

## SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

## LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)

**DATE:** 25 JUNE 2014  
**LEAD OFFICER:** JOHN HILDER  
 AREA HIGHWAYS MANAGER (SW)  
**SUBJECT:** HIGHWAYS UPDATE  
**DIVISION:** ALL

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report provides an update on the 2013/14 & 2014/15 programmes of minor highway works funded by this committee as well as Section 106 (developer funded) schemes and central planned maintenance programmes for the year ahead. The report also provides an introduction to the Guildford Local Transport Strategy which will be developed over the coming months. Details of Guildford customer enquiries to Highways have also been provided.

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

- (i) Note the schedule for consultation on the Guildford Local Transport Strategy, in advance of a full report coming to the committee meeting 10th December 2014, as set out in **Annex 1** of this report.
- (ii) Agree that the Chertsey Street/North Street improvement scheme is deferred to a future year.
- (iii) Approve the Lengthsman bid by Ash PC to a maximum value of £4,800 subject to SCC officer scrutiny.
- (iv) Introduce limited waiting bays in Sheepfold Road as shown in **Annex 4** to this report.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Guildford Local Transport Strategy will provide a framework for future decisions on prioritising expenditure by this committee.

The high value Chertsey Street/North Street should be deferred so that the remainder of the agreed ITS programme can be delivered within the available budget.

## **1. GUILDFORD LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY:**

- 1.1 A briefing note by SCC's Strategy Group on the Guildford Local Transport Strategy is included at **ANNEX 1**.
- 1.2 This sets out the purpose and objectives of the emerging transport strategies, which are being developed for each of the eleven districts and boroughs, and the timetable for development & consultation for the Guildford strategy over the coming months. The target is for all eleven transport strategies to be endorsed by SCC Cabinet in January 2015.
- 1.3 The Guildford Town & Approaches Movement Study (GTAMS) will form an important component informing the transport strategy for Guildford. This study was commissioned by GBC to provide a 50 year vision for transport in and around the town, and identifies short, medium and long term interventions to achieve this. The Executive Summary is included at **ANNEX 2**.
- 1.4 Meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> April the Guildford Borough Council Executive endorsed GTAMS, noted that it would be added to the evidence base for the forthcoming Local Plan, and asked that the Local Committee integrated its recommendations in the transport strategy for the borough.
- 1.5 The Transportation Task Group met on 14 May to discuss the strategy with SCC transport and highways officers, particularly with respect to the recommendation made by GTAMS for the introduction of pedestrian and cycle routes linking central Guildford with residential areas and employment, leisure & education centres. The Task Group is well aware of an increase in petitions from residents for the introduction of 20mph limits and consider the strategy needs to recommend how the introduction of lower limits is prioritised, possibly by linking to pedestrian/cycle routes and schools in residential neighbourhoods, to assist the committee when determining annual allocations to ITS schemes. See also 20mph petitions at 3.25 and 3.26 below.

## **2. REVIEW OF 2013/14:**

### **2013/14 LENGTHSMAN SCHEME**

- 2.1 The committee agreed to fund the following Lengthsman (or localism) bids from the £25,000 allocation:-

Ash Parish Council	£4,800
Pirbright Parish Council	£864
Shere Parish Council	£3,500
The Horsleys	<u>£15,000</u>
	£24,164

- 2.2 There was a slow start to this new initiative in its first year, with parishes getting to understand what work they could undertake, and what work is classed as 'non-highway' and so outside the remit of the scheme. Although Highways officers offered advice and assistance, of the four parishes that submitted bids only The Horsleys provided sufficient documentation of

proposed works to allow their bid to be signed off and funding transferred, and this was in March, at the end of the financial year.

### **2013/14 MARKET STREET REFURBISHMENT**

2.3 Market Street refurbishment in block paving had been included in the 2012/13 LSR programme funded by this committee. However it was agreed it should be substituted with 'blacktop' surfacing schemes in view of the risk that the complexity of the scheme would mean that it would not be delivered by the end of that financial year, and funding was allocated in 2013/14.

