

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)

DATE: 11 DECEMBER 2014



LEAD OFFICER: MARC WOODALL – SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT MANAGER

SUBJECT: LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

DIVISION: ALL DIVISIONS

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

In March 2014 Surrey County Council made a successful bid to the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Travel Fund (LSTF) revenue programme for 2015/16. This report highlights the initiatives that will be undertaken in Surrey Heath as a result of receiving this funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) is asked to note

- (i) the report, outlining the activities that will be undertaken in Surrey Heath as a result of receiving funding from the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund revenue programme for 2015/16.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

This report provides the Local Committee with information on a partnership programme to support sustainable transport that will be delivered in Surrey Heath during 2015/16. The Local Committee is asked to note this report outlining the programme that will be delivered.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1** The Local Sustainable Transport Fund is a competitive funding programme set up by the Department for Transport (DfT) in 2011, providing opportunities for Local Authorities to bid for capital and revenue funding to deliver packages of sustainable transport measures. Surrey County Council were successful in receiving a total of £18.2million through this process for measures in Guildford, Woking, Redhill and Reigate, with delivery continuing until the end of this funding in March 2015.
- 1.2** In December 2013, the Government announced that £78.5 million in revenue funding would be available in a new round of the LSTF process. The grant is available for the period 2015/16 for the delivery of sustainable travel projects and is limited to £1million per Transport Authority. Transport Authorities could only bid once, but could partner with authorities in other bids. The DfT stated that any revenue transport investment from the LSTF programme would need to align with capital investment outlined in the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) promoted by the relevant Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), in the case of Surrey Heath, Enterprise M3.
- 1.3** Surrey County Council were involved in three bid submissions to the funding competition :
- **Surrey / Hampshire Partnership Bid** - A joint bid with Hampshire County Council that targets business support in the EM3 'step up' towns and a Blackwater Valley better connectivity scheme, supporting a LEP capital bid linking up train stations/town centres through cycling infrastructure. The total value of the revenue bid is £1.7million split evenly between Surrey and Hampshire.
 - **East Surrey & Countywide Bid** - A sole Surrey County Council bid that targets business support in our Coast to Capital (C2C) LEP area 'latent locations' and a range of countywide measures building on the success of existing Travel SMART programme. The total value of this bid was £1million
 - **Living Streets Partnership Bid** – A bid led by Durham County Council that builds on a successful LSTF bid to deliver a Walk to School Outreach Model with 11 local authorities in partnership with Living Streets. The total value for Surrey of this bid was c.£200,000.
- 1.4** In July 2014 the DfT announced that the Surrey/Hampshire partnership bid and the Living Streets partnership bid were successful but that the East Surrey and Countywide Bid were unfortunately not successful.
- 1.5** This report provides information to the Local Committee on the detail of the successful Surrey/Hampshire Partnership bid and the initiatives that will be undertaken in Surrey Heath as a result.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1 Surrey / Hampshire Partnership Bid

- 2.2** This bid package included an integrated programme of revenue sustainable transport measures which will be undertaken in the four Sci:Tech Corridor

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towns of Guildford, Woking, Basingstoke and Farnborough, and the five Step-up Towns of Aldershot, Whitehill & Bordon, Camberley, Andover, and Staines upon Thames identified by the Enterprise M3 LEP. The bid fully aligned the measures in the programme with sustainable transport capital infrastructure improvements in the Enterprise M3 LEP's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), as the basis for unlocking economic growth. Enterprise M3 supported the submission of the revenue bid to the DfT.

2.3 The objectives of the package of measures are to support economic growth by:

- Improving the economic vitality of nine priority towns to boost economic growth, and to help deliver SEP growth objectives
- Enhancing travel choice through connecting seven stations and five town centres in the Blackwater Valley area.
- Reducing travel barriers to employment and skills in the Enterprise M3 area
- Unlocking economic, health and carbon reduction benefits through sustainable travel choices

