



SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)

DATE: 12 MARCH 2014
LEAD OFFICER: DAVID LIGERTWOOD – LSTF PROGRAMME MANAGER

SUBJECT: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND UPDATE AND 2014/15 PROGRAMME

DIVISION: ALL

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Surrey County Council was successful in securing an award of £14.3 million in grant funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). This was in addition to the award of £3.9 million LSTF Key Component.

Both grants are for the period up to 31 March 2015 and jointly form the Surrey TravelSMART programme. As part of this programme a total of £10.789 million has been allocated for sustainable travel improvements in Guildford.

This report updates the Local Committee with progress made with the programme to date and seeks approval for the indicative 2014/15 programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Guildford) is asked to:

- (i) Note progress to date with the Guildford Travel SMART programme;
- (ii) Agree the indicative 2014/15 programme;
- (iii) Agree to delegate amendments to the LSTF Programme to the Chair of the LSTF Delivery Group in consultation with the Local Committee Chairman and the appropriate county and borough officers and members.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Department for Transport advise that all LSTF grant money should be spent by 31 March 2015 and there is no ability to carry forward LSTF grant beyond this date. The indicative 2014/15 LSTF TravelSMART programme for Guildford has been developed to meet this financial requirement, while meeting all the LSTF objectives.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Surrey County Council has been successful in securing £18.2 million from the Department for Transport's (DfT) Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) to deliver the Surrey Travel SMART programme. £3.9 million was awarded in July 2011 with a further £14.3 million awarded in June 2012 as part of the large bid of £16 million. The aim of the fund is to deliver sustainable travel measures that support economic growth and carbon reduction.
- 1.2 £10.789 million (Large Bid and Key Component) funding is allocated for sustainable travel improvements in Guildford. This includes a share of the £1.7million shortfall that SCC has funded through the New Homes Bonus Grant.
- 1.3 Local Committee will recall that DfT issued revised guidance during June 2013 simplifying the financial reporting processes for the LSTF programme. The main implication of the revised guidance for the Travel SMART programme is that there is now greater flexibility to be able to carry funding over from 2013/14 to 2014/15.
- 1.4 For the 2014/15 financial year the LSTF allocation is £3.502 million, comprising £2.178 million capital and £1.324 million revenue.
- 1.5 Unspent grant from 2013/14 will also be carried over however this cannot be carried over beyond 31 March 2015 and will be returned to the DfT. Any remaining unspent LSTF grant cannot be carried over beyond 31 March 2015 and will be returned to the DfT.
- 1.6 In Surrey's LSTF bids these funds for 2014/15 were distributed between the different themes as set out in the table below

Element	Capital	Revenue	Total
P&R	900	250	1150
Bus	620	80	700
Walk/Cycle	408	0	408
Traffic Network	0	40	40
Travel Promotion	250	954	1204
Total	2178	1324	3502

Figures in the table are in units of £1000

2. ANALYSIS:

Progress update 2013/14

- 2.1 Since the last Guildford Local Committee meeting 11 December 2013 the Surrey area has experienced the wettest "winter" weather (December – February) since records began in 1860. These exceptionally severe weather conditions have caused severe flooding along sections of main rivers. The LSTF capital construction programme has been delayed by a few weeks while resources assisted with issues related to the flooding.
- 2.2 The package of A25 cycle and walking improvement schemes programmed for 2013/14 will now be constructed during summer 2014.

This is a quieter traffic period and outside the school term time. Delivering the package of works as one programme allows more effective and efficient traffic management, improving safety for all road users. It is also anticipated that ongoing negotiations with land acquisition will be concluded by this time.

- 2.3 Bus stop accessibility improvement works along the Worplesdon Road Quality Bus Corridor (QBC) have been completed, and prior to the flood emergency, a start was made in Park Barn on two bus stops within the Park Barn QBC, until works were suspended in early February.
- 2.4 Design work for the remainder of the programme continues. Construction drawings for the bus stop accessibility works on the three further Quality Bus Corridors of Woking Road, Epsom Road and Guildford Park Road/The Chase has been prepared and agreed. These corridors will be implemented during 2014/15, starting in April. Preparation of the remaining three QBCs continues. Parallel to this work officers commenced detailed discussions in respect to the procurement of a new bus shelter contract for Guildford.
- 2.5 The Onslow Park & Ride service 400 has been operating since late November 2013. During January 2014 passenger usage ranged from 101 to 227 passenger trips per day, with over 3,500 for the month. Marketing and promotion included:
- Four week series of adverts in the Surrey Advertiser and The Aldershot News & Mail series and advertised on the Guildford Dragon for the duration of November and December.
 - Radio advert on Eagle Radio for three weeks up to Christmas.
 - An e-flyer was sent out to Guildford business contacts and circulated even wider by Experience Guildford.
 - Mailed hard copies of the flyer to 600 businesses in Guildford town centre.
 - A press release was published on the SCC digital press office and picked up by the Surrey Advertiser.
 - A story about Onslow was published on the Travel SMART website and messages placed on Facebook and Twitter

Further media work will continue for 2014/15 and will be expanded to include options to advertise in car parks and in further print titles in neighbouring towns.

- 2.6 The Westborough Community Funding Grants were allocated to the following projects:

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| • Joining In! Westborough Walks | £2,675 |
| • St Francis Church minibus hire | £3,000 |
| • The Spinney Children's Centre, women's courses | £3,000 |
| • Organic Cookery School, youth cooking sessions | £2,850 |
| • GBC safety wardens, reflective wristbands | £905 |

www.surreycc.gov.uk/guildford

- GASP Motor Project, mechanic accreditation £3,000

The Stoke and Stoughton Small Community Grants panel are due to meet to agree the projects for 2013/14 and a verbal update will be provided at committee.

LSTF Programme 2014/15

2.7 The indicative LSTF Programme 2014/15 is set out in **Annex A**. The proposed Capital Construction Programme is set out in **Annex B**.

Quality Bus Corridor Works

2.8 The programme of improved bus stop infrastructure including new poles, flags, and timetable cases, together with a range of bus stop accessibility works will continue in Epsom Road, London Road, Portsmouth Road and Shalford Road.

2.9 Bus stop accessibility and information improvements will also be undertaken at other selected bus stop locations such as Ash, Ripley and Send.

Walking and Cycling

2.10 Detailed design work continues on a number of cycle schemes which focus on connecting employment, education and residential areas of north Guildford. The complexities of building cycles and walking schemes close to the A25, a very busy traffic thoroughfare, require careful planning to minimise traffic disruption and maintain highway safety. As noted above these schemes were scheduled for construction in late 2013 but are now carried forward to 14/15 programme. These include a footway widening scheme A25 under Wooden Bridge (rail and pedestrian bridges), new cycle and pedestrian crossing facilities east of Woodbridge Meadows on the River Wey Bridge, and additional crossing facilities over the south side of the Ladymead/Woodbridge Road crossroads.

2.11 The successful completion of land negotiations are still awaited for three section of the A25 shared footway route for pedestrians and cyclists, adjacent to Guildford Business Park, B&Q and Europa Retail Park.

Traffic Management

2.12 The review of the UTC/SCOOT traffic management systems in Guildford will continue to improve the control and management of traffic throughout the town, and to address performance related maintenance issues which have adversely affected network capacity. This work will continue throughout 2014/15 as part of the LSTF programme.

Wayfinder Mapping for Town Centre

2.13 Trueform has been appointed to manufacture and install the Wayfinder mapping system across the LSTF programme. It is anticipated the first

prototype sign to be ready in May and the first signs being installed in Guildford Town Centre in September 2014.

Travel Planning and Promotion

- 2.14 A similar programme of activities to the 2103/14 programme will continue. The Business Forums and Community Funding will continue with similar budgets to this year, as will cycle training and work based cycle facilities (showers and secure parking). An increase in marketing and promotion funding is planned to coincide with the completion of a number of bus and cycle projects this coming year, through intensive, highly focused marketing.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 As this report forms a progress update for the Local Committee there are no options to consider at this stage.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Guildford Local Committee Task Group has been consulted throughout the development of the LSTF Programme.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The business case for the Travel SMART included a financial section that does not form part of this report and was approved by the DfT.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 The major elements of the LSTF programme have been subject to Equality Impact Assessments. These documents are published on the Surrey County Council website and can be found by clicking [here](#).

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 The Travel SMART programme was designed with Localism in mind. Guildford Local Committee has decision making powers relating to the programme. Furthermore, elements of the programme such as the Community funding and Business engagement use Localism tools to encourage localised decision making, and seek to increase local participation in the programme.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications arising from this report
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	Set out below.
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report
Public Health	Set out below.

8.1 Sustainability implications

The central aims of the Travel SMART Programme are to encourage the uptake of sustainable transport, enabling economic growth and reducing carbon emissions. The measures included in the Travel SMART programme therefore have positive sustainability outcomes.

8.2 Public Health implications

The Travel SMART programme is making significant investment in providing new infrastructure and promoting active travel such as walking and cycling. Evidence suggests that investment in these schemes have a proportionate benefit in overall public health. Walking promotions in particular are being linked with the Surrey CC Public Health team's 'Walk for Life' campaign.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 This report provides an update to the Local Committee on the progress made to date with the Travel SMART programme for Guildford, and sets out the indicative 2014/15 programme. As noted previously the DfT LSTF grant award cannot be carried forward beyond end March 2015.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 The Guildford Local Committee Task Group will meet to review the schemes within the LSTF programme. The programme will be continue to be developed and delivered with further reports presented to Guildford Local Committee. Should certain projects be delayed or become infeasible and cannot be delivered by March 2015, then officers will bring forward to discuss with Members at the Local Committee Task Group, the Reserve Schemes shown at the foot of Annex A.

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Consulted:

GLC Task Group

Annexes:

Annexe A – 2014/15 programme

Annexe B – 2014/15 capital construction programme

Sources/background papers:

- Surrey County Council LSTF Large bid document. [Click here](#) to access this document.
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