KEY ISSUE:
To inform the Committee of the content and matters discussed at the recently held second meeting of the Elmbridge Cycle Forum.

ELECTORAL DIVISION AND MEMBER:
All Divisions.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:
That the Committee notes the content of this report.

LEAD CONTACT OFFICERS: Chris Paisley, Senior Principal Engineer
Sean Wotherspoon, Assistant Engineer

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: 01372 832510 / 832582

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
1. REPORT

1.1 The second meeting of the Elmbridge Cycle Forum was held on 25 March 2004.

1.2 John Pincham chaired, and welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

1.3 Those attending the Forum represented a range of cycle organisations and other groups including:
- Sustrans – The Cycling Charity;
- CTC – Cyclists Touring Club;
- TOPS – Local Group campaigning for new crossing facilities over the River Thames;
- British Cycling Federation;
- Elmbridge Borough Council – Both elected Members and officers;
- Elmbridge Sports Council;
- Royal Borough of Kingston;
- Other local cyclists.

1.4 The main areas covered in the second meeting were:
- Introductions and welcome;
- Update on matters raised at the last forum;
- Cycle Route Proposals – A307 Portsmouth Road;
- Update on Current Schemes and Future LTP Schemes;
- Healthy Lifestyles;
- Workshop Session – “Scheme Priorities”;
- Items for Future Meetings.

1.5 The minutes of the second meeting are attached as Appendix A.

1.6 The next meeting of the Forum is planned for September 2004.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2.1 At the Local Committee Meeting in March 2004 an allocation of £5,000 was approved from the devolved LTP Budget to facilitate the continued development of the Forum.

3. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Forum will help in the identification of improved facilities and the promotion of cycling in the Borough.

4. CRIME & DISORDER AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.
Appendix A

Surrey County Council – Elmbridge LTS

Elmbridge Cycle Forum - Thursday 25th March 2004

Notes of Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ORGANISATION</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Present:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Pincham (JP)</td>
<td>Vice-Chairman of SCC Elmbridge Local Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Paisley (CP)</td>
<td>Senior Principal Engineer - SCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Wotherspoon (SW)</td>
<td>Assistant Engineer - SCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Fordham (AF)</td>
<td>Cycle Support Officer – Traffic &amp; Road Safety Team - SCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Parsey (RP)</td>
<td>Cycling Officer - Royal Borough of Kingston</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Wiltshire (DW)</td>
<td>Director of Planning &amp; Environmental Services Elmbridge Borough Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geoff Seale (GS)</td>
<td>Sports Development Officer - Elbridge Borough Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janet Turner (JT)</td>
<td>Elbridge Borough Councillor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graham Winton (GW)</td>
<td>Elbridge Borough Councillor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barry Fairbank (BF)</td>
<td>Elbridge Borough Councillor</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Payne (JP)</td>
<td>Elbridge Sports Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Crowther (TC)</td>
<td>CATA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ian McKechnie (IM)</td>
<td>Elmbridge Cycle Users Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roy Summers (RS)</td>
<td>SUSTRANS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geoff Clarke (GC)</td>
<td>Cyclists’ Touring Club</td>
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<td>Roy Turner (RT)</td>
<td>Cyclists’ Touring Club</td>
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<td>Roger Taylor (RTA)</td>
<td>Cyclists’ Touring Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Clint (PC)</td>
<td>Cyclists’ Touring Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sian Charlton (SC)</td>
<td>British Cycling Federation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Apologies:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ian Lake (IL)</td>
<td>Chairman of SCC Elmbridge Local Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maggie Martin (MM)</td>
<td>SCC Councillor – The Dittons</td>
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<td>Mrs J Boater (JB)</td>
<td>CATA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniella Wardley (DW)</td>
<td>Elmbridge Road Safety Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Pontin (MP)</td>
<td>TOPS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev Robert Jenkins</td>
<td>Local Weybridge Cyclist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graham Cannon (GC)</td>
<td>Surrey Police</td>
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1. Introduction Welcome

John Pincham (JP), The Vice-Chairman of Surrey County Council’s Local Committee in Elmbridge and chairman for the evening, welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the SCC Elmbridge Cycle Forum.

He introduced the Members of staff present from the Elmbridge Local Transportation Service, Alan Fordham from the County Council’s central Traffic & Road Safety Team and also Rob Parsey (RP), Cycling Officer from the Royal Borough of Kingston.
Chris Paisley (CP), Senior Principal Engineer at Elmbridge LTS gave a brief introduction to all attending the Forum. He highlighted that the Elmbridge Local Committee had approved £25,000 funding for cycling, and Alan Fordham (AF) confirmed that this amount would be matched centrally, providing a total of £50,000 funding for cycling schemes on 2004/05.

Alan Fordham (AF) highlighted that the latest cycle map project was nearing completion and the free maps would hopefully be available from bike shops, libraries, council offices etc at the end of April / early May 2004. There will be eight guides in total for Surrey, with guides 2 and 3 covering Elmbridge.

