

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

DATE: 20 JUNE 2014

LEAD OFFICER: DAVID NORTH

SUBJECT: LOCAL COMMITTEE TASK GROUPS AND EXTERNAL APPOINTMENT

DIVISION: ALL DIVISIONS IN WAVERLEY

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

During the year 2013-2014 the Committee confirmed the establishment of a number of task groups to advise on specific issues and is now invited to review these and establish groups for the current year. The Committee is also invited to nominate a member to act as Champion for the Two National Parks Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) project.

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

- (i) That the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Task Group should continue for the Council year 2014-2015 reporting to this Committee.
- (ii) That the following Local Task Groups should continue for the Council year 2014-2015 reporting to the LTP Task Group on transportation funding priorities and directly to the Committee on other matters:
 - Farnham
 - Godalming, Milford and Witley
 - Haslemere and Western Villages
 - Cranleigh and Eastern Villages
- (iii) That the Terms of Reference set out at **Annex 1** for the Task Groups established in (i) and (ii) should be confirmed.
- (iv) That the Youth Services Task Group should continue for the year 2014-2015, reporting to the Committee and subject to the Terms of Reference set out in **Annex 3**.
- (v) To determine the membership and chairmanship of the task groups for the Council year 2013-2014 and to agree that representation from relevant partner agencies should be sought.
- (vi) To nominate the County Councillor for Haslemere as champion for the Two National Parks Local Sustainable Transport Fund project.

<u>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:</u>
<p>The task groups support the Local Committee in carrying out specific aspects of its work. The Two National Parks partnership has requested that a member champion is nominated from each of the partner authorities, and as the Surrey County Council part of this project is focused on Haslemere it is suggested that the divisional member for Haslemere is nominated for this role.</p>

<u>1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:</u>

- 1.1 At its meeting on 5 July 2013 the Local Committee established the following task groups for the year 2013-14:
- Local Transport Plan (LTP) Task Group
 - Farnham Local Task Group
 - Godalming, Milford and Witley Local Task Group
 - Haslemere and Western Villages Local Task Group
 - Cranleigh and Eastern Villages Local Task Group
 - Youth Services Task Group
- 1.2 At its meeting on 21 September 2012 the Committee noted that in July 2012 the *Sustainable Transport Solutions for England's Two Newest National Parks* bid was granted £3.81 million from the LSTF. As a result the New Forest National Park Authority and South Downs National Park Authority, along with their partners, had a once in a generation opportunity to influence the travel choices of visitors coming to, and travelling around, the National Parks, by embedding travel behaviour change programmes in the National Parks between Summer 2012 and March 2015. By encouraging more people to choose walking, cycling and public transport we aim to make travel a distinctive and enjoyable element of the visitor experience; while protecting and enhancing, for the benefit of future generations of residents and visitors, the wildlife, landscapes, heritage and tranquillity which characterise the National Parks. The Committee agreed to appoint the then County Councillor for Haslemere to act as champion for this project, reflecting the position of the town as a gateway to the South Downs National Park. The Committee subsequently appointed the new County Councillor for Haslemere to this role in July 2013.

<u>2. ANALYSIS:</u>

- 2.1 The LTP and local task groups met during the past year and provided members and other local representative bodies with the opportunity to be actively involved with transport issues and developing solutions in accordance with the Local Transport Plan (LTP) objectives.
- 2.2 The locally-based task groups are felt to have been effective in engaging a wider range of partners in the development and prioritisation of transportation schemes.

- 2.3 The Terms of Reference of the LTP and local task groups are set out in **Annex 1**.
- 2.4 Details of the suggested membership of task groups and representation from partner councils, based on the precedent of previous years, are set out in **Annex 2**. The Committee is asked to agree the membership of the LTP Task Group, the chairmanship of this and the four local groups and the basis on which representation from partner councils should be sought.
- 2.5 At its meeting on 5 July 2013 the Committee also established a Youth Services Task Group to advise the full Committee on the appointment of a contractor to deliver the Local Prevention Framework in Waverley and on the priorities to be addressed. The Committee has additionally valued the group's advice on matters relating to young people. The Committee is invited to agree the group's Terms of Reference (**Annex 3**), confirm the continuation of the group and to appoint two County and two Borough Councillors to serve for the year 2014-15 (see also Items 12 and 13 on this agenda).

Membership of Outside Bodies

- 2.6 The Local Sustainable Transport Fund Two Parks project is now entering its third and final year. The Two National Parks partnership has requested that, in addition to a senior manager, a member act as 'champion' for the programme within each partner organisation. The role is not seen as 'daunting or challenging' and the Divisional Member for Haslemere has taken on this role in the past. There will not be any on-going commitment required from the champions, other than for them to be open to them being engaged on an ad hoc basis as issues arise

The project has delivered the following schemes within the Haslemere area;

- Haslemere to South Downs National Park cycle route via Scotland Hill.
- Upgraded part of bridleway 41 (Haslemere) which also forms part of the Serpent Trail.
- Signed walking route from Haslemere railway station to the start of the Serpent Trail (off the High Street).
- Assisted in the improved Sunday bus service 70 (Haslemere to Midhurst) with West Sussex County Council.
- Launched the "opening" of the Serpent Trail on 13 June, with three guided walks from Haslemere railway station into the South Downs National Park and returning to Haslemere railway station, in conjunction with South Downs National Park and West Sussex County Council.
- Improved and extended cycle parking facilities (delivered by South West Trains).
- South Downs National Park sustainable access map which is available on South Downs National Park web site:

<http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/gettingaround>
www.surreycc.gov.uk/waverley

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- During 2014/15 the one scheme that we have to complete in partnership with South West Trains and Network rail will be the Haslemere railway station forecourt improvement, which will create an improved rail/bus interchange at the station and make a more pleasant environment for walkers and cyclists.

As the project only focuses on Haslemere within the Surrey County Council area it is suggested that the divisional member for Haslemere is again nominated for this role.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The Committee can confirm the task groups (and corresponding terms of reference) set out within the report, consider new task groups, or not have any task groups. If a task group is established provisional terms of reference should be agreed.
- 3.2 The Committee can either make the appointments onto the outside body as set out within the report or amend the appointment.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Task Groups have been proposed in response to requests from members in relation to the workload of the Committee for the 2014/15 year.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications that arise from the recommendations in the report. Work to support the recommendations will be undertaken within current resources. However, the task groups play a major role in recommending priorities for allocation of the Committee's budgets.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 The task groups are intended to involve a wider range of local representatives in developing the Committee's priorities and to support the Committee in meeting its responsibilities.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 The local task groups are specifically established to ensure that local perspectives are taken into account in making decisions. The role of member champion for the Two National Parks project will support the maintenance of a local focus in the delivery of actions.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications arising

	from this report
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

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 There are no significant changes to the types of the task groups being proposed to that agreed by the Committee in 2013 as the task groups have operated effectively to support the Committee.
- 9.2 The task groups support the Local Committee in carrying out specific aspects of its work.
- 9.3 The Two National Parks project provides an opportunity for Surrey County Council to influence the project and include Haslemere as a gateway to the South Downs National Park. The inclusion of a nominated member as champion will assist the County Council's influence and commitment to this project.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Officers will take the necessary actions to comply with the Committee's decisions.

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Consulted:

Local Committee members, Area Highways Manager, Parking Strategy and Implementation Manager

Annexes:

Annex 1: LTP and local task groups – Terms of Reference
Annex 2: Task groups: proposed membership
Annex 3: Youth Services Task Group – Terms of Reference

Sources/background papers: None

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