

## Roads update: KCC meeting January 2026

Please find an updated below, I will provide further details as it arrives:

1 Issue of stones/object on road verge - the road verge is part of the road and where the road is council maintained i.e. on the list of public roads ABC are responsible for maintaining/managing.

There is unfortunately no ABC standard area or legal standard for verge distances. The distance of verge remains a matter of fact and can be subject to legal challenge. Perhaps to limit challenge we currently apply a one metre verge restriction in general (this would differ e.g. in planning applications). The issue of boulders (or similar) along verges e.g. Kames shore has been raised to me in other council areas also. I will be including these areas in a project to contact individuals requesting stones be moved to give a clear one metre distance and if not complied we (ABC) can remove.

Bushes and shrubs over pavements - we have a process of contacting residences to remove these obstructions, if not complied with ABC remove and pursue houseowner.

As discussed, please pass on any overrunning issues to myself.

A number of resurfacing/drainage projects for the area have had proposals submitted e.g. on B8000, A8003, Bobbys Brae (from the Operations Team) and they are waiting on the new budget decisions regarding these.

I have requested the details of the three year cycle, I did not realise this was not raised by the Operations Team so the information is delayed - my apologies for this.

2 On discussion with the relevant Officer/Project Lead, the 'Project 20' (potential speed reductions from 30 to 20mph) looks to begin for the Bute & Cowal area in February/March. For this area, and others, I am keen to look at *overall* speed rather than just potential 20mph restriction so we do not miss the opportunity. There are currently National Speed Limit (NSL) roads and some 30mph limits within the area. I believe the proposal for changes could include:

- A8003 south entrance to Tighnabraich: NSL/60mph-40mph-30mph staggered at entrance
- A8003 school area 20mph e.g. from Kyles Court to B8000/Shore junction
- 20mph limits on 'side roads' i.e. those not on main arterial A8000/B8000
- B8000 northward - 20mph zone approaching shops to RNLI base
- Kames Shore road/back road - 20mph, 30mph limit to extend past Blairs Ferry

- B8000 eastwards into Kames - NSL to stagger 60-mph-40mph-30mph on approach
- B8000/unclassified road at Millhouse crossroads and Millhouse entrance - 30mph through area, again a potential staggered 60-40-30mph
- From 60mph down to 40mph on Carry Farm, Kilfinan, Otter Ferry areas

I would be keen for discussion/feedback/suggestions on this (I have had difficulty in finding any proposals from my predecessor).

For specific speed calming measures the initial plan is to implement the speed reductions/restrictions and after feedback and a review of the changes then decide on potential physical calming measures.

3 Keep reporting areas of concern with overgrown trees, there is also the potential to use the flay method of tree clearing which has been effective in other areas. Tree/shrub clearing is constrained by nesting times but emergency situations can overrule this.

4 There is no policy on dropped kerb installation although we would welcome requests and can apply to the budget. There is also a road safety budget (April to March allocation)- I can bring requests for dropped kerbs to the table for safety projects. I was too late in position this year to be able to submit requests.

5 Cycling and pedestrian routes - was mentioned to discuss this with Colin Young. I will be discussing speed reductions and potential areas of joint working with Colin.

6 Resilience planning, I know there is a recognition of the extreme weather and it has been raised with the recent landslips, I have passed this to my superiors.

7 Road markings are due to be reapplied with our new lining truck and areas that require a clearer definition/warning will have this added. I will have the weight limit sign(s) on the Bealach added.

For the Berryburn area, the adopted road is Cowal Terrace only. The car park and Berryburn road are all owned, and managed, by ACHA. The Kames road I have no owner for and assume it is frontagers though I cannot confirm this at moment.

I am assuming the individual recorded issues have been attended too - if anyone brings up cases please pass on to me.

Kind regards

Keith