

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)

DATE: 20 SEPTEMBER 2016

LEAD OFFICER: JOHN HILDER

SUBJECT: HIGHWAYS UPDATE

DIVISION: ALL



<p>SUMMARY OF ISSUE:</p> <p>This report provides an update on the 2016/17 programmes of highway improvement and maintenance works and operations funded by this committee.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <p>The Local Committee (Guildford) is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note progress of the 2016/17 programme of highway works and operations detailed at Annex 1. (ii) Agree that revenue budget is capitalised as necessary to deliver the agreed programme of works. (iii) Endorse the experimental traffic regulation order for Guildford High Street which imposes no waiting restrictions throughout the length of the pedestrian zone and which makes yellow lines unnecessary. (iv) Note the successful conclusion of the High Street Setts project, which was completed in August.
<p>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <p><i>The recommendation above allow the implementation of ITS schemes included in the 2016/17 programme of highway works.</i></p>

1. UPDATE

2016/17 Programme of works and expenditure

- 1.1 **Annex 1** shows the programme of works and operations agreed by the committee at the meetings of December 2015 and March 2016.
- 1.2 As in previous years ITS schemes will be installed between October and March.
- 1.3 Due to late design starts, and in one case common land considerations, it is expected that 4 ITS schemes will roll forward to 2017/18. The combined value of these schemes is approximately 100,000 and SCC finance will be asked to carry this value forward to 2017/18.
- 1.4 The agreed programme requires the capitalisation of some of the revenue budget and the committee is asked to formally agree to this.

Lengsthman Scheme

- 1.5 Bids for funding in 2016/17 had been submitted by four organisations by the end of February:-

Ash PC	£7,400
Shere PC	£7,854
Worplesdon PC	<u>£5,500</u>

Total £20,754

- 1.6 Area team officers have scrutinised the bids, are satisfied they fall within the remit of the scheme, and authorised the transfer of funding.

1.7 Guildford High Street Setts

- 1.8 Works commenced on Wednesday 3 February and were completed in early August.
- 1.9 In mid-August the carriageway was jet-washed over two nights to eradicate as far as practicable the residue of the old yellow lines and bring out the colours of the setts.
- 1.10 An experimental traffic regulation order has been introduced which imposes the following restrictions on waiting throughout the length of the pedestrian zone.

Monday to Saturday	8.30am to 6pm
Sunday	11.30am to 6pm

- 1.11 This uniform set of restrictions, which previously applied to the majority of the High Street, are displayed on the zone entry sign at the bottom gate and repeater plates at intervals along the length of the road.
- 1.12 With such uniform restrictions it is not necessary to install yellow lines.
- 1.13 Previously within the High Street there were lengths of 'no waiting at any time' and 'no loading at any time', for instance at the single lane sections at the top and bottom of the road.
- 1.14 These more stringent restrictions no longer exist. It was expected that drivers would park responsibly and not cause obstruction, for instance by parking in the single lane sections at the times when parking is permitted. This has proved to be the case and the Guildford parking team report there have been no problems with irresponsible parking. If problems do arise orders for double yellow lines can be promoted, but to be enforceable the lines themselves would have to be installed.
- 1.15 The experimental traffic order was supported by the committee chair and vice chair, as well as local borough and county members. It was authorised by the portfolio holder for transport, John Furey. Experimental orders are advertised, made and introduced without advance opportunity for objections. Rather once installed any comments received are recorded and considered when the order is reviewed after one year, at which point a decision is made on whether or not to make the order permanent. To date no comments have been received.
- 1.16 The committee is asked to formally endorse the experimental order.
- 1.17 The Area Highway Manager is sure the committee would like to record their appreciation to all those who participated in the delivery of the High Street setts project, recognise the undoubted skill and workmanship of the men who carried out the work, and extend the committee's thanks to them.

New Central Five Year Structures and Drainage Programmes

- 1.18 Annex 2 has been provided by the Asset Management Group and sets out how 5 year forward capital programmes for both structures (bridges) and drainage works which are currently under development and will be launched in April 2017.
- 1.19 The provisional programmes for structures and drainage will be issued at the end of October. Members are encouraged to get in touch with officers by 30th September if they wish to make suggestions regarding structures with heritage or local community importance or have any updates to provide on the wetspots list, which can be found on the County Council website (enter wetspot in search box). There will be further opportunities for members to help shape subsequent years of the programme.
- 1.20 Asset Management Group contacts are Daniel Robinson for structures and Owen Lee for drainage.

Customer Enquiries and Reactive Repairs

1.21 The total number of enquiries received between January and June 2016 is 84589, an average of 14098 per month. This is consistent with the first quarter but 30% higher than the same period in 2015.

1.22 For Guildford specifically, 10261 enquiries have been received since January of which 4015 (39%) were directed to the local area office for action, of these 97% have been resolved. This response rate is above the countywide average of 92%.

1.23 For the first half of 2016, Highways received 216 Stage 1 complaints of which 31 were for the Guildford area. These mainly concerned communication and service delivery. In addition 5 stage 2 complaints were received and the service was found to be at fault in one of these. One complaint was referred to the Local Government Ombudsman but she chose not to investigate as there was no case to answer.

1.24 For the first quarter, Highways received 90 stage 1 complaints of which 12 were for the Guildford area, these concerned resurfacing and lack of contact. In addition two Stage 2 complaints were received, the Service was not found to be at fault in either.

2. OPTIONS:

2.1 Officers seek to implement the most cost effective measures which meet scheme objectives.

3. CONSULTATIONS:

3.1 Appropriate consultation will be carried out for all schemes.

4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 Works will be carried out by SCC's term highways contractor, Keir, who won the term contract in a competitive tender process.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 None

6. LOCALISM:

6.1 Works and schemes are designed to improve and make safer the facilities for local communities in the borough.

6.2 The Lengthman initiative allows parish councils to undertake enhanced maintenance of the public highway.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 None

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

8.1 As set out in the body of the report.

9. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

9.1 Officers will continue to progress the programme of schemes agreed by the committee.

Contact Officer: John Hilder
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Consulted:
As described within the report

Annexes:

1. Highways budget and forecast expenditure for 2016/17
2. Five year drainage and structures programmes

Sources/background papers:

Local Committee for Guildford June 2016: Item 13 'Highways Update Report'

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