

Surface Dressing 2025

This season we have we have 40 surface dressing sites to be undertake, 33 in Northumberland covering a distance of 44 miles, totalling an area of 433,308m².

Ref.	Road No.	Location.
C01	B6342	Harwood Gate to Herterton
W01	C195	Knowesgate to District Boundary
P02	A696	Ottercops Masts to Blaxter Quarry
P05	A68	Woodford Bridge to Gunnerton Junc
R01	A68	Stagshaw RA to Little Whittington Junc
C03	C342	Matfen to B6318
P11	B6318	Fawcett Hill Junc to Stagshaw Roundabout
P06	B6320	Simonburn to South of Keepersshield Quarry
P07	B6318	Carrow Farm to Limestone Bank
W02B	C234	Boatside Inn To A69
P10	B6305	Nubbock Lodge to Branch End
P08	B6303	Station House to Leadside Bank
P09	B6278	A68 to Fieldhead Farm Snods Edge
C04	B6528	Horsley
C02	C343	Stamfordham Road
P16	A192	Seaton Delaval to Laverick Hall Rbt
P15	A192	Horton To Plessey Checks Westbound
R02	B1331	Nedderton Village
P04	B1340	Swinhoe to Beadnell
P17	A1068	Sheepwash Bridge to A197 Morpeth Road
P12	B1337	Ulgham to Longhirst
P13	C117	Widdrington Station Junc To The Brocks Junc
N01	B6345	Acklington to Togston junction
N04	C108	Togston Barns to A1068
P01	A1068	Killie Bends to Wooden Farm
P03	A697	Haugh Head to Wooler
N02	C92	Old Rugley to Lemmington crossroads
N03	C94	Longdyke Steading
N05	C188	Longframlington
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Surface Dressing Civils Preparation Works

Surface dressing civils prep works commenced on 3 March 2025 this involves clearing carriageway edge, kerb lines and vegetation, resetting of gullies and manholes, cleaning of piped grips, recutting water grips and ditching. To date we have prepped 14 sites, with works ongoing with a completion date of 11 July 2025.



Before W01 C195 Knowesgate to District Boundary



After W01 C195 Knowesgate to District Boundary



Before W01 C195 Knowesgate to District Boundary



After W01 C195 Knowesgate to District Boundary

Surface dressing patching prep works commenced on 17 March 2025 this involves carriageway patching and removal of roadstuds. These works are ongoing and to date we have prepped 12 sites with a completion date of 11 July 2025.



Hotbox Patching Before
C03 C342 Matfen to B6318



Hotbox Patching Before
C03 C342 Matfen to B6318



Machine Patching Before
W01 C195 Knowesgate to District Boundary



Machine Patching After
W01 C195 Knowesgate to District Boundary

Surface Dressing

Surface dressing is a process that is used to improve the surface of roads and slows down the deterioration of the road surface, maintaining skid-resistant and waterproofed road surface. The rapid speed of the process means that disruption to road users, local businesses and emergency services is minimised.

We treat roads between May and September because the process needs warm, dry weather to allow the dressing to become established. This type of work cannot be undertaken in wet or damp conditions. If the weather results in us not being able to carry out these works as planned.

What is surface dressing?

We spray the existing road surface with a coating of bitumen, then spread stone chippings on top. The chippings are then rolled into the bitumen. Once the bitumen has set, we will sweep the road to remove any loose chippings. This will usually be done after 24 hours, but during hot weather this may take longer.

Traffic is allowed onto the new surface, at a reduced speed, to help to push the chippings into the road. The action of traffic soon begins to embed the chips, forming a stable and hard wearing new surface.

It is important to keep to the temporary speed limits of 20mph and avoid sharp turns. This allows the surface to stabilise, and prevents any damage to your vehicle.

Surface dressing works commenced on Monday 12 May 2025 with the works programmed to be take 53 days.