2.4 Completed by the end of March, final cost **£132,000**.

### **2013/14 IMPROVEMENT (ITS) SCHEMES**

#### **2.5 Pirbright Village Safety scheme**

- Public exhibition held in November, final comments received from PC in December. In stallion planned for Feb/March, but delayed with only lining installed by end of March.
- Expect to install civil works in Sept/Oct.
- Cost to the end of March 2014 **£28,000**.
- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£80,000**

#### **2.6 Gole Road in Pirbright**

- The local committee meeting in June 2013 considered a petition from residents of Gole Road in Pirbright for measures to reduce vehicle speeds, and agreed this should be included as part of the village safety scheme. A 30 speed limit will be introduced in Gole Road (currently 40mph) from the junction with the A243 Dawney Hill to a point approximately 1/2km to the west, and village gateways will be installed as part of the Pirbright Village scheme, and costs are included at 2.6 above.

#### **2.7 Shere Village Safety Scheme**

- Exhibition in Shere first week of September 2013. Installation commenced March and completion expected by the end of June.
- The Parish Council has asked that making Upper Street one-way or no-entry is not progressed at present.
- Cost to the end of March 2014 **£22,500**.
- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£90,000**

#### **2.8 Pedestrian refuge in Portsmouth Road, Ripley**

- Complete, cost to the end of March 2014 **£18,000**

- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£6,500**

### **2.9 Road table at Warren Road, Charlotteville**

- Complete, cost to the end of March 2014 **£17,600**.

### **2.10 Safer pedestrian crossing at rail bridge, Salt Box Road, Whitmoor Common**

- Design being developed by area team in consultation with countryside officers since located on common land. Installation had been planned for Feb/March, however ecologic surveys (bats, invertebrates) required by Natural England, so include in 2014/15 programme. Cost to the end of March 2013 **£500**.
- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£20,000**

### **2.11 Bus stop platform at The Street, Albury**

- Design complete and checked by SCC structures team. Installation planned Jan/Feb, but negotiations by parish council with landowner causing delays. Include in 2014/15 programme.
- Cost to the end of March 2014 **£4,900**.
- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£10,000**

### **2.12 Anti-skid and bollards Queen Eleanor's Road, Dennisville**

- This road will be re-surfaced in 2014/15 under the project Horizon programme so anti-skid not necessary, focus on safety in the vicinity of the school. Installed December.
- Complete, cost to the end of March 2014 **£4,000**.

### **2.13 Traffic calming Wodeland Avenue, Guildford**

- Design complete and 20mph speed limit advertised in February, but construction delayed to August/September.
- Cost to the end of March 2014 **£8,500**.
- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£55,000**

### **2.14 Zebra crossing Kings Road, Shalford**

- Completed in Oct, cost to the end of March 2014 **£52,500**.

### **2.15 Feasibility only, Hill Road level crossing, Brook**

- Feasibility in progress, but did not commence before end of March so zero expenditure.

### **2.16 Feasibility only safer pedestrian crossing points BVR/Aldershot Road Interchange slip roads**

- Feasibility complete. New signs, road markings and clear vegetation installed.
- Cost to the end of March 2014 **£3,500**.

### **2.17 Zebra crossing serving schools, Aldershot Road Westborough**

- Complete, cost to the end of March 2014 **£36,500**.
- Forecast expenditure in 2014/15 to complete **£8,000**

### **2.18 Design only Woking Road j/w Jacobs Well Road junction improvement**

- Design in progress, but did not commence before end of March so zero expenditure.

### **2.19 Jacobs Well Road j/w Clay Lane, junction improvement**

- Design in progress, but did not commence before end of March so zero expenditure.

### **2.20 Chertsey Rd j/w North Street, pedestrian amenity/environmental enhancement scheme**

- Design in progress, but did not commence before end of March so zero expenditure.

### **2013/14 LSR SCHEMES**

2.21 As at 1.3 LSR (resurfacing) schemes were prioritised and priced by the area team against the eventuality of underspend of the 2013/14 budget. Several improvement schemes have been delayed, with starts at the very end of the financial year, others will not get underway until April or later. To absorb underspend the following LSR schemes were been ordered and completed by the end of March 2014:-

- |                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| • Vicarage Gate, Onslow Village  | <b>£43,000</b> |
| • Wherwell Road, Guildford town  | <b>£49,000</b> |
| • Kings Road slip road, Shalford | <b>£20,000</b> |

### **2013/14 SECTION 106 SCHEMES**

### **2.22 Zebra crossing New Inn Lane**

- Complete.

### **2.23 Pedestrian safety improvements A25 Epsom Road, Merrow**

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- Upgrade pedestrian refuges and introduce road table at Horseshoe Lane West. Design complete, being checked by safety audit team.

