



**REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(RUNNYMEDE)**

**UPDATE OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMME AND
MEMBERS TOUR
5 OCTOBER 2007**

KEY ISSUE

To update the committee on the planned minor improvements programme and the results of the 2007 Members' tour.

SUMMARY

The regular transportation update is included within **Annex 1**. This has been revised to include those schemes discussed at the tour and as detailed in this report.

ELECTORAL DIVISION AND MEMBER

All divisions

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to agree that:

- a) **That the Committee notes and approves the rolling feasibility, design and construction programme, and funding arrangements, as contained in the report and annex 1.**

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 Since the formation of the Local Committee there has been a regular item updating Members on the minor improvements programme within Runnymede. Over the years a number of reports have been presented to this committee and formed the basis for the forward programme.
- 1.2 The Members' tour considered twelve sites, with seven recommended by Members for inclusion in the forward programme. The programme contained in **Annex 1** reflects this.

2. Members' tour

- 2.1 The annual members' tour was held on the morning of 31 July 2007. In advance of this event, Members were asked if they had sites which they would like investigated. Their suggestions, and comments received throughout the year, formed the basis of the options presented to Members. Menu cards detailing the merits of the proposals were prepared and distributed in advance. (These are still available, on request, from the West Area Transportation Team).

- 2.2 *Guildford Street controlled pedestrian crossing (near Stevens Bridge), Chertsey – recommendation to decline*

This section of road forms part of a 20mph zone, and the desired location for a controlled crossing is on an existing speed table. After careful site observations it is recommended not to include this in the forward programme. Following a representation to the Local Committee in September 2006, warning signs advising that people may be crossing the road have been installed. In addition, there is an existing pedestrian refuge island nearby, enabling pedestrians to cross the road in two separate stages if they so choose.

- 2.3 *Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ), Egham and Englefield Green – recommendation to decline*

It was felt by members that due to the very large scale of a project such as this and undoubtedly strong but varied public opinion, coupled with considerable existing commitments, this should not be added to the forward programme. However, members concluded that the CPZ should be considered again next year, and in the interim officers have been asked to consult with neighbouring Boroughs to gain an understanding of their experiences from introducing CPZs.

- 2.4 *Woodham Lane cycleway extension, Woodham – recommendation to approve*

It is recommended to add a link from the end of the existing route at the western end of Woodham Lane to the Borough Boundary (which will connect with the route to Woking).

2.5 *Woodham Lane environmental improvements, Woodham – recommendation to approve*

The proposal is to undertake environmental and parking improvements in front of the shops (278-300 Woodham Lane). Members considered that this would be of benefit and would improve the look of the area.

2.6 *Hare Hill junction with Row Hill footway extension, Rowtown – recommendation to approve*

This is a minor scheme which would join two sections of footway. Members felt that this would be of benefit.

2.7 *St Anne's Road pedestrian crossing, Chertsey – recommendation to approve*

Following representations to the Local Committee, the viability of a pedestrian refuge island on St Annes Road (between the junctions with Grove Road and Masonic Hall) was considered at the tour. Members considered that an island would significantly enhance crossing opportunities on this busy B class road.

2.8 *Wapshot Road / St Pauls Road traffic calming, Hythe – recommendation to approve*

This is a long standing request as the estate provides an attractive option to cut through for drivers to avoid delays caused by the level crossing on Thorpe Road. It is recommended that this should be added to the forward programme, but with construction after the current housing redevelopment has been completed.

2.9 *Glebe Road to Pooley Green Road footpath lighting, Pooley Green – recommendation to approve*

This scheme would improve street lighting, and it is recommended to add this to the forward programme.

2.10 *St Judes Road junction with Egham Hill pedestrian improvements – recommendation to decline*

Consideration was given to introducing a controlled pedestrian phase at this junction. The significant drawback would be an increase in traffic congestion at this already busy junction. Crossing facilities do exist on Egham Hill either side of the junction, including a pedestrian bridge, and it is suggested that the cost and additional congestion outweigh the probable benefits to pedestrians, hence a recommendation to decline.

