

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

DATE: 13 MARCH 2019



LEAD OFFICER: STACEY CAPEWELL, TRANSPORT STRATEGY PROJECT MANAGER (JOINT POST SCC & MVDC)

SUBJECT: MOLE VALLEY LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY FORWARD PROGRAMME UPDATE

DIVISION: ALL

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Agreeing priorities and securing funding for transport infrastructure investment is key to delivering Surrey County Council's Community Vision for Surrey in 2030.

To facilitate this, and as part of the statutory Local Transport Plan, Surrey County Council produces Local Transport Strategies for each district and borough. The current Local Transport Strategy for Mole Valley was published in 2014. It is expected that the next update will take place in 2020/21 in line with the Future Mole Valley Local Plan, so that it may respond to transport requirements which support Local Plan growth. Thereafter the Local Transport Strategy would be reviewed on a three year cycle.

Surrey County Council also maintains Forward Programmes of proposed transport schemes that would deliver each borough and district's Local Transport Strategy, subject to funding and feasibility. The Mole Valley Forward Programme is presented to Committee for approval, and approval to publish online, as part of a proposed new regime of publishing an up-to-date Forward Programme for each district and borough annually.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to note:

- (i) The timeframes and approach for updating the District's Local Transport Strategy and for future updates to the Committee regarding the Forward Programme.

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to agree:

- (ii) The revised version of the Forward Programme (Annex 1)

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- i. A confirmed timeline and process for working with the Local Committee to develop and maintain future Local Transport Strategies and Forward Programmes will ensure the Local Committee and officers are well positioned to work together.
- ii. An agreed Forward Programme will allow Members and officers to progress with a common understanding of proposed transport schemes for the district

ITEM 8

(based upon the existing Local Transport Strategy, and ahead of decisions relating to a new Local Plan).

- iii. If agreed, the Forward Programme would be published online, giving members of the public sight of the latest proposals and progress.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

Local Transport Strategy

- 1.1 Local Transport Strategies are part of a set of documents that together form Surrey's statutory Local Transport Plan. Strategic transport authorities, of which Surrey County Council is one, are obliged to produce the Local Transport Plan by the Transport Act 2000. A Local Transport Strategy has been, or will be, produced for each district or borough within Surrey.
- 1.2 In common with other boroughs and districts in Surrey, the purpose of Mole Valley's Local Transport Strategy (LTS) is to set out how Surrey County Council will work with Mole Valley District Council and other partners to:
 - i. overcome known, strategic issues with the district's local transport network;
 - ii. deliver transport infrastructure in support of Surrey County Council's Community Vision for 2030; and
 - iii. develop this network, where necessary, in support of growth set out in the Local Plan. (The next LTS update will be written in line with the Future Mole Valley Local Plan.)

In this respect they differ from Infrastructure Delivery Plans and Community Infrastructure Levy Regulation 123 lists, which only consider item (iii) above. Nevertheless, there will be a high degree of coordination between Local Transport Strategies, Infrastructure Delivery Plans and Regulation 123 lists to ensure joined-up action in support of the new Local Plan.

- 1.3 The strategy is needed in order:
 - i. to prioritise and coordinate investment in transport infrastructure, including Community Infrastructure Levy funding; and
 - ii. to place Surrey County Council in the best possible position to bid for external funding for projects, for instance through Local Enterprise Partnerships and the DfT.

Forward Programme

- 1.4 Surrey County Council also maintains Forward Programmes of proposed transport schemes that would deliver each borough and district's Local Transport Strategy, subject to funding and feasibility.
- 1.5 Forward Programmes are maintained as 'living' documents that track the latest position for each proposed scheme as it is developed.
- 1.6 A revised Forward Programme, for approval subject to comments and amendments today, is included as Annex 1.

2. ANALYSIS:

Updating the Local Transport Strategy

- 2.1 The current Mole Valley Local Transport Strategy was published in 2014. In due course it will need updating as information within it becomes dated; it is noted too that there are likely to be transport infrastructure requirements arising from the Future Mole Valley Local Plan. As a result, the next update to the Local Transport Strategy will be undertaken alongside the new Local Plan; this is understood to be in 2021.
- 2.2 Surrey County Council Transport Policy officers are working with Mole Valley's Planning Policy officers during the development of the Local Plan. This is to assist in identifying opportunities for the Local Plan and the Surrey Transport Strategy to be mutually supportive and to identify opportunities to minimise avoidable adverse effects on the transport network through the Local Plan itself. Where there is a residual, cumulative impact of development the Local Transport Strategy will document options for mitigation.
- 2.3 The Local Committee would have an opportunity to comment upon a draft strategy whilst it is in development, and would be asked to approve a proposed strategy prior to a public consultation exercise being undertaken. The strategy would subsequently be amended based upon consultation feedback prior to approval by the Local Committee and ultimately Surrey County Council Cabinet, for adoption into the county's Local Transport Plan.
- 2.4 Once the Local Transport Strategy is adopted, Surrey County Council expects to review each Local Transport Strategy on a three year cycle, to ensure they remain focussed on the most pressing local priorities and take account of new developments.

