

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)****ANNEX 1: PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND  
RESPONSES****26 June 2015****1. From Mr Tim Forrest (Chiddingfold Parish Council)**

Further to the response at Annex 3 of the March Local Committee minutes, the suspension of any further implementation of high speed broadband in the rural areas of Surrey is of great concern to the large number of residents without high speed broadband. I understand that submissions from broadband suppliers were received as part of the Open Market Review carried out by Surrey County Council at the end of last month. Is the Committee now able to say if there are any indications of a feasible solution coming forward that will provide a reliable high speed service to the several thousand residents in rural parts of Waverley, who currently either do not have an acceptable standard of high speed broadband or are being encouraged by BT / Openreach to fund a high speed service out of their own pockets at a cost of more than £1,000 per household ? If they are not able to give such an indication, can they confirm the review program is still on target to go to public consultation on the new intervention areas in the autumn ?

**Response**

Surrey County Council has embarked on an Open Market Review (OMR) and will be seeking State Aid Approval for plans to further extend broadband coverage across the county within the constraints of available funding following a process laid down by Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK).

The first stage of the OMR, which involved requesting current and future broadband coverage information from existing infrastructure providers, has finished and the checking process has commenced. This will take a number of weeks and, once the broadband coverage and speed responses are analysed, a map will be produced and uploaded to the Superfast Surrey website as part of the public consultation process. This stage, which is likely to be during Autumn 2015, will be the opportunity for residents, businesses as well as any other infrastructure providers to contact the Superfast Surrey team by email to provide additional information that may further inform the understanding of broadband

coverage across the County.

Following this consultation phase, the Superfast Surrey team will then agree with BT Group, as part of the existing contract and within the constraints of available funding, how to target those areas identified as not having current or proposed broadband coverage or access to download speeds of 15 Mbps or above. The proposed deployment must be signed off by Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) as being compliant with State Aid Funding regulations before any deployment can commence.

The OMR, analysis of responses, mapping, public consultation and development of a new deployment plan will take many months and whether or not residents who are currently unable to access a fibre service will benefit from any subsequent deployment will not be known until the above process is completed.

## **2. From Mr David Beaman (Farnham)**

Surrey County Council (SCC) has invested in computer software to produce bus timetable display information that is specific to each bus stop, giving "times of buses from this stop to . . ." information; this has started to replace conventional bus timetable information displayed at bus stops which has generally just been a copy of the full timetable. The provision of details of times from each bus stop is of course more helpful to passengers. The new timetables displayed in the bus stops along the 17 and 18 routes associated with the service changes that were implemented from 24<sup>th</sup> May, however, have taken a backward step in that the timetables for each of the services which both follow the same route to the same destination (Aldershot) are shown as two separate timetables in two different formats. This is confusing and will not help to encourage people to use public transport. In Hampshire Stagecoach has roadside timetable information that gives "times of buses from this stop" by all services which follow the same route in a single comprehensive basis which is obviously far more helpful to passengers. Is the software used by SCC not capable of doing the same thing ?

### **Response**

The "Omnitimes" software used by Surrey County Council to produce Stop Specific bus timetables is capable in some cases of producing combined consolidated versions showing several bus services that run from a particular stop. However, the dataset used by the software is that generated by the bus operator for their own scheduling or electronic registration systems. A stop-specific timetable output is straightforward, for example, with service 18 that follows a linear route between Aldershot and Haslemere. For a service like the 17 that runs in a large loop at its western end around Wrecclesham and Rowledge, the output from the software is not properly reflective of what journey opportunities are possible and the supplier needs to undertake further work to resolve this. For this reason, the service 17 timetable was produced in a different form that would be suitable for all stops in both directions.

The section of route between Farnham town centre and Aldershot (in that direction) lends itself far more easily to having a stop-specific timetable output listing the times of services 17, 18 and 19 together. Of course, this would be a better way of portraying the entire service offer and as soon as time permits it is intended to produce a version in a single combination format. However, previous attempts to combine the 17/18/19 when travelling out of Aldershot have resulted

in passenger confusion within the portrayal, due to the different destinations served south westwards from Farnham.

**3. From Mr David Boyd (Haslemere)**

At the last Local Committee (Waverley) meeting I asked the committee to consider a request for two 'missing' street lights in Haslemere, one in Derby Road and one in Weydown Road.

I was told that the request for additional street lighting in Derby Road and Weydown Road would need to be discussed and prioritised at the Haslemere and Western Villages Task Group meeting later in the year with the view to prioritisation for funding in the 2016/17 highways programme. This I am proceeding with.

In addition I was told that the 2015/16 Highways budget of £280,000 had already been fully allocated. However, the notes provided at the meeting stated that £75,000 of that budget remained unallocated. In response to my question at the meeting the Chairman kindly explained that the sum of £75,000 was not unallocated, but had been set aside to cover any of the existing schemes which exceeded their budgeted costs.

My questions for this meeting are:

- (i) How much of that £75,000 'contingency' has already been allocated to those existing schemes, and how much has been allocated to each ?
- (ii) What is the latest estimate for the one additional street light in Sandrock Hill which was originally estimated at £10,000 ?

**Response**

- (i) A Highways update report is brought to each meeting of the committee to provide the latest progress on its programme of highways initiatives and schemes. As individual schemes are designed and priced forecast costs are revised and, as can be seen from the annexes to the update report on today's agenda, can differ significantly from the original estimate. The aim is to complete as many schemes as possible within a financial year while fully expending the overall budget, since underspend may be clawed back. It is prudent to reserve a contingency sum against scheme costs exceeding the original estimates and this is allocated as required to achieve the objectives above.
- (ii) As can be seen at Annex 2 to the Highways update report, the forecast cost remains the same as the original estimate at £10,000. Our lighting contractor, Skanska, has been asked to specify and price the new lighting, but this has yet to be received.

**4. From Mr John Fraser (Waverley BC and Farnham TC: Farnham Upper Hale)**

Two matters relating to road safety in Upper Hale

- (i) A request was made in October 2014 by a resident of Nutshell Lane , Hale, for solar-powered flashing 30mph maximum speed reminders to be

sited on the eastern portion of A3016 Upper Hale Road. When can their installation be expected ?

- (ii) A request on behalf of a resident of Alma Lane, Hale for Surrey County Council (SCC) to consider, approve and install similar solar-powered flashing 30mph maximum speed reminders on the eastern portion of B3005 Alma Lane. We refer SCC to police incident report P15123319 regarding an accident at 1530 hours on 14 May 2015 when a vehicle travelling in excess of 50mph (estimated) left the carriageway, crossed the footpath, demolished 20m of concrete-posted timber fence and entered the garden of her house, narrowly missing school children.

### **Response**

Surrey County Council Highways has been working with Surrey Police in recent months following a number of complaints about speeding on Upper Hale Road and Alma Lane. Speed readings have been taken in Upper Hale Road near Nutshell Lane, and the average speed was recorded at 30 mph. Readings have also been taken in Alma Lane near Bricksbury Hill, with an average recorded speed of 29 mph. Neither measurement suggests that a particular speeding problem exists, although on any road some drivers will exceed the posted limit. Nevertheless, a temporary Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) has been installed near the Lobster Pot in Upper Hale Road to highlight the 30mph limit and provide reassurance to residents. Another VAS is planned for Alma Lane, which we hope to install in July.