

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)****DATE:** 8 December 2016**LEAD OFFICER:** Kevin Ratnasingam, Transport Strategy Projects Manager, Surrey Heath**SUBJECT:** A30/ Camberley Town Centre Highway Improvements – Scheme Consultation**DIVISIONS:** All**SUMMARY OF ISSUES:**

This paper is to update the Local Area Committee on the business case for the A30/ Camberley Town Centre Highway Improvements. The business case submission to the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership is currently scheduled for submission in the summer of 2017. The current work programme has been built around this deadline.

The proposals will require a public consultation which has been arranged for an 8 week period commencing in January 2017 and ending in March 2017 to fit in with the timescale for submission of the business case.

RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Area Committee (Surrey Heath) is asked to:**

- (i) Note the project content.
- (ii) Approve the project to be the subject of an 8-week consultation period commencing in January 2017 and ending in March 2017.
- (iii) Delegate authority to the Area Highways Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Electoral Division Members covered by the project and the Transport Policy Project Manager to agree the consultation material.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To ensure that the Local Area Committee is kept informed, the Local Area Committee is asked to note the progress made so far with the A30/ Camberley Town Centre Highway Improvements.

An eight week consultation period has been arranged to enable the results of the consultation to be presented to a future meeting of this committee to enable work to continue on producing the business case to the LEP in the summer of 2017.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The Local Committee received an update on work to consider the A30 and town centre highway improvements required to support the wider plans for Camberley as a LEP step-up town in December 2015. The report set out the scope of work to develop options as the basis for further detailed work required to develop a business case.
- 1.2 Surrey County Council plan to submit a Transport Business Case to Enterprise M3 in the summer of 2017 to implement highways and accessibility improvement scheme/s at the study corridor. This will require the submission of a compliant Business Case to Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership (EM3 LEP) so that funding of up to £5m can be secured for this scheme.
- 1.3 Surrey County Council has appointed consultants to assist with the development and testing of options, producing design and recommendations to achieve this aim.
- 1.4 This scheme forms part of a package of measures of improvements along the A30 and main roads at Camberley to improve accessibility to Camberley town centre, and complements the Access Strategy of the Town Centre Area Action Plan and A331 Cycle lane/A30 Meadows gyratory improvements. It will enable improvements to take place along the A30 and specially assist in delivering the regeneration of the London Road Block.
- 1.5 The highway and junction improvements will include the following highway sections:
 - A30 London Rd between Knoll Rd and Laundry Lane
 - Knoll Road
 - Portesbery Road/Southwell Park Road
 - Charles Street
- 1.6 The Local Committee was briefed on this project at the 10th December 2015 meeting. Subsequent meetings have been held with the Surrey Heath Major Projects Task Group on 24th June 2016, 31st August 2016 and 24th Nov 2016. Surrey Heath Major Project Task Group members attended an Options Workshop on 14th September 2016.

2. ANALYSIS:

A30/ Camberley Town Centre Highway Improvements

Strategic Objective:

- 2.1 As identified within the adopted Camberley Town Centre Area Action Plan (July 2014), improvements to the highway around Camberley Town Centre are required to help facilitate the creation of 200 new homes and 41,000sqm of retail floor space within the town centre, with an additional 660 homes planned within the wider area by 2028.
- 2.2 The delivery of this project (The Camberley Town Centre Highway Improvements) is recognised by EM3 LEP as a key component of the overall

infrastructure improvements for the town, assisting Surrey Heath Borough Council with the delivery of the vision for Camberley Town Centre and to meet the LEP recognition of Camberley as a Step-Up town.

Scheme Objectives:

- 2.3 In support of Camberley as a EM3 LEP 'step up' town, the objectives for the Camberley Town Centre Highway improvements are to:
1. Reduce peak hour delay along the A30 for all traffic movements, when compared with the non-intervention scenario.
 2. Encourage the uptake of cycling and walking to the town centre through enhancements in the accessibility, with specific consideration for people with disabilities.
 3. Enhance the quality of facilities at Camberley Town Centre's public transport interchange, improving public and sustainable modes of transport and increasing the use of other modes of travel..
 4. Identify suitable transport solutions to address known issues and support economic activity on the A30 and Camberley Town Centre
 5. Encourage sustainable travel (walking, cycling, bus and rail) to Camberley Town Centre
 6. Improve the overall accessibility and safety for all road users to and within Camberley Town Centre and the A30
 7. Improve the general quality of the public realm – link to Camberley Public Realm Improvements
 8. Review the existing A30 bus lane
 9. Investigate, as an additional scope, the benefits of the Bracebridge link as part of the business case
- 2.4 The project is at an early stage of development. Annex A provides an overview of the project corridor.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 As the project is at an early stage of development, options will be considered during the design process and be put forward for the public consultation.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 The proposals will require a public consultation which has been arranged for an 8 week period commencing in January 2017 and ending in March 2017 to fit in with the timescale for submission of the business case.
- 4.2 The consultation will be undertaken online through the Surrey County Council website with a web-link from the Surrey Heath Borough Council website, with leaflets available at locations within project improvement area. The questionnaire will be available for completion online and paper copies will be

available from Surrey County Council and Surrey Heath Borough Council offices, public libraries and during the exhibition.