Surface Dressing





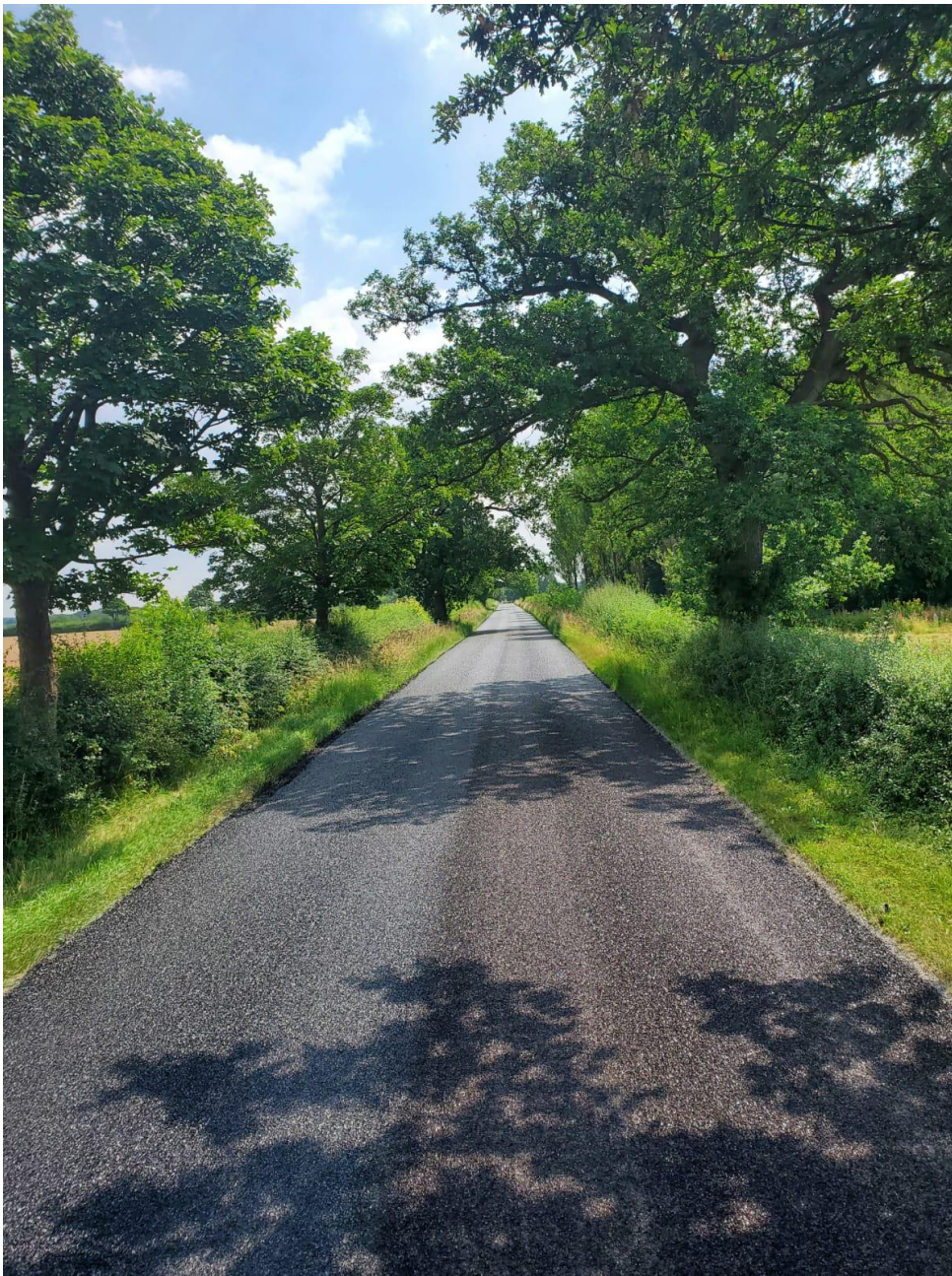


LockChip

LockChip coating is then applied, this is a surface dressing emulsion used to lock (seal) down newly dressed highways. Applied by a specialist contracting team. The process seals surface dressing by locking down the aggregate. This then preserves the surface by preventing the ingress of water preventing potholes.

Once the newly dressed road has received two sweeps, BituChem's contracting team applies the LockChip bitumen coating to fully seal the highway. The binder sits within the macro-texture of the chips in the new surface. This application significantly improves the early life retention of the chips in all areas of the dressing. Providing waterproofing and increased durability to prevent defects, cracks, and potholes. LockChip binder also enhances the appearance of the new surface to a deep, uniform black which is comparative to a new asphalt surface.

LockChip works commenced on Tuesday 20 May 2025 with the work programmed to take 53 days.



Road Marking

Road Marking and replacement of roadstuds is due to commence on 27 May 2025. These works involve the replacement of whitelines and roadstuds following the completion of the LockChip this ensures that any excess chippings have been removed and that the lining is more likely to adhere to the surface. When we do this is dependent on weather conditions as lining in wet or damp weather can affect the quality of the work.

