

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)



DATE: 8TH DECEMBER 2014
 LEAD OFFICER: NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER (NE)

SUBJECT: HIGHWAYS UPDATE

DIVISION: ALL

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

This report summarises progress with the Local Committee's programme of Highways works for the current Financial Year 2014-15.

Members are asked to work with the Area Team Manager to identify their Divisional Programmes for 2015-16.

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

- (i) Authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member, to advertise the necessary Legal Order to establish a 30mph speed limit in Fairmile Park Road, and to implement the change in speed limit if there are no significant objections (paragraph 2.6 refers);
- (ii) Approve the introduction of two new Bus Stop Clearways in Hurst Road, East Molesey (paragraph 2.8 refers);
- (iii) Authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, to decide Divisional Programmes for next Financial Year, in the event that individual Divisional Members have not indicated their priorities by 31st December 2014 (paragraphs 2.17 to 2.20 refer);
- (iv) Authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s) to undertake all necessary procedures to deliver the agreed programmes.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendations are made to enable the 2015-16 Highways programmes funded by the Local Committee to be decided in good time to facilitate timely delivery of those programmes.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

1.1 Surrey County Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) aims to improve the highway network for all users. In general terms it aims to reduce congestion, improve accessibility, reduce the frequency and severity of road casualties, improve the environment, and maintain the network so that it is safe for public use.

1.2 The Local Committee in Elmbridge has been delegated Highway budgets in the current Financial Year 2014-15 as follows:

- Local Revenue: £266,600
- Community Enhancement: £45,000
- Capital Integrated Transport Schemes: £202,084
- Capital Maintenance: £202,084
- Capital overspend carried forward from 2013-14: -£13,000
- **Total: £702,768**
(2014-15 budget £715,768 minus 2013-14 carry forward £13,000)

1.3 The funds delegated to the Local Committee are in addition to funds allocated at a County level to cover various Highways maintenance and improvement activities, including inspection and repair of safety defects, resurfacing, structures, vegetation maintenance, and drainage.

2. ANALYSIS:

Annual Local Revenue and Capital Programmes

2.1 In September 2013 Committee approved the 2014-15 budget allocations shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 Approved allocation of budgets for 2014-15

Approved allocation	Amount
Pooled Revenue To cover various revenue concerns across the Borough for example: drainage and ditching, patching and kerb works, minor safety schemes, extra vegetation. The Community Gang would be funded from this allocation.	£175,000
Street Smart	£40,000
Divisional Allocations	£500,768 (£55,641 per Division)
Total	£715,768

2013-14 Divisional Programmes – carried forwards into 2014-15

2.2 Table 2 below details those schemes from the 2013-14 Divisional Programmes that were carried forwards into 2014-15.

Table 2 2013-14 schemes carried forwards into 2014-15

Location	Proposed works	Carried forward cost	Status
St Peter's Road, West Molesey	New drainage system	£23,700	Now complete.
Windmill Lane, Thames Ditton	Carriageway recycling	Centrally funded	Now complete.
Oatlands Drive, Walton	Cycle lanes and traffic calming	£21,000	Now complete.
Oatlands Chase	New footway and mobility ramps	£27,500	Now complete.
Church Street, Cobham	Weight restriction	£7,400	Complete – residual cost from 2012-13 scheme
Winterdown Road	LSR	£18,000	Complete – residual cost from 2013-14 scheme
Total carried forward cost		£97,600	

2014-15 Divisional Programmes

2.3 The Divisional Programmes have been developed in consultation with Members to invest the nine £55,643 Divisional Allocations in maintenance and improvement schemes across the Borough. Although it is not possible to spend precisely £55,643 in each Division, the Divisional Programmes have been designed to provide as even a share in each Division as is reasonably practical.

2.4 Table 3 details progress with the Divisional Programmes for this Financial Year 2014-15:

Table 3 2014-15 Divisional Programmes

Location	Proposed works	Cost	Status (<i>at time of writing</i>)
Eastcote Avenue, West Molesey	LSR, whole road	£42,300	Complete.
Fleetside, West Molesey	Mobility Ramps	£tbc	Unlikely to go ahead this FY.
TBA in West Molesey	Mobility Ramps	£tbc	Unlikely to go ahead this FY.

