

Briefing Note for Guildford Local Committee

Guildford Local Transport Strategy and Forward Programme

The Local Committee is asked for its views on the content of the draft Guildford Local Transport Strategy and Forward Programme. A draft of the Local Transport Strategy is going to be brought to the Local Committee in July 2014 to commence an initial discussion.

Background and Purpose

Local transport strategies have been developed to take account of and provide a plan for addressing transport problems and maximising opportunities in a geographical area. A local transport strategy (LTS) is being produced for each district and borough in the county.

The LTS provides a commentary on the character of the area, and outlines planned growth, identifying existing and future problems on the transport network. The LTS provides a strategic evidence base useful for preparing funding bids and business cases for transport schemes in the area.

The LTS is a 'live document' which we intend to update every two years. The LTS consists of two main parts:

- The main document, which provides a commentary on the characteristics, problems and opportunities in the area
- An annex consisting of a forward programme detailing highway and transport interventions to address the problems identified.

Together, the two elements of the strategy aim to:

- respond to the transport needs of the Borough by addressing existing issues and supporting future growth set out in the Local Plan;
- provide an agreed evidence base and local policy framework that will:
 - Support the development of schemes and scheme packages including public transport infrastructure;
 - Support Surrey Future work to deliver infrastructure to support Surrey's economic prosperity including bidding for major schemes funding.

How does the LTS relate to other policies and workstreams?

It is intended that the LTS will be adopted by both the borough and county councils, and become part of the Surrey Transport Plan (LTP3).

ITEM 15

The emerging LTS has been used to help write submissions of transport schemes to the EM3 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for inclusion in their Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and potential subsequent funding from the Local Growth Fund.

The Forward Programme will take account of the outcomes of the emerging Guildford Local Plan, and other workstreams including the outcomes of the recently published Guildford Town & Approaches Movement Study (GTAMS) Report, the emerging outcomes of the Guildford Town Centre Vision document and the Highway Agency Route Based Strategy for potential solutions along the A3 Corridor.

A common format and approach has been used to write the district/borough Local Transport Strategies, but individual content is very much based on local issues and challenges.

Content

The LTS contains:

- borough-focused objectives based on existing policies in the Local Plan and LTP3
- an assessment of future traffic growth based on residential and commercial development over the next 15-20 years and external development pressures
- a summary of travel patterns for the district/borough
- main problems and challenges in district/borough (by settlement area)
- a schedule (forward programme) of schemes or scheme packages to address identified problems with potential timeframes and funding sources.

Governance and ownership

It is intended that the LTS will be owned by both tiers of local government and will need to be adopted by both councils either directly or as supporting evidence for IDPs.

Timing and next steps

Transport strategies have initially been developed through joint officer collaboration led by the County Council.

The proposed timetable for completing the LTS (preparation, engagement, consultation, adoption) is as follows:

Transportation Task Group	7 Jul 2014 (9.30am)
Informal Local Committee:	10 Jul 2014 (4.30pm)
Member feedback requested by:	22 Aug 2014
Public consultation (6 weeks, based online):	Sep – Oct 2014
Transportation Task Group	21 Oct 2014 (10am)
Informal Local Committee:	13 Nov 2014 (4pm)
Formal Local Committee:	10 Dec 2014 (7pm)
SCC Cabinet:	Jan 2015

Other districts and boroughs on a similar timetable are: Reigate & Banstead, Waverley and Surrey Heath which are due to be taken to the SCC Cabinet in January 2015.

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[To the top](#)

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