From: Karl Taylor – East Sussex County Council

**Sent:** 12 January 2021 13:08

To: Carol Harris <Clerk@Battletowncouncil.gov.uk>

Cc: Rupert Clubb - East Sussex County Council; Councillor Claire Dowling

Subject: RE: Preservation of Battle footways

Dear Ms Harris,

The current ESCC policy is to replace broken slabs and pavers with bituminous materials. The exception to that is in 22 named streets across the county where we will replace with like-for-like materials, or where local authorities are prepared to fund the increase in cost of preferred materials. Unfortunately the only named streets listed in the policy for Rother District are in Rye.

The Council is in discussion with local Conservation Officers, about a new policy that would allow local councils to be consulted about our maintenance programmes and for local councils to contribute to the 'upgrade' of materials. However, those conversations have not concluded and until a replacement policy has been approved by Lead Member for Transport & Environment later this year, we are continuing to work to the existing policy:

https://democracy.eastsussex.gov.uk/documents/s33771/LMTE%2017%20November%202020%20Appendix%201%20PS07-03%20Maintenance%20of%20Footways%20Materials%20Policy.pdf

I appreciate that the Town Council won't be happy with this response, but such is the demand on its resources that the County Council cannot afford to use preferred materials.

Kind regards,

## **Karl Taylor**

Assistant Director Operations Communities, Economy & Transport

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