the category of road, silt levels, flood risk, current condition (e.g. what capacity is it running at) etc. and will lead to a mixed approach to emptying frequencies.

Depending on what we find/have found on the condition of the gullies some may require further investigation before prioritising work. The cleansing of gullies will now happen once a year, once every 2 years and once every 3 years depending on the data we have collected and the factors detailed above.

These schedules are currently being loaded on the member's portal and will be available by the end of March 2018 at the latest.