2. A307 Portsmouth Road – Long Ditton – Proposed Cycle Route

CP summarised the background of this item, highlighting that a developer funded joint study for Surrey County Council and the Royal Borough of Kingston (RBK) had identified this route. Consultation by RBK was taken to Surrey County Council’s Elmbridge Local Committee in January 2004, with the recommendation being to defer the decision to the Elmbridge Cycle Forum where the issue could be discussed.

Rob Parsey (RP) summarised the proposal from RBK, indicating that this utility route was being promoted by RBK and independent counts taken have indicated that up to approximately 400 – 700 cyclists per day are passing the borough boundary. Discussions between SCC and RBK have resulted in RBK holding off their proposals until later in the year, to allow SCC to make a decision, which will result in either a joint SCC / RBK scheme being introduced or RBK implementing the scheme on their own.

Cllr. Barry Fairbank (BF) highlighted that there was a major parking problem in the area, which is due to the widely used light industrial, retail and wholesale outlets and car showrooms. It was felt that the introduction of waiting restrictions would not help the parking situation, which will be worsened by the potential Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) introduction by RBK.

CP asked the Cycle Forum if they felt if this was a crucial link and explained that RBK will be providing the link whatever we do.

Janet Turner (JT) commented that this was a vital link and currently the parked cars create a danger for cyclists. Graham Winton (GW) also commented on this being a vital but currently dangerous link which forms a major cycle route in the area and must be linked up.
The issue was discussed further and a number of issues were raised, these being:

- Would more people use this section if it were introduced as a route? – The general view was that the route would be used more if the parking were removed.

- Would an alternative “back road route” be safer? – This has been looked at but the alternative route using Effingham Road and Balaclava Road has actually more exit and entry points onto it. In addition an alternative route for approaching the traffic signals at Winters Bridge using Winters Road and Southbank has also been investigated but is not considered a suitable alternative due to its narrowness and high level of on street parking.

- What will the arrangements be at the Winters Bridge Junction? – CP explained that it had been the original intention to continue the cycle lanes up to the traffic signals at the Winters Bridge junction. However this would require the removal of one of the traffic lanes on the Esher bound approach. When an experiment was tried a few years ago using just one lane, very high traffic queue levels resulted. It will therefore be recommended that the Winters Bridge junction remain as it is, with no changes made to the existing layout.

- While the majority of the existing completed route is good, there is currently a gap along the length where most of the parking takes place on a daily basis, between Windmill Lane and the Borough boundary.

When put to the vote later in the meeting, there was a clear majority of the members of the forum in favour of the route being progressed. The decision was therefore to recommend to the Local Committee that the scheme for the proposed route to link Winters Bridge to the Borough boundary (RBK cycleway) be progressed.

3. Current Schemes & Update on LTP Schemes

Sean Wotherspoon (SW) Assistant Engineer at the Elmbridge LTS gave a presentation on current schemes.

- **A309 Hampton Court Way Toucan Crossing**
  Following the consultation for this scheme, the detailed design was almost complete and the scheme was due for the Stage II Road Safety Audit. Pre-scheme monitoring was currently underway and construction is due to start in May 2004, for approximately three months.

- **A307 Portsmouth Road j/w Fairmile Lane**
  Construction work on this scheme has been substantially completed and the traffic signals have recently been commissioned. It is anticipated that the MOVA traffic signal control system will be fully operational very shortly.
4. Healthy Lifestyles
Geoff Seale (GS) introduced Elmbridge Borough Council’s (EBC) Strategy for Sport and Healthy Lifestyles and highlighted what they were doing to promote sports development.

The benefits of cycle journeys were discussed, along with the three main types of bicycle journeys, which are commuting to work, school and family leisure trips.

5. Workshop Session – Scheme Priorities
CP opened the workshop by explaining the aim of the session. In order to help officers begin to assess new routes that can be progressed this year, members of the forum were asked to split into groups and identify through experience and local knowledge, missing key links or short routes that if introduced would assist cyclists the most.

Members of the forum broke into three groups and identified on plans of the Borough a number of missing links and routes that they would like to see implemented. They were then asked to put in priority order each group’s four key proposals. The results are listed below:

**Group 1**
1. Cobham to Esher route
2. Seven Hills Road, including the route past Notre Dame school (under the A3).
3. Shared pedestrian / cyclist route along A244, Esher to Oxshott.
4. Link from Molesey Road, Hersham to Mill Road / Douglas Road, Esher.

**Group 2**
1. Seven Hills Road to Painshill roundabout.
2. Brooklands Road, Byfleet Road – to link Weybridge with Redhill Road.
4. A number of small local link routes (all marked up on plan).

**Group 3**
1. Woodstock Lane, north of Claygate to link into Long Ditton and RBK.
2. Esher Town Centre feasibility.
3. Roundabout Problems – better directional signage particularly for cyclists.
4. Pointers Road connection to Redhill Road.
Although the top four priorities from each group are listed, the three groups highlighted many numerous other routes on the plans.

CP thanked the groups for carrying out the exercise. The results obtained would be carefully looked at and used as part of the basis for identifying the route improvements planned for the year.

6. Items for future Forums
Items to be considered in future forums include:

- Update of schemes raised at this meeting.
- Local Transportation Plan II (LTP II).
- Progress of the Rail Audit.

7. Conclusion
JP drew the meeting to a close, and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm