

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)**

**DATE:** 21 MARCH 2014  
**LEAD OFFICER:** JOHN HILDER  
**AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER (SOUTH WEST)**  
**SUBJECT:** HIGHWAYS UPDATE  
**DIVISION:** ALL DIVISIONS IN WAVERLEY

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report provides an update on the 2013/14 programme of minor highway works funded by this committee as well as Section 106 (developer funded) schemes. The Committee is asked to consider directing funding towards flood recovery in the borough in 2014/15 and to approve applications to fund work through the Highways Localism scheme.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:****The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to:**

- (i) Note the effects of the recent extreme weather across Waverley and Surrey.
- (ii) Agree that up to £50,000 be allocated from the 2014/15 budget towards flood recovery works organised by the Area Team.
- (iii) Agree to fund the 2014/15 Localism (Lengsthman) scheme applications submitted by Chiddingfold Parish Council, Dunsfold Parish Council, First Wessex (Sandy Hill and The Chantrys), Hambledon Parish Council, Haslemere Town Council and Farnham Town Council, subject to officer scrutiny to ensure proposed works fall within the remit of the scheme

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To contribute to flood recovery in Waverley and to support local enhanced maintenance on the highway through the Highways Localism scheme.

**1. INTRODUCTION AND ANALYSIS:****1.1 FLOODING 2013/14**

- 1.1.1 The following was taken from the Surrey County Council website on 24th February 2014:

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*'The repair bill to fix Surrey's flood-affected roads and bridges over Christmas has spiralled to £12.5 million – before this month's flooding is even taken into account.*

*A major clear-up of the 2,500 worst-affected Surrey roads is underway after devastating flooding twice hit the county over Christmas and again this month.*

*Over Christmas, heavy storms and burst riverbanks, including the Mole and the Wey, prompted county council teams to tackle hundreds of flooded roads, plus fallen trees and damaged bridges.*

*This month (February) the emergency services, councils, the Environment Agency and the Army helped thousands of people affected by River Thames flooding, including more than 1,000 people rescued by Surrey firefighters.*

*Before the latest flooding began on 9 February, council roads inspectors assessing damage across the county gave early estimates that the clear-up would cost around £5 million. This has now gone up to £12.5 million, with around £800,000 alone expected to be needed to rebuild Flanchford Road bridge near Reigate. The council has bid for Government funding to help repair six miles of A-roads and B-roads, plus 39 bridges.*

*John Furey, the county council's Cabinet Member for Highways, said: "The water levels from February's flooding have only just begun to drop in Surrey, so the £12.5 million repair bill from the damage over Christmas is just the tip of the iceberg.*

*"We'll do everything we can to put things right for the residents of Surrey, but this extra financial burden is huge so we hope our bids for Government funding are successful."*

1.1.2 On 11 February David Hodge, Leader of the County Council, said that some planned non-urgent highways works would "pause" where there was a need to tackle flooding affecting residents and key roads. Speaking at a meeting of the Full Council, Mr Hodge said: "Our highways teams will continue to work round the clock with the main focus on tackling the effects of flooding, clearing roads and fallen trees, but all essential work across the county will continue as normal."

1.1.3 As well as direct damage, the weather has affected reactive repair work over the past months, particularly potholes. Gangs have often had to work in the rain to carry out urgent repairs in roads where foundations are saturated and unsurprisingly early failure rates are higher than usual. This is at the time of year, late winter and early spring, when numbers of new potholes are at their highest. Dry weather, as well as funding, is needed to recover from the effects of the winter of 2013/14 on the road network.

## **1.2 2013/14 HIGHWAYS BUDGET**

1.2.1 Budgets available to this committee in 2013/14 are as follows:

	£
Capital Integrated Transport Schemes (ITS) (Improvement Schemes)	262,000
Capital Maintenance	262,000
Revenue Maintenance	<u>317,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>841,000</b>
And in addition	
<b>Community Enhancement Fund</b>	<b>45,000</b>

### 1.3 ALLOCATIONS

1.3.1 At the meeting of 14 December 2012 the Committee agreed that the funding set out above should be allocated towards a programme of improvement schemes (Integrated Transport Schemes: ITS) as listed at **Annex 1** with an estimated value of **£695,000**.

1.3.2 The Committee also made the following allocations towards revenue work:

Reserve funding for the Highways Localism (Lengthsman) scheme	£20,000
Implement Parking Review recommendations	£15,000
Jetter for 3 weeks	£15,000
Ad hoc signs, lines, bollards, etc. by local team	<u>£10,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£60,000</b>

1.3.3 The **Community Enhancement Fund** was allocated to individual county councillors for Waverley at £5,000 per councillor.

1.3.4 The residue of £86,000 (841k – 695k – 60k) is held in reserve against potential increases in costs since estimates made before design has commenced are indicative at best. Any surplus could be directed to Local Structural Repair (LSR: surfacing) work later in the year.

1.3.5 At its meeting on 5 July 2013 the Committee considered Localism bids from parish and town councils and agreed that the **Lengthsman Scheme** allocation would be increased by up to £20,000 to a total maximum of £40,000.

## **1.4 2013/14 BUDGET PROGRESS AND UPDATE**

### **1.4.1 Improvement Schemes**

1.4.1.1 Progress is shown at **Annex 1**.

1.4.1.2 The planned **Longbridge crossing** scheme in Farnham was cancelled because development agreements associated with both East Street and the old police station are expected to provide greatly improved crossing facilities both at the junction with Union Road and immediately north of the bridge over the river Wey. Following discussion with the Chairman of the Committee and local members, the Area Manager directed the Longbridge allocation of £120,000 towards refurbishing the road table in Park Row, extending the Trinity Hill/Drovers Way traffic calming scheme, refurbishing footways in the town centre conservation area and re-surfacing (LSR scheme) the Guildford Road Trading Estate service road.

1.4.1.3 Two schemes, **Cranleigh/Ewhurst Footway/Cycleway** and **Marshall Road Footway/Cycleway**, have had to be deferred to 2014/15 because legal agreements to construct on third party land have not been completed, although negotiations are ongoing. Both have 2013/14 allocations of £90,000 (so £180,000 combined) which will be re-profiled (carried forward) to 2014/15 subject to agreement by Cabinet.

1.4.1.4 The **Vicarage Walk** and **Station Road** pedestrian schemes in Godalming start in March and will complete during April. As a result costs will be incurred against the 2014/15 budget, although the Committee made provision against this eventuality by keeping £263,000 in reserve when allocating the 2014/15 budget at the meeting on 13 December 2013.

### **1.4.2 Community Enhancement**

1.4.2.1 At the end of February 2014 £44,810 of the £45,000 allocated at £5,000 per county councillor had been either spent or committed, so this budget has been fully utilised.

### **1.4.3 Lengthsman Scheme (Highways Localism) 2013/14**

1.4.3.1 At the end of February 2014 **Lengthsman** bids from Parish and Town Councils for Hambledon, Chiddingfold, Dunsfold, Haslemere, Farnham, Bramley and Western Villages had been signed off by highways officers and a total of £39,910 transferred to these councils. There was a slow start to this new initiative in its first year, with parishes gaining understanding as to what work they could undertake and what work is classed as 'non-highway', and so outside the remit of the scheme. However, the budget has been fully utilised and officers will review the work that parishes have carried out and report further later in the year.

## **1.5 LENGTHSMAN SCHEME (HIGHWAYS LOCALISM) IN 2014/15**

1.5.1 At the meeting on 13 December 2013 the Committee allocated £45,000 towards the Lengthsman scheme in 2014/15.

- 1.5.2 In December 2013 the Lengthsman Team wrote to ever parish and town council across Surrey reminding them to submit bids for 2014/15 as soon as possible. The following bids have been received for Waverley:

Chiddingfold Parish Council	£6,000
Dunsfold Parish Council	£8,000
First Wessex (Sandy Hill and The Chantrys (Farnham))	£7,061
Hambledon Parish Council	£2,500
Haslemere Town Council	£5,000
Farnham Town Council	<u>£13,800</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£42,361</b>

- 1.5.3 Details of the applications are set out in **Annex 2**. The Committee is recommended to approve these. As in 2013/14 Area Team officers will scrutinise bids to ensure works fall within with the remit of the scheme before signing off funding.

## **1.6 FLOOD RECOVERY**

- 1.6.1 The Committee may wish to consider redirecting 2014/15 funding towards flood recovery. In the coming months there will be a centrally led programme of repair works required as a result of flooding and of course the Area Team has already input to this for Waverley. There may be benefit in the Committee making funds available to the Area Team to achieve small scale quick but lasting fixes, particularly to road drainage systems, though this will be dependent to some extent on the availability of resources (staff and machines) to actually carry out work at a time when demand will be very high. The Area Manager suggests that up to £50,000 is directed towards this with updates on use coming to future meetings.

## **2. OPTIONS:**

- 2.1 As discussed with members.

## **3. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 3.1 Appropriate consultation will be carried out for all schemes.

## **4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 4.1 Works will be carried out by the County Council's term highways contractor, Kier, who won the term contract in a competitive tender process. Arrangements for the Highways Localism scheme are set out in 1.5 above.

## **5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding.

## **6. LOCALISM:**

- 6.1 Works and schemes are designed to improve and make safer the facilities for local communities in the borough.

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- 6.2 The Highways Localism initiative allows parish councils and other relevant organisations to undertake enhanced maintenance of the public highway.

### **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report
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	No significant implications arising from this report

### **8.1 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder.

### **9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 9.1 The report provides information to enable the Committee to maintain ongoing oversight of its programme of schemes and associated budgets.

### **10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

- 10.1 Officers will continue to progress the programme of schemes agreed by the Committee.

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#### **Consulted:**

As described within the report.

#### **Annexes:**

Annex 1: Integrated Transport Scheme Programme for 2013/14  
Annex 2: Highways Localism applications for 2014/15

#### **Sources/background papers:**

Local Committee (Waverley) 14 December 2012 Item 9: 'Local Committee Capital and Revenue Budgets and Recommended Allocations for 2013/14'.  
Local Committee (Waverley) 5 July 2013 Item 14: 'Localism in Highways: An update on devolved Highways delivery'.  
Local Committee (Waverley) 13 December July 2013 Item 11: 'Highways Budgets for 2014 – 2015'.