### **2013/14 CASUALTY REDUCTION GROUP SCHEMES**

The central Road Safety Team fund low cost schemes at sites with clusters of accidents.

#### **2.24 Signs & anti-skid Ash Road j/w Guildford Road, Fox Corner**

- Complete.

#### **2.25 Dropped kerbs in Dorking Road in the vicinity of Chilworth Infants School, Chilworth**

- Complete.

### **2013/14 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND**

2.26 At the end of March £42,276 of the £50,000 Community Enhancement Fund, allocated at £5,000 per SCC member, had been either spent or committed, so this budget has been largely utilised.

## **3. 2014/15: PROGRESS & UPDATE**

### **2014/15 BUDGET AND ALLOCATIONS**

3.1 Budgets available to this committee in 2014/5 are as follows.

	£
Capital ITS (Improvement) Schemes	263,000
Capital Maintenance	263,000
Revenue Maintenance	317,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>843,000</b>
And in addition	
<b>Community Enhancement Fund</b>	<b>50,000</b>

3.2 At the meeting in December 2013 the committee agreed that this funding should be allocated as follows:-

**General Revenue Works**

New signs, bollards etc by Guildford team	£20,000
'Community Gang' for 48 weeks	£96,000
Jetter for 5 weeks	£25,000
Ad-hoc maintenance work by the Guildford team	£10,000
Reserve funding for the Lengthsman scheme	<u>£25,000</u>
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>£176,000</b>
ITS (improvement ) schemes	£545,000
High Street Setts	<u>£100,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£821,000</b>

3.3 In March the Leader of the County Council asked that Local Committees confine expenditure on ITS schemes to 50% of their budgets in 2014/15, so that local funding could be directed towards maintenance works to support the effort to recover from the damage caused by the exceptional winter weather. This sets a ceiling of £421,000 where the committee intended to direct £545,000 towards ITS schemes.

3.4 A number of 2013/14 ITS either started very late in the financial year and ran into April and beyond, while other will start in the current financial year as described above. Cumulative costs in 2014/15 are estimated at £270,000.

3.5 Correspondingly, due to delays in delivering the 2013/14 programme there was an underspend of £192,000 against last year's capital budget. This has been carried forward to add to the 2014/15 budget above.

**2014/15 IMPROVEMENT (ITS) SCHEMES**

3.6 The Transportation Task Group meeting 11 April 2014 recommended that the delayed 2013/14 schemes should be completed, and that to remain within the 50% cap described at 3.3 above the high value Chertsey Street/North Street (£250,000) should be deferred to a later year. This results in the following programme of ITS schemes for 2014/15:-

**Complete 2013/2014 Schemes**

Pirbright Village Safety Scheme	£80,000
Shere Village Safety Scheme	£90,000
Pedestrian Refuge in Ripley	£6,500
Salt Box Road Safer Crossing	£20,000
Albury platform/bus stop	£10,000
Wodeland Avenue traffic calming	£55,000
Aldershot Road Zebra Crossing	<u>£8,000</u>
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>£269,500</b>

**New Schemes agreed at December 2014 Local Committee**

Jacobs Well Rd j/w Clay Lane	£30,000
Jacobs Well Rd j/w A320 Woking Road	£10,000
Elm Lane Tongham: 50m footway extension	£20,000
Mount Pleasant, Guildford: No-entry (one way)	£10,000
Hornhatch Estate, Chilworth: Pram ramps	£5,000
Wood St Village: Traffic calming	£25,000
Boxgrove R'bout, Guildford: Safer crossing point	£20,000
A281 Horsham Rd, Shalford: Pedestrian refuge	£20,000
A281 Shalford Rd, Guildford: Reduce limit from 40 to 30	£6,000
Down Lane, Compton: Traffic calming	£30,000
East Lane, West Horsley: 30m footway extension	£15,000
Epsom Rd j/w The Street, W Horsley: Junction feasibility	£5,000
A281 Quarry St, Guildford: Red man/green man at signals	£25,000
A323 Aldershot Rd, Worplesdon: Pedestrian refuge	£25,000
Wisley Lane, Wisley: Reduce speed limit	£10,000
Old Lane, Ockham: Closures for Persian New Year	£7,000
Shere Rd, West Horsley: Reduce limit from 40 to 30	£15,000
Poyle Rd & others, Tongham: Speed limit review	£15,000
Byrefield Rd/Stoughton Rd, Guildford: Bus stop/Keep Clear Markings	<u>£2,500</u>
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>£295,500</b>

**TOTAL**                      **£565,000**

3.7 Note that the proposed £565,000 ITS allocation will be funded by the £192,000 carry forward from 2013/14, plus £373,000 from the 2014/15 budget (so within the £421,000 cap).

3.8 Leaving unallocated budget as follows:-

Budget	£843,000
General Revenue Work	-£176,000
High Street Setts	-£100,000
Flood Recovery (March 2014 LC)	-£50,000
ITS Schemes	<u>-£373,000</u>

**Unallocated £144,000**

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/guildford](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/guildford)



- 3.9 The Area Highway Manager recommends unallocated budget 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 LSR (surfacing) work later in the year, which can be organised at relatively short notice.
- 3.10 Design briefs for all new 2014/15 schemes have been issued and programme implementation dates will be reported to the September committee meeting.

### **FLOOD RECOVERY**

- 3.11 At the meeting of 12 March the committee agreed to allocate £50,000 towards short term flood relief measures (small scale drainage works) organised by the area team pending central programmes being announced. To date £31,000 of work has been undertaken or is on order including repairing drainage systems on the A3100 at Artington, Ockham Road North (Ockham) and East Lane (Horsley).
- 3.12 In May David Hodge announced that £23 million of new funding would be directed towards flood recovery, including a new surfacing programme in addition to project Horizon. Both are included at **ANNEX 3** alongside planned drainage, footway and structures repair programmes. Note that notices are issued to utilities companies for all large surfacing schemes which prohibit excavation for planned works for a period of five years, though emergency works and new service connections are exempt.

### **LENGTHSMAN SCHEME 2014/15**

- 3.13 At the end of May bids had been received from The Horsleys (£15,000) and Ash Parish Council (£4,800) for funding in 2014/15
- 3.14 In view of the fact that 2013/14 funding of £15,000 was transferred to the Horsleys in March, officers need to discuss the 2014/15 bid with the parishes and the local member.
- 3.15 Subject to SCC highways officer scrutiny it is proposed the bid by Ash PC is approved to a maximum value of £4,800.

### **HIGH STREET SETTS**

- 3.16 In June 2013 the committee agreed a strategy for the future maintenance of Guildford High Street setts, which is to re-lay them in their entirety with work commencing in 2014/15.
- 3.17 A Steering Group has been established and met initially last August. The meeting focussed on funding streams and opportunities, possible construction techniques and whether work should be carried out continuously or in stages.
- 3.18 Cores have been taken throughout the High Street which have established that the road has a mass concrete foundation over chalk sub-soil.

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- 3.19 Thames Water have been asked to replace the water main running under the High Street which is the source of regular leaks requiring the road to be excavated to effect repairs. SCC has not yet had a response to repeated request.
- 3.20 WSP consulting engineers were commissioned and have provided a refined cost estimate. SCC expect to engage WSP to undertake detailed design and specification.
- 3.21 SCC has now appointed a project manager and Guildford Borough Council has appointed a lead officer, both will report to the Steering Group.
- 3.22 The Guildford Surrey Public Service Board (a high level partnership which provides strategic direction to initiatives in the borough), meeting on 6 June opened discussions on financing and widening the scope of the project to include potential public realm enhancements. At present only this committee has directed any funding towards the project, being £100,000 from the 2014/15 budget.

### 20mph PETITIONS

- 3.23 At their September 2013 meeting the committee agreed that the petition requesting a 20mph speed limit in **Sheepfold Road** should be referred to the Transportation Task Group for consideration for inclusion in the 2014/15 ITS programme. The task group meeting on 18 November 2013 did not prioritise this request, though it will be brought forward for consideration for the 2015/16 programme.
- 3.24 At their meeting of 12 March 2014 the committee agreed that the petition requesting a 20mph speed limit in a number of roads in **Onslow Village** be referred to Transportation Task Group for consideration for inclusion in future ITS programmes.
- 3.25 Note that the officer response of 12 March to the Onslow Village petition stated *'the Chairman has requested that a report on the new speed limit policy be brought to next committee meeting in June together with a proposed framework for considering 20mph speed limit requests in Guildford. This local framework will initially be developed through the Local Committee's Transportation Task Group (TTG) and it is expected to include criteria such as accident rates, the recommendations of the Guildford Town and Approaches Movement Study (GTAMS), SCC's cycling strategy and road safety at schools'*.
- 3.26 With GTAMS adopted by GBC at the end of April there has been little time for the TTG to develop such a framework and at their meeting of 14 May agreed that the Guildford Transport Strategy being developed by SCC should include guidance on how the introduction of 20mph speed limits should be prioritised, possibly by linking to pedestrian/cycle routes and schools in residential neighbourhoods, to assist the committee when determining annual allocations to ITS schemes.

## WALNUT TREE CLOSE

- 3.27 At their meeting of 11 December 2013 the committee considered the officer response to the petition to close Walnut Tree Close to through traffic and agreed to allocate £5,000 from the 2013/14 budget to undertake consultation with businesses in Walnut Tree Close to establish their views on any proposed closure. Such consultation has not taken place as yet and it is recommended that £5,000 is allocated in the current financial year to complete this undertaking.
- 3.28 The officer response also stated *'in November the request for closure was considered by the Transportation Task Group, but was not prioritised for funding in 2014/15 as it is closely linked with work on the gyratory, and felt it could not be progressed in isolation...It is recommended that the closure of Walnut Tree Close is included in the gyratory modelling currently underway in order to gain an appreciation of the effects on the local road network'*.
- 3.29 In early June a video number plate survey of traffic using either end of Walnut Tree Close was carried out which will be used to establish through traffic volumes, with results are expected in July. In May & June an origin & destination surveys for traffic using the gyratory was also carried out (drivers waiting at traffic signals were handed pre-paid post cards). Both surveys will be used to refine the traffic model and inform decisions.

## SHEEPFOLD ROAD LIMITED WAITING RESTRICTIONS

- 3.30 Vehicles have routinely mounted the footways to park immediately adjacent to the shops on the A323 Worplesdon Road at the junction with Sheepfold Road, representing a serious hazard to pedestrians and other drivers, and to prevent this bollards have recently been installed in the footway.
- 3.31 In the interest of trade at these shops it is recommended a short length of limited waiting parking bay is introduced in Sheepfold Road close to the main road as shown at **ANNEX 4**. Waiting would be restricted to 30 minutes, no return within 2 hours, Monday to Saturday 8.30am to 6pm.
- 3.32 The local shopkeepers and SCC member support this proposal.

## CUSTOMER ENQUIRES AND DEFECTS

- 3.33 The weather conditions at the end of last year and early part of 2014 lead to a large increase in enquiries and defect reports from customers. On average the Highways service received 12,000 per month in 2013 this includes reports made by members of the public, staff and highway inspectors. During the first quarter of 2014 we received 58,224 giving an average of over 19,000 per month.
- 3.34 For Guildford specifically 7,571 enquiries were received in this quarter of which 3,546 were directed to the local area office for action, 91% of those have been resolved. This response rate is slightly below the countywide average of 94%
- 3.35 Although the response rate remains relatively high the additional volume of contacts meant a delay in responding to some customers and an increase in

chaser calls to the service. This has also been reflected in the volume of complaints received 143, only 35 of those were for the South West area including Guildford. The main reason for these being service delivery and communication to either the required standard or timescale.

**4. OPTIONS:**

4.1 As discussed with members.

**5. CONSULTATIONS:**

6.1 Appropriate consultation will be carried out for all schemes.

**6. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:**

6.2 Works will be carried out by SCC's term highways contractor, May Gurney, who won the term contract in a competitive tender process.

**7. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

7.1 None

**8. LOCALISM:**

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

8.2 The Lengsthman initiative allows parish councils to undertake enhanced maintenance of the public highway.

**9. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

9.1 None

**10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

10.1 As set out in the body of the report.

**11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

11.1 Officers will continue to progress the programme of schemes agreed by the committee.

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**Contact Officer:**  
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**Consulted:**  
As described within the report

**Annexes:**  
1. Guildford Transport Strategy Briefing Note

2. Guildford Town & Movements Study Executive Summary
3. Surrey Planned Works 2014/15: Guildford
4. Sheepfold Road parking TRO proposal

**Sources/background papers:**

Local Committee for Guildford Wednesday 11 December 2013 Item 12: 'Highways Budgets 2014/15'

Local Committee for Guildford Wednesday 12 March 2014 Item 14: 'Highways Update'

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