

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)**

**DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**LEAD OFFICER: DAVID LIGERTWOOD – LSTF PROGRAMME MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND UPDATE AND 2014/15 PROGRAMME**

**DIVISION: ALL**



**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

Surrey County Council was successful in securing an award of £14.3 million in grant funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). This was in addition to the award of £3.9 million LSTF Key Component.

Both grants are for the period up to 31 March 2015 and jointly form the Surrey TravelSMART programme. As part of this programme a total of £10.789 million has been allocated for sustainable travel improvements in Guildford.

This report updates the Local Committee with progress made with the programme to date.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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

- (i) Note progress to date with the Guildford Travel SMART programme;

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Department for Transport advise that all LSTF grant money should be spent by 31 March 2015 and there is no ability to carry forward LSTF grant beyond this date. The indicative 2014/15 LSTF TravelSMART programme for Guildford has been developed to meet this financial requirement, while meeting all the LSTF objectives.

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Surrey County Council has been successful in securing £18.2 million from the Department for Transport's (DfT) Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) to deliver the Surrey Travel SMART programme. £3.9 million was awarded in July 2011 with a further £14.3 million awarded in June 2012 as part of the large bid of £16 million. The aim of the fund is to deliver sustainable travel measures that support economic growth and carbon reduction.
- 1.2 £10.789 million (Large Bid and Key Component) funding has been allocated for sustainable travel improvements in Guildford. This includes a share of the £1.7million shortfall that SCC has funded through the New Homes Bonus Grant.
- 1.3 Funding for 2014/15, taking account of unspent 2013/14 grant carried forward, £4.677 million, as set out in Table 1 below

Table 1: 2014/15 Guildford LSTF Finance

Element	Capital	Revenue	Total
P&R	1,022	403	1,425
Bus	801	158	959
Walk/Cycle	879	0	879
Traffic Network	5	70	75
Travel Promotion	375	964	1,339
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,082</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>4677</b>

Figures in the table in units of £1000

- 1.4 In addition to the DfT LSTF grant the programme is supported by secured third party developers contributions of some £500K.
- 1.5 While all available funds have been costed to be included in the current programme, any remaining unspent LSTF grant cannot be carried over beyond 31 March 2015 and will be returned to the DfT.

## 2. ANALYSIS:

### LSTF Programme 2014/15

- 2.1 The current LSTF Capital Construction Programme 2014/15, comprising bus corridor, cycle and walking improvements being delivered by Keir was set out in the report to Guildford Local Committee 25 June 2014.

### Quality Bus Corridor Works

- 2.2 The Quality Bus Corridor through Park Barn has been completed and officers are now progressing implementing bus stop clearways on eight bus stops within the corridor. Bus stop upgrade works, which includes raising kerbs heights to allow step free access to buses and to improve bus waiting areas, is programmed to start at the end of September on the Epsom Rd and Woking Rd Bus Corridors. Design work continues on the remaining bus corridors.

## Walking and Cycling

- 2.1 The construction of the A25 Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Route which was programmed to start on site from the end of July 2014 has been delayed, largely due to addressing land ownership issues and design matters. Work has started on the widening of the footpath linking Cathedral Roundabout near Surrey University with Ash Grove. The widened footpath is part of the popular pedestrian route under the A3 from Southway to the University. Flooding problems near the railway bridge will be treated by laying pipework beneath the path to carry away any build up of surface water during winter months. The A25 Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Route scheme is anticipated to be completed by January 2015.
- 2.2 The Guildford TravelSMART Cycling Festival was held on Sunday 17 August. This event is designed to encourage more local residents to take up cycling. A good attendance from those who are keen cyclists to people looking to try out a bike for the first time. Attractions included the Savage Skills stunt display team, who performed a series of stunts fifteen feet off the ground. The more competitive attendees could take part in Rollapaluzza, where they battled to complete the fastest 500 metre sprint time. Bouncy castles and face painting kept the smaller children entertained, while older children were able to develop their cycling skills in the bike handling zones
- 2.3 The Travel SMART stand was one of the most popular stands providing information on Travel SMART initiatives and free local travel maps to help sustainable travel around Guildford. Attendees were invited to enter the Travel SMART raffle to win a £750 Specialized bike. Contact details from the raffle will be used to conduct a follow-up survey in the autumn.