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Location	Proposed works	Cost	Status <i>(at time of writing)</i>
Holstein Avenue, Weybridge	LSR, whole road	Funded by 2013-14 Winter Damage programme	Complete
Weybridge Station	Drainage investigation and repair	To be funded by Drainage Condition budget	Initial drainage investigation complete. Follow up works being arranged.
Heath Road, Weybridge	Improve cycle route from Station to Town Centre (Part of Weybridge Station study)	£20,000	Feasibility study in progress.
Stoke Road, Cobham	Reduce speed limit to 30mph	£10,000	Traffic Order imminent. Due to implement in Q4. £10,000 CIL funding approved.
Fairmile Lane, Cobham	Casualty reduction scheme at junction with Miles Lane	£45,800	Complete. £22,500 CIL funding approved.
Heath Ridge Green, Cobham	LSR, entrance plus first 25m	-	Walkthrough complete – no works needed.
Links Green Way, Cobham	LSR, entrance plus first 25m	£7,400	Ordered – awaiting programming.
Blundell Lane, Cobham, near Stoke Road	Extend footway	£10,000	Complete. <i>Funded from PIC contributions.</i>
Fairmile Park Road, Cobham	Speed Limit Review	£5,000	See comments below. <i>To be funded from Cllr Lewis's non-Highways allocation.</i>
Burwood Road, Hersham	Safety Improvements	£55,000	Zebra Crossing under construction. £85,000 CIL funding approved for further works.
Blakeden Drive, Claygate	LSR	£42,000	Complete
Brookfield Gardens, Claygate	Treatment TBC, whole road	-	Unlikely to go ahead this FY.
The Roundway, Claygate	Micro Asphalt, whole road	£14,250	Complete.
TBA in Oxshott, Claygate and Hinchley Wood	Mobility Ramps	£tbc	Unlikely to go ahead this FY.

Location	Proposed works	Cost	Status <i>(at time of writing)</i>
Wolsey Road and Wolsey Grove, Esher	LSR	£73,500	Complete
Esher Park Avenue	New parking space(s)	£1,700	Complete. <i>To be funded from Cllr Selleck's non-Highways allocation.</i>
Walton Road / Bridge Road / Esher Road, East Molesey	LSR	£21,400	Ordered – awaiting programming.
Long Ditton Schools	School safety measures	£22,700	First phase complete. £90,500 CIL funding approved for further works.
Thames Ditton Fountain	Overrun protection measures	£7,000	Feasibility study needed to investigate more substantial scheme.
Pound Close, Thames Ditton	Minor repairs	Revenue funded	Need to agree extent.
Rydens Road, Walton South	New pedestrian crossing	£5,000	Detailed design complete. Construction abandoned due to safety concerns. Alternative scheme being considered in consultation with Members.
Millbrook, Weybridge	LSR, whole road	Funded by 2013-14 Winter Damage programme	Complete.
Lindley Road, Walton	Footway	-	Site inspected – no work needed.
Castle Road, Weybridge	Footway	£12,000	Walk through complete – awaiting works order.
Cedar Grove, Oatlands Park	Footway	£4,000	Walk through complete – awaiting works order.
TBA in Walton South and Oatlands	Mobility Ramps	£7,000	Cllr Samuels requested locations to be decided with local input. Works complete.
Danes Hill, Oxshott	Pedestrian Crossing	£30,000	Complete. <i>Funded by Danes Hill School</i>
Total value of 2014-15 Divisional Programmes		Approximately £436,050	

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- 2.5 The total value of the capital programme, including the carried forward costs and the 2014-15 Divisional Programmes, is estimated to be **£533,650**. This includes up to £32,500 CIL funding, £10,000 PIC funding, a £30,000 contribution from Danes Hill School, and £13,100 from Members' non-Highways funding. The total programme value will shift as costs of individual schemes are confirmed.
- 2.6 The speed assessment for the Fairmile Park Road, Cobham, Speed Limit Review is now complete. In accordance with Surrey County Council's speed limit policy Fairmile Park Road may be reduced to 30mph without any supporting measures. It is recommended to reduce the speed limit to 30mph, between the junction with Miles Lane and the junction with Lebanon Drive. Annex 1 provides further details, including the full speed assessment and comments from Surrey Police.
- 2.7 Officers will keep the Chairman, Vice Chairman and appropriate Divisional Member updated as the remaining schemes are delivered, taking decisions as necessary to ensure the programmes are delivered, and cost variations managed. If necessary and as approved by Committee in September 2014 the Area Team Manager will identify and prioritise reserve schemes to ensure the remainder of this Financial Year's budgets are fully invested in the road network in Elmbridge, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s).

Bus Stop Clearways in Hurst Road

- 2.8 At the request of the Divisional Member, officers have investigated the obstruction of bus stops in Hurst Road, East Molesey. Annex 2 detailed two bus stops that are regularly obstructed, and which would benefit from Bus Stop Clearways. These are enforceable restrictions that would encourage drivers to park so as not to obstruct the bus stops, and would facilitate the issuing of Penalty Charge Notices in the event of non-compliance. It is recommended to introduce the two Bus Stop Clearways as described in Annex 2.

Programme Monitoring and Reporting

- 2.9 Officers will update Committee with progress in the delivery of its works programmes at each Committee meeting. In addition Committee Chairmen are provided with detailed monthly finance updates, which detail all the orders raised against the various budgets, as well as the works planned for each of the budgets.

Customer Services update

- 2.10 Following the extremely high volume of enquires in the first part of the year, the second and third quarters have seen a steady reduction. This is to be expected given the time of year but overall volumes remain high with over 118,000 received for the calendar year to date, giving an average of approximately 13,100 per month, down from 14,600 in the second quarter.
- 2.11 For Elmbridge specifically, 13,024 enquiries have been received since January of which 5,951 were directed to the local area office for action, 96% of these have been resolved. This response rate is slightly above the countywide average of 95%. Although the response rate remains fairly high, we are working hard in conjunction with our contractors to improve the service we provide. This includes the launch of a new customer enquiry and works scheduling system and revised customer service KPIs.

2.12 Through the Customer Service Excellence project we are also seeking to improve the accessibility of information and advance notification of roadworks. As part of which we have recently moved our roadwork information to a new website; www.roadworks.org that also contains information on work being undertaken by utility companies. Customers can sign up to receive alerts and provides a fuller picture of the work in an area.

2.13 Although there have been a reduction in customer contacts, complaints have remained high with 308 at Stage 1 for the 9 months to the end of September compared to 208 for the first half of the year. The North East area including Elmbridge have received 61. The main reasons for these being communication and the failure to carry out works to either the required standard or timescale. In addition 10 complaints have been escalated to Stage 2 of which we were found to be at fault in four. Seven complaints have been made to the Local Government Ombudsman about the Service, none of which have been upheld.

Parking update

2.14 The 2014 review proposals were advertised at the end of October 2014. Deadline for comments/objections is 28th November 2014.

Operation Horizon and Project 400 update

2.15 The Operation Horizon and Project 400 programmes of major resurfacing are available on the Surrey County Council website here: www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/road-maintenance-and-cleaning/our-planned-maintenance.

2.16 Officers are preparing a programme of minor resurfacing (LSR) as part of the Project 400 flooding and winter damage repair programme. This £3M (£250,000 for Elmbridge) LSR programme will be circulated to Members as soon as possible. At the present time officers are assessing sites, calculating costs, and assembling the programme.

Priorities for 2015-16

2.17 It is assumed that the Highways budgets available to Committee in 2015-16 will be the same as in the current Financial Year, giving a total combined Capital and Revenue budget of £715,768. Members should note that historically Local Committees' budgets have fluctuated significantly. There is therefore a risk that when the budgets are set for 2015-16 they could be significantly less than the current Financial Year. Nevertheless to facilitate timely planning and delivery of next Financial Year's programmes, it is necessary to make a reasonable assumption and timely decisions.

2.18 Table 4 below shows the budget allocations that were approved by Committee in September 2014 for the next Financial Year 2015-16.

Table 4 Approved allocation of budgets for 2015-16

Approved allocation	Amount
Pooled Revenue To cover various revenue concerns across the Borough for example: drainage and ditching, patching and kerb works, parking, minor safety schemes, extra vegetation. The Community Gang would be funded from this allocation.	£175,000
Street Smart	£40,000
Divisional Allocations	£500,768 (£55,641 per Division)
Total	£715,768

2.19 At the time of writing officers are preparing recommendations for each Divisional Member for spending their respective Divisional Allocations. The recommendations will be based on a list of suggestions maintained by officers on behalf of Members; drawn in the main from Members' and residents' requests, officers' observations, and questions and petitions presented to Committee. It is intended to provide these recommendations to Divisional Members by the end of November 2014.

2.20 Members are asked to indicate their priorities for next Financial Year's Divisional Programmes as soon as possible, to enable officers to plan for the delivery of next Financial Year's programme of works. In the event that Divisional Members do not indicate their priorities in good time to finalise next Financial Year's programme it is recommended to authorise the Area Team Manager to decide Divisional Programmes on their behalf, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. It is recommended to set a deadline of 31st December 2014 for Divisional Members to indicate their priorities.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 None at this stage. Officers will revert to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Member, or indeed the Committee as appropriate, whenever preferred options need to be identified.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 None at this stage. Officers will consult the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Members as appropriate in the delivery of the programmes detailed above.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The financial implications of this paper are detailed in section 2 above.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The Local Committee prioritises its expenditure according to local priorities.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder as well as improve people's perception of crime.

9. CONCLUSION:

9.1 This Financial Year's programmes are being delivered.

9.2 Members are asked to work with Officers to identify individual schemes for next Financial Year's Divisional Programmes.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 The Area Team Manager will work with Divisional Members, the Chairman and Vice Chairman to deliver this Financial Year's Divisional Programmes, and to identify individual schemes for next Financial Year's Divisional Programmes.

Contact Officer: Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (NE)

Consulted: N / A.

Annexes: 2

Sources/background papers: None.

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