



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE TANDRIDGE

£100,000 FOR HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE IN TANDRIDGE

5 OCTOBER 2007

KEY ISSUE

Allocation of the £100,000 made available to the Local Committee to use for highway maintenance work on highways in Tandridge during the 2007-2008 financial year.

SUMMARY

The East Area Maintenance Delivery Plan for Surrey Highways was considered by the Local Committee on 22 June 2007. The Committee agreed to delegate the authority for authorising expenditure of the £100,000 revenue monies to the Highways Group Manager (East) in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee following a further report to the Committee. This report gives details of proposals to use the funds for drainage related work on highways in Tandridge.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The £100,000 for highway maintenance work in Tandridge be allocated for gully cleansing, ditch and grip work, carriageway surface reprofiling in Rook Lane and a scheme for The Avenue, Nutfield.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A background paper "Surrey Highways" was approved by the Executive in March this year. The paper drew attention to the need to adapt to the inevitable consequences of climate change, which include more intense and frequent rainfall. The situation is not helped by the increasing proportion of land that is now paved, decreasing permeation of water into the ground.
- 1.2 Drainage is just one of the highway maintenance responsibilities that creates many calls for additional funding. Pothole repair and carriageway work take a majority of the overall maintenance budget. Other functions such as grass cutting, tree works, road markings, signs and electrical maintenance also use some of the budget. Most highway maintenance issues are exacerbated by poor drainage and some carriageway defects can be caused by water ingress. It is therefore suggested that extra drainage works will bring most benefit to the highway network.
- 1.3 The Local Committee approved the 2007-2008 East Area Maintenance Delivery Plan for Surrey Highways on 22 June 2007. However, the use of a £100,000 revenue sum was not detailed. The Committee agreed to delegate the authority for authorising expenditure of the £100,000 revenue monies to the Highways Group Manager (East) in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee following a report to the next meeting. Drainage related work is now recommended for use of the £100,000.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The East Area Maintenance Delivery Plan includes £995,000 for drainage in the east of the County during the current financial year. This provision allows for gullies to be cleaned at least once per annum and some work on drainage assets including pipes, soakaways, ditches and highway watercourses. Schedules have been created so that the work in Tandridge is largely defined well in advance of any work.
- 2.2 Additional funds for drainage in Tandridge would provide an enhanced service for the drainage function in Tandridge.
- 2.3 A separate project to identify and address flooding problems across the County is progressing. Roads that are most vulnerable to flooding have been identified and prioritised. A detailed report will be examined by the Transportation Select Committee, which will advise on the final programme of works. One scheme that could be on the programme is drainage works in Woldingham Road. Officers will ensure that schemes to be progressed under this initiative are separated from the £100,000 now available to the Tandridge Local Committee.

3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 Gully cleansing is frequently raised in customer enquiries. Gully cleansing could be increased and targeted at problem areas in Tandridge. Costs of a gully cleansing vehicle and crew for two months would be about £30,000.
- 3.2 Ditch clearance and grip cutting is frequently requested in rural areas and important maintenance work could be achieved with a gang dedicated to this activity. Costs would be about £30,000 for more than two months work.
- 3.3 Some drainage problems such as ponding are created by carriageway surface profiles rather than any drainage system fault. One such area is at the western end of Rook Lane, Chaldon where patching works could be progressed at an approximate cost of £10,000.
- 3.4 A drainage related problem, exists in The Avenue, Nutfield. Ditches on both sides of the carriageway become overgrown and can be a hazard to local people walking along The Avenue. Work to install pipes and remove the hazard could cost about £30,000.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman have been provided with a draft copy of this report. The Parish Councils in Nutfield and Chaldon have also been provided with a draft copy of this report and, at the time of writing, Nutfield Parish Council has responded very positively to the proposal and would like to see more detail of what the drainage work would entail.

5 INANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY

- 5.1 The £100,000 sum being considered by this report is part of the revenue funds for highway maintenance. Drainage related works are considered to be the most effective use of these funds.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are none.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are none significant.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Use of the £100,000 for drainage related work would enhance safety on the highway. Gully cleansing, ditch clearance and grip cutting will decrease ponding on roads and reduce carriageway damage by water. A scheme to pipe ditches in the Avenue will remove a hazard and eliminate the need to maintain the ditches. A scheme to reduce flooding on Rook Lane will improve safety and reduce potential highway damage.

9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The proposals are considered to provide a reasonable solution for use of maintenance monies, which are in great demand.

10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 If the Local Committee approves the recommendation, officers will proceed to arrange the works during the current financial year.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Report titled "East Surrey Annual Maintenance Plan 2007-08" to Local Committee dated 22 June 2007.