## Onslow Park & Ride

- 2.3 The final design, procurement and construction of the passenger waiting room is programmed to be completed by end March 2015. Discussion and implementation of a comprehensive signing strategy for Park & Ride on the A3 is ongoing, while promotion and marketing campaign is developed, linking closely with business engagement.

## Community Funding - Westborough

- 2.4 The groups receiving funding in the latest round for Westborough include:
- Guildford Borough Council Playrangers, smoothie bike, £1,350
  - Spinney Children's Centre, Education, Training and Employment Co-ordinator, £2,800
  - Park Barn Community Centre, outside information board, £695
  - Barn Youth Project, enhancing volunteering, £2,605
  - Guildford City Boxing Club, skills development, £3,000

2.5 The TravelSMART team are reviewing applications for the bids of up to £15,000 and the allocations will be decided by the community at the voting day on Saturday 27 September 2014. This event will be partner with the Joining In! Jamboree at Kings College from 12pm.

### **Community Funding – Stoke and Stoughton**

2.6 The following projects have received funding:

- Footlight Arts, Smart Talk, £3,000
- Christ's College Guildford, minibus adaptations £3,000
- Queen Elizabeth Park Centre/ New Life Baptist Church, community coffee shop volunteer training, £1,020
- Stoughton Infant School, Eco school green travel, £2,975
- Weyfield, Bikability training, £1,050

2.7 The deadline for applications to bid for funding of up to £15,000 is 17 November 2014.

### **Traffic Management**

2.8 The review of the UTC/SCOOT traffic management systems in Guildford continues and this will improve the control and management of traffic throughout the town, and address performance related maintenance issues. The rebuild of the UTC started over the summer while as part of the validation process on-street works will commence September 2014.

## **3. OPTIONS:**

3.1 As this report forms a progress update for the Local Committee there are no options to consider at this stage.

## **4. CONSULTATIONS:**

4.1 Guildford Local Committee Task Group has been consulted throughout the development of the LSTF Programme.

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

5.1 The business case for the Travel SMART included a financial section that does not form part of this report and was approved by the DfT.

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

6.1 The major elements of the LSTF programme have been subject to Equality Impact Assessments. These documents are published on the Surrey County Council website and can be found by clicking [here](#).

## **7. LOCALISM:**

7.1 The Travel SMART programme was designed with Localism in mind. Guildford Local Committee has decision making powers relating to the

programme. Furthermore, elements of the programme such as the Community funding and Business engagement use Localism tools to encourage localised decision making, and seek to increase local participation in the programme.

## **8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

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

### 8.1 Sustainability implications

The central aims of the Travel SMART Programme are to encourage the uptake of sustainable transport, enabling economic growth and reducing carbon emissions. The measures included in the Travel SMART programme therefore have positive sustainability outcomes.

### 8.2 Public Health implications

The Travel SMART programme is making significant investment in providing new infrastructure and promoting active travel such as walking and cycling. Evidence suggests that investment in these schemes have a proportionate benefit in overall public health. Walking promotions in particular are being linked with the Surrey CC Public Health team's 'Walk for Life' campaign.

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

9.1 This report provides an update to the Local Committee on the progress made to date with the Travel SMART programme for Guildford. As noted previously the DfT LSTF grant award cannot be carried forward beyond end March 2015.

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

10.1 The Guildford Local Committee Task Group will meet to review the schemes within the LSTF programme. The programme will be continue to be developed and delivered with further reports presented to Guildford Local Committee.

## ITEM 14

**Contact Officer:**

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**Consulted:**

GLC Task Group

**Sources/background papers:**

- Surrey County Council LSTF Large bid document. [Click here](#) to access this document.
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