Annual review of Forward Programme

- 2.5 A revised version of the previous 2014 Forward Programme is included with this report for approval by Local Committee. The draft Forward Programme update was presented to the Informal Local Committee on 6th February 2019 where any comments were requested in advance of today's committee. Comments on the contents of the Forward Programme are still welcomed from the Local Committee prior to publication.
- 2.6 If approved, the Forward Programme will be published on the Surrey County Council website, giving members of the public sight of the latest proposals and progress.
- 2.7 It is proposed that a copy of the Forward Programme will now be shared with the Local Committee annually ongoing as part of the Highway Update. This will give Local Committee improved sight of transport proposals as they are developed, and offer a periodic opportunity to discuss the programme. The full LTS update will follow more formal procedures as outlined.
- 2.8 It should be noted that the Forward Programme offers an overview of schemes that are currently known to be required; the development of the Local Plan in the coming months will no doubt see new schemes added, changes to existing schemes and some schemes re-prioritised or removed.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 If the revised Forward Programme is not approved, with or without comments and amendments from the Local Committee, a new Forward Programme would need to be developed. In the interim, officers would not have an agreed

ITEM 8

programme to work with, and this could limit Surrey County Council's ability to prioritise and coordinate transport investment and apply for funding for Mole Valley. Given that the Local Plan is still being formulated, there is a risk that schemes could be developed or implemented that conflict with Local Plan requirements and preclude development if impacts cannot be suitably mitigated. Third party funding, unlocking private sector funding and Community Infrastructure Levy are increasingly important to fund schemes. The Forward Programme is needed to ensure officers can progress with business case feasibility without needing to seek additional approvals. Business cases can be very complex and usually offer small windows of opportunity. The Forward Programme also offers an opportunity to show that Surrey County Council provide support to schemes that may well be led by Mole Valley District Council and other key stakeholders.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 A public consultation was undertaken on the 2014 Local Transport Strategy, which also informed the development of the Forward Programme that is presented.
- 4.2 The revised Forward Programme has been comprehensively reviewed with input from officers from Surrey County Council's Highways, Transport and Environment directorate and officers from public health.
- 4.3 Local Committee members were presented with a draft Forward Programme at the Informal Committee on 6th February 2019 for comment.
- 4.4 A public consultation would be undertaken on any future Local Transport Strategy, as outlined in paragraph 2.3.
- 4.5 Publishing the Forward Programme online will give members of the public sight of the latest proposals and progress.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 There is no new cost associated with the approval of the Forward Programme. Individual schemes within the programme would be subject to their own approval process. An indication is given within the Forward Programme of expected costs (where these are available) and the status of each scheme, including whether or not funding has already been approved. High level funding figures provide officers with an overview of the cost of a scheme to ensure the correct schemes are proposed for the various funding pots that become available.
- 5.2 Except where explicitly listed, schemes within the revised Forward Programme do not have funding allocated.
- 5.3 The Forward Programme can provide Surrey County Council with an initial evidence base for potentially obtaining CIL funding in lieu of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and 123 list which will be developed as part of the Future Mole Valley Local Plan. Mole Valley District Council are still deciding on the best approach for distributing the CIL funding.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 We would seek to ensure that there are no equalities and diversity implications arising from the Forward Programme. The programme is a list of proposed

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schemes, all of which would be subject to an individual Equalities Impact Assessment as part of the scheme's development.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 There are no localism implications arising from the Forward Programme itself, which lists potential schemes throughout the District of Mole Valley. The programme is a list of proposed schemes, each of which would be subject to its own approval process that will consider which communities would be involved, the impacts and ways in which the decision encourages local self-reliance.

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 revised Forward Programme includes schemes that would promote and enhance sustainable travel options.

8.2 Public Health implications

The revised Forward Programme includes schemes that would promote and enhance active travel options and improve local air quality.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 The Mole Valley Local Transport Strategy will next be updated following submission of the Future Mole Valley Local Plan. This will ensure that the next Local Transport Strategy is developed with an understanding of any potential cumulative impacts of planned development, as part of the duty to co-operate. Transport Policy officers will work with Mole Valley planning policy officers during the development of the Local Plan.
- 9.2 It is recommended that the revised Forward Programme is approved, subject to any comments and amendments from the Local Committee.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Transport Policy officers will work with Mole Valley planning policy officers during the development of the Future Mole Valley Local Plan, with regards to transport infrastructure, the impact of new development, and opportunities to mitigate the impact of proposed development on transport infrastructure within the Local Plan itself.

ITEM 8

- 10.2 Transport Policy officers will develop a new Local Transport Strategy for Mole Valley in line with the Future Mole Valley Local Plan, which considers options to address known, strategic issues on the District's local transport network; deliver transport infrastructure in support of Surrey County Council's Community Vision for 2030; and enhance the local network, where necessary, in support of growth set out in the emerging Local Plan.
- 10.3 The approved Forward Programme will be used to prioritise and coordinate local transport schemes. An electronic version will be made available on the Surrey County Council website. The next Forward Programme will be produced to reflect the new Local Transport Strategy. Subsequently, the Local Committee will receive updated copies of the Forward Programme annually, as part of Highways Updates.

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Consulted:

Informal Local Committee (6th February 2019)
Officers from Surrey County Council's Highways, Transport and Environment
directorates and public health.
Mole Valley Officers Planning Policy, Transform Leatherhead team.

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Revised Forward Programme

Sources/background papers:

- Mole Valley Local Transport Strategy (2014). Available online at https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/30240/Mole-Valley-LTS-September-2014-main-document.pdf