2.4 The project includes the following four complementary components:

- **Addressing transport barriers and costs facing businesses.** Based on our experience to date, we will roll out programmes that will help businesses in the nine priority towns to grow and recruit staff with the skills needed by offering personalised travel planning, eco driver training, and sustainable travel roadshows
- **Encouraging more journeys by active travel modes.** With this element we will work with public health colleagues and Sustrans, CTC and Living Streets to increase levels of walking and cycling as a means to tackle congestion.
- **Improving the quality and attractiveness of bus and rail travel in the Blackwater Valley.** We will work with Stagecoach South, Arriva, South West Trains and First Great Western to boost patronage on bus and rail services and create more door-to-door journeys by making walking and cycling to rail and bus stations easier.
- **Improved journey information and travel awareness.** To continue to develop and build on the existing successful and well-understood Travel SMART and My Journey (Existing Hampshire LSTF programme) campaigns. We will deliver behaviour change marketing campaigns and road show events that seek to influence audiences to adopt more sustainable travel habits.

2.5 A separate capital bid has been made to the LEP in conjunction with Hampshire County Council to provide improved walking and cycling links, throughout the Blackwater Valley, connecting the seven stations and five town centres within the valley. We are awaiting on final confirmation of funding for this part of the programme for 2015/16. These improvements will be subject to a separate committee paper in the new year of 2015.

2.6 We are currently working with Hampshire County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and other local stakeholders to finalise the detailed planning for this programme before delivery starts in April 2015.

2.7 The bid was developed with the experience gained and lessons learnt from the first LSTF programmes in both Surrey and Hampshire.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 Greater detail on the proposals are currently being worked up at the moment in conjunction with Hampshire County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and other stakeholders. During the development of the proposals, measures will undergo an options appraisal process to ensure the delivery programme both matches the requirements set out on the bid to the DfT and meets the needs of local businesses and communities.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 In September 2014 a stakeholder workshop was held at Rushmoor Borough Council with Hampshire County Council, Districts and Boroughs, bus and train operators, and other stakeholders such as Sustrans. During this workshop attendees were given the opportunity to help shape the development of these proposals and dialogue has continued during the detailed planning of the programme.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 This programme is funded by a grant from the DfT, A business case agreed by Surrey County Council and Hampshire County Council's S151 officers, was submitted as part of bid application and accepted by the DfT.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 The major elements of the existing LSTF programme have been subject to Equality Impact Assessments. These documents are published on the Surrey County Council. These documents will be reviewed as part of the ongoing programme management of this programme.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The programme is expected to have a long-term impact on congestion levels in the Camberley and Frimley areas as a result of a business engagement programme that aims to reduce the number of people commuting by car with no passengers. By promoting active forms of travel e.g. cycling and walking, significant health benefits can also be derived.

7.2 The programme also encourages local residents and employees to make their own travel choices by giving them improved travel information e.g. through the online journey planner and engagement at road shows.

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

8.2 Public Health implications

There are some direct positive implications to public health arising from this report, including working with Surrey and Hampshire's public health team to develop programmes that promote greater levels of active travel, and in particular walking and cycling. The existing LSTF programme has worked on promoting public health initiatives such as 'Walk for Life', and this new funding programme allows us to continue this work in new areas, such as Surrey Heath.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Committee (Surrey Heath) is asked to note**

- 9.1 the report, outlining the activities that will be undertaken in Surrey Heath as a result of receiving funding from the Department for Transport's Local Sustainable Transport Fund revenue programme for 2015/16
- 9.2 This report provides the Local Committee with information on a partnership programme to support sustainable transport that will be delivered in Surrey Heath during 2015/16. The programme, funded from the DfT's Local Sustainable Transport Fund, will support initiatives such as travel planning, behavioural change campaigns and specific initiatives targeting large businesses to be undertaken in Surrey Heath, and in other areas of the Enterprise LEP area. The Local Committee is asked to note this report outlining the programme that will be delivered.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Officers are currently working up plans in conjunction with officers from Hampshire County Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and other stakeholders to deliver this programme in 2015/16.

10.2 An updated report providing progress on the programme will be provided to the Local Committee in October 2015.

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Sources/background papers:

- Surrey County Council's successful bid to the DfT LSTF programme - http://www.travelsmartsurrey.info/media/files/LSTF-2015-16_joint-bid-FINAL.pdf
 - DfT LSTF Revenue programme bidding guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-sustainable-transport-fund-application-process-and-bidding-guidance-2015-to-2016>
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