4.3 The exhibition on the consultation is planned at:

- The Mall, Camberley (on 2 days, dates to be confirmed)
- Tesco, Meadows (on 2 days, dates to be confirmed)
- Lightwater Library (on 1 day, date to be confirmed)
- Frimley Green Library (on 1 day, date to be confirmed)

4.4 Information on progress on the A331 Cycle Route Scheme and Meadows Gyratory will also be displayed at the exhibitions.

4.5 It is anticipated that the feedback from the consultation will be presented to a future Local Committee meeting.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The business case will be seeking funding up to a maximum of £5 million requiring a 25% local contribution.

5.2 The County Council and Borough Council will be working in partnership to deliver these improvements once funding is secured.

5.3 Existing work to produce the business case is funded through Surrey County Council funding.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 It is the objective to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA's) will be carried out for each Major / Sustainable Transport scheme before scheme delivery.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The headline benefits would support of the vision of Camberley as a EM3 LEP 'step up' town and achievement of the County Council's objectives to:

- Reduce peak hour delay along the A30 for all traffic movements, when compared with the non-intervention scenario.
- Encourage the uptake of cycling and walking to the town centre through enhancements in the accessibility, with specific consideration for people with disabilities.
- Enhance the quality of facilities at Camberley Town Centre's public transport interchange, improving public and sustainable modes of transport and increasing the use of other modes of travel.
- Identify suitable transport solutions to address identified issues and support economic activity on the A30 and Camberley Town Centre

- Encourage sustainable travel (walking, cycling, bus and rail) to Camberley Town Centre
- Improve the overall accessibility and safety for all road users to and within Camberley Town Centre and the A30
- Improve the general quality of the public realm – link to Camberley Public Realm Improvements
- Review the existing A30 bus lane
- Investigate, as an additional scope, the benefits of constructing the Bracebridge link, to areas as part of the business case.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Improve access to Camberley Station and bus stops and reduce the fear of crime and disorder.
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 and Public Health implications

Increased walking and cycling, where it replaces motorised forms of transport such as the car, will improve air quality and reduce carbon emission levels, which is a key objective of the Surrey LTP. Passenger transport and modal shift from the car to buses/rail are a further key objective of the Surrey LTP.

Transport is responsible for one third of carbon emission in Surrey. Surrey's Local Transport Plan has a target to reduce carbon emissions from (non-motorway) transport by 10% (absolute emissions) by 2020, increasing to 25% reduction by 2035 from 2007 baseline of 2,114k tonnes.

Increased walking and cycling has a positive impact on personal health. The National Health Service identifies cycling as an activity which provides significant health benefits. The emerging Surrey Health and Well-being Strategy has identified obesity as one of the priority public health challenges.

The project, including the improved walking and cycling facilities, will be marketed together with bus service marketing in partnership with commercial bus operators to residents and businesses and cycle training will be offered to those less confident of cycling to encourage take up and to maximise the benefits of the new infrastructure.

It could be that increased levels of walking cycling and bus usage to and around the area will have a positive effect on the local retail economy as some recent studies suggesting that these groups actually spend more in a town than passing motorists.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 Options for the proposed highway improvements have been identified and are currently under further investigations.
- 9.2 The current plan is for the business case to be submitted to the EM3 LEP in the summer of 2017. Surrey County Council in partnership with Surrey Heath Borough Council intend to carry out a consultation for a period of 8 weeks, commencing in January 2017 and ending in March 2017, and the Local Committee is requested to approve, to enable this engagement to take place.
- 9.3 The Local Committee is asked to note the progress made so far with the business case for the A30/Camberley Town Centre Highway Improvements.
- 9.4 To enable the project materials to be ready for consultation period the Local Committee is asked to delegate authority to the Area Highways Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Electoral Division Members covered by the project and the Transport Policy Project Manager.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Subject to the approval of this Local Committee, a public consultation will be carried out for an 8 week period (commencing from January 2017 and ending in March 2017), and the results will be presented to the Local Committee at a future meeting.
- 10.2 Work on developing the business case will continue in order to produce the business case to the EM3 LEP in the summer of 2017.

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Consulted

Surrey County Council officers: Lyndon Mendes, David Stempffer, Paul Millin, Lesley Harding
Surrey Heath Borough Council officers: Jane Ireland and Jenny Rickard
SHBC Major Projects Task Group 24th November 2016.

Annex:

Annex A – Project Area

Sources/background papers: