



WOKING JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2014
LEAD OFFICER: MARK BORLAND – GROUP MANAGER (SURREY HIGHWAYS)

SUBJECT: OPERATION HORIZON UPDATE

AREA: WOKING

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

This report sets out an update on progress made against the 5-year carriageway investment maintenance programme of countywide Operation Horizon project to date.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Woking Joint Committee is asked to note the update in the attached annex

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To update members of the committee on the progress made to date and the future timetable.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Operation Horizon is a targeted 5-year countywide investment programme for carriageway maintenance that will significantly increase both the scale and scope of highway repair.
- 1.2 In February 2013, Cabinet approved the £100m Maintenance programme. The Horizon project will deliver 16%-20% saving on existing contract rates, enabling £16m- £20m to be re-invested in Surrey's roads. This will enable a total investment programme of nearly **£120m** to replace the worst 500km (10%) of Surrey roads. The start of the 5-year Horizon project (year one) commenced in April 2013.
- 1.3 For Woking in particular, the new programme will result in £8m being invested in the local road network and will enable 36km of road (12% of local network) to be reconstructed.

- 1.4 On 1 July 2013 the Local Committee (Woking) formally approved the roads in Woking to be resurfaced or reconstructed over the 5-year investment period, and received an update on progress at the meeting on 5 March 2014.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1 In the last four months over 10KM of roads in Woking have been completely resurfaced and full details are listed **Annex 1**. This also details the progress and successes of the Horizon programme to date, any changes to the proposed programme, and the remaining roads to be treated in years three to five (2015 - 2018).

2.2 It also updates progress of the roads in Woking programmed for surface treatment that extend the life of the carriageway which supplement the Horizon maintenance programme.

2.3 Two key areas to highlight:

a. Tar Contamination

- i. Coring of roads has identified seven roads have a high presence of Tar bound material. Since 1982 this material has been classified as a hazardous material and can only be disposed of at specialist landfill sites.
- ii. At current rates this would be over £150 per tonne adding nearly £300,000 to scheme costs.
- iii. However, a new solution has been identified that will enable tar to be recycled and costs reduced to approximately £50 to £70 per tonne. The solution will not be available until April 2015 and therefore decision to defer these seven sites
- iv. Surrey Highways have explored alternative solutions that could have been delivered this year (such as Well Lane) however, although product was successful in removing tar cost, the overall construction methods were found to be too invasive for residents and therefore an alternative solution has been identified.

b. Road Space Clash

- i. Utilities companies have advised they are investigating issues on Chertsey Road and High Street, Old Woking and Surrey Highways have therefore been rejected road space access to deliver works. Both utility companies have advised they expect to complete works by March 2015.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 This report is for information.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 The original programme was subject to public consultation in 2012

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The investment programme will be fully funded by Surrey Highways Medium Term Plan and no financial contribution is required from the local committee budget.
- 5.2 It is, however, recognised that the fixed five year investment programme will reduce local committee flexibility to promote future maintenance schemes as petitioned by residents.
- 5.3 The scale and scope of the investment programme is only sustainable if programme changes are limited, thus Surrey Highways will not be able, over the project period, to delivery new schemes not previously identified in **Annex 1**.
- 5.4 Consequently there could be increased pressure on joint committee allocation to respond to residents' petitions to re-surface roads not already identified in **Annex 1**.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT:

- 6.1 Primary risk is that ongoing utility works prevent effective repair of highway. To mitigate risk Surrey Highways will continue to deliver emergency repairs to remove greatest hazards and work with utility companies to accelerate works as soon as possible.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 The investment proposal will further support localism. Not only have local communities directly influenced the programme, it will also enable communities to have a clearer understanding of Surrey Highways "Level of Service" in regards to major repair and a fuller appreciation of the longer term programme.
- 7.2 This appreciation will enable the programme to more effectively co-ordinate with local priorities and support wider initiatives, for example, delivering re-surfacing schemes at the same time as new safety crossings.

8. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 Improved road maintenance will support all travelling commuters and minority stakeholders.

9. 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
Human Resource/Training and Development	No significant implications arising from this report

10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

10.1 The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

11. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 11.1 Officers will continue to progress delivery of approved roads under the Operation Horizon investment maintenance programme and keep Councillors informed.

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Consulted:**County Council Cabinet Member**

Mr John Furey

Annexes:

Annex 1

Sources/background papers:

- Environment & Transport Select Committee Reports_ November 2013
- Cabinet Report_ February 2013
- Local Committee Report – 5 March 2014