2.11 *Blays Lane to Larksfild footpath lighting – recommendation to approve*

This would improve street lighting on a well-used footpath, and it is recommended to add this to the forward programme.

2.12 *Lyne Lane and Almnors Road improvement, Lyne – recommendation to decline*

Further to a number of letters being received from some residents of Lyne Lane and Almnors Road, consideration was given to safety improvements on these roads. Both roads benefit from footways along most of their length. It is recommended not to undertake any works at this time, but to consider Lyne Lane for inclusion in the County roll out of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) across Surrey.

2.13 *Chobham Road controlled pedestrian crossing, Ottershaw – recommendation to decline*

It is recommended not to promote a controlled pedestrian crossing at this location. A key concern voiced by Members on the tour was that the crossing would need to be located some distance from the pedestrian desire line, due to junctions and existing vehicle accesses.

3.0 Scheme delivery / alterations to the previously reported programme

3.1 *Christchurch Road cycle and pedestrian improvements*

Construction started shortly after formal approval by this committee in May 2007. The works are substantially complete.

3.2 *St Judes Road southern crossing works*

The construction works were completed to schedule during the school summer holidays.

3.3 *St Judes Road northern crossing*

The installation of the controlled Puffin crossing and associated pedestrian crossing improvements is substantially complete. At the time of drafting this report connection of the power supply is programmed and the crossing should be commissioned later this month.

3.4 *Chertsey to Thorpe cycleway*

Planning permission has been applied for to undertake alterations to the stone stile at the Thorpe end of the route. The original application was withdrawn after objections from English Heritage. At the time of writing the application has yet to be determined.

3.5 *Chertsey Road – Langton Way to Crouch Oak*

This scheme is currently undergoing detailed design and has been provisionally brought forward for construction in 2008/09.

3.6 *Runnymede Roundabout*

If this scheme is to be constructed, it will need to secure intermediate funding. Officers will continue to promote this scheme which will be balanced against other priorities across the County. Little recent feasibility work has been completed.

4. **Countywide Vehicle Activated Sign programme**

4.1 The Executive approved £450,000 countywide for the additional Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). In the West, the works are being coordinated across all six Boroughs together to ensure maximum financial benefit through efficiencies of scale. Approximately £40,000 of funding is available for Runnymede, and a number of sites have been promoted for inclusion in the programme. The prioritisation list has been derived from Member suggestions, Police and County Officer promoted locations and accident statistics. Members will be advised as to the agreed sites when they are confirmed.

4.2 This is central funding and therefore does not impact on the LTP and Local Allocation budgets under the control of this committee.

5. **Options**

5.1 A variety of options have been considered as part of the Members' tour and are detailed in Section 2 of this report.

6. **Consultation**

6.1 Appropriate consultation will be undertaken at all stages of scheme delivery. This will include Members, Police and residents as appropriate.

7. **Value for money and financial implications**

7.1 For 2007/08 the Executive approved a delegated Local Transport Plan budget of £424,000 for the Runnymede area. In addition to this, there is £100,000 of capital Local Allocation funding, which has in past years been used to supplement transportation schemes. These budgets are supplemented by other sources of funding as appropriate, such as central budgets and S106 monies (from planning applications).

7.2 Consistent with previous updates there has been a deliberate over-allocation. This is because minor improvement schemes do on occasion become delayed and not completed in the original timescale. Officers will ensure that the budgets are properly managed and used in line with the agreed priorities of the Committee.

The update will continue to be reviewed to reflect scheme progress and available funding in the next financial year.

- 7.3 Schemes will be designed and constructed by the County Council's partner constructor, Ringway.

8. Equality and diversity implications

- 8.1 None.

9. Crime and disorder implications

- 9.1 None.

10. Conclusion and recommendations

- 10.1 There is an agreed full programme of improvement works in the Runnymede area. This includes those considered at the 2007 Members' tour, for which recommendations are made in Section 2 of this report. The Committee is asked to consider and agree the recommendations at 2.2 to 2.13.

The schemes approved to date are consistent with Surrey County Council's Local Transport Plan objectives.

11. What happens next

- 11.1 Officers will work to deliver the approved programme.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Menu cards prepared for Members Tour 2007.