

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

DATE: 28 JUNE 2019

LEAD OFFICER: FRANK APICELLA – AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER (SW)

SUBJECT: HIGHWAYS UPDATE

AREA(S) AFFECTED: ALL DIVISIONS IN WAVERLEY

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

This report provides an update on the 2019/20 programme of highway works funded by this committee, an update on other centrally funded projects being promoted in the local area, as well as details of expenditure on the budgets allocated to the committee in 2019/20.

RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked:**

- (i) To note the committee approved allocations and works being progressed during 2019/20.
- (ii) To approve the commencement of the statutory consultation to enable a bus stop clearway together with associated signing and road markings, to be introduced to the southbound bus stop on Petworth Road, Wormley (section 2.8.6 to 2.8.9 of the report).

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The committee is asked to agree the recommendations to enable progression of works orders and expenditure of the Committee budget during 2019/20.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Surrey County Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) aims to improve the highway network for all users. In general terms it aims to reduce congestion, improve accessibility, reduce the frequency and severity of road casualties, improve the environment, and maintain the network so that it is safe for public use.

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- 1.2 The Local Committee for Waverley has an annual delegated highways budget with which to implement measures that contribute towards the objectives set out in Surrey County Council's LTP, according to local priorities.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1 Highway Budget

2019/20 Highway Budget

- 2.1.1 Surrey County Council, along with many other councils across the UK, faces unprecedented financial challenges. The County Council have to find £250m to close the funding gap over the next 3 years.
- 2.1.2 As detailed in the March Highways Update, County Councillors have been allocated a Revenue Highway Fund of £7,500 per member for 2019/20.
- 2.1.3 The Waverley local Committee has also been allocated a share of the £2m county capital maintenance fund to be devolved locally.

Available Highway Budget 2019/20

- 2.1.4 In summary the Committee budget is as detailed in the table below:-

Committee Budget 2019/20	Amount
Capital maintenance	£200,000
Revenue maintenance	£0
Revenue Highway Fund (9 x £7.5k)	£67,500
Parking surplus (15% top slice of £562k) {equally by 9 members £9366 each}	£84,300

- 2.1.5 £5000 of the Capital fund was allocated for the provision of new signs and lines throughout the year, to be administered by the Local Team.
- 2.1.6 At the March Committee, all nine members agreed to allocate £5k from their £7.5k Highway fund, to secure a vegetation gang resource to carry out local revenue maintenance works administered by the Local Team.
- 2.1.7 Additionally the 15% top slice of the Committee parking surplus account of circa £562,000, figure of £84,300, was also agreed to be equally split between the nine divisional members.
- 2.1.8 This does not have to be expended in the financial year but must be spent according to section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1984/27/section/55>). Expenditure can cover all types of highway improvement and maintenance.
- 2.1.9 Individual member's allocation is summarised in the table below and detailed at Annex 2:-

Member Budget 2019/20	Amount
Capital maintenance	£21,666
Revenue maintenance	£0
Revenue Highway Fund (£5000 from £7500 allocated to revenue maintenance)	£2,500
Parking surplus	£9,366

Parking

2.1.10 The report on the outcome of the 2018 review was presented to the local committee on 14 December 2108. The agreed proposals were advertised on 29 March 2019 with a closing date for objections of 26 April 2019. The comments and objections are now being collated and analysed prior to sharing with members.

Property Infrastructure Contribution (PIC)

2.1.11 All PIC expenditure is subject to approval by SCC Transport Development Planning (TDP) officers, and that a PIC spending plan and bidding process is carried out by various groups within SCC, such as Countryside Rights of Way team, Passenger Transport group, Major Schemes group for match funding for larger projects, as well as Highways improvement projects.

2.1.12 The Planning Authority are in the last tranche of collecting PIC funding ahead of the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), so these amounts will diminish as they are drawn down.

2.1.13 TDP have advised that the following details the remaining approved contributions allocated through the bidding process to this Committee for highway schemes. These funds are not time limited and do not need to be expended this year.

Ward	Amount
Cranleigh West	£7,330
Godalming Central & Ockford	£826
Godalming Holloway	£12,830
Hindhead	£ 3,492
Shamley Green & Cranleigh North	£ 5,358
Witley & Hambledon	£ 7,235

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S106 agreements

- 2.1.16 Section 106 monies are also collected by the planning authority, however these funds are normally very specific on how they are expended as it is normal for these to be agreed upfront as part of the planning process and would form part of the conditions. It is important to note that these amounts do not constitute available funds in the same way as PIC.
- 2.1.17 Annexes 3,4,5 & 6 detail the agreements related to the various developments across the Waverley area, complete with the various amounts agreed and the details of the intended expenditure.

Community Infrastructure Levy CIL

- 2.1.18 Waverley Borough Council commenced collecting CIL on 1st March 2019.
- 2.1.19 All s106 agreements will effectively cease in Waverley, with the exception of any large strategic sites where a site specific s106 will still be required.

2.2 Programme of Works 2019/20

Capital

- 2.2.1 At the informal meeting held on the 8th February 2019, members of this Committee were advised of the £200,000 capital maintenance allocation and given options on how to expend this budget.
- 2.2.2 It was recommended that the Committee resolve to approve the following:
- Allocate £5,000 to continued provision of new signs and lines.
 - Divide the remaining £195,000, nine ways to provide each divisional member with a capital allocation of £21,666.
- 2.2.3 The committee running list of Local Transport Plan (LTP) schemes is attached at Annex 1.

Revenue

- 2.2.4 At the informal meeting held on the 8th February 2019, members of this Committee were also advised that there would not be a revenue maintenance budget for 2019/20, however there would be a £67,500 revenue Highway Fund.
- 2.2.5 It was further recommended that the Committee resolve to approve the following:
- Allocate £45,000 from the £67,500 Highway fund (£5000 per member) to be used to buy in a Community Gang, as in 17/18, to enable these eminently worthwhile maintenance issues to be carried out. Members would have direct control on the input of the works list to the Maintenance Engineer.
- 2.2.6 Meetings between each Divisional member and the area teams were carried out last year, and it was felt that these were very useful, accordingly are being replicated again this year.

Other highway related matters

2.3 Customer services

- 2.3.1 Highways & Transport received 34,644 enquiries and reports during the first quarter of 2019, an average of 11,548 per month, this is a significant decrease from the same period last year which averaged 15,119 per month, mainly due to the milder winter.
- 2.3.2 For Waverley specifically, 4,804 enquiries have been received of which 2,029 were directed to the local area office for action, 96% of these have been resolved. This response rate is slightly above the countywide average of 95%.
- 2.3.3 Between January and March, Highways received 62 stage 1 complaints of which 9 were for the Waverley area. No complaints were escalated to stage 2 or the Ombudsman

2.4 Winter Service

- 2.4.1 The Cold Weather Plan sets out the Winter Service for treating the highway in order to prevent ice from forming (precautionary salting), to melt ice and snow that has already formed (post salting), and removal of snow in a snow event.
- 2.4.2 As in previous years, members will be sent an electronic copy of the 2019-20 Cold Weather Plan along with links to revised 2018-19 gritting routes prior the commencement of the Winter Season.
- 2.4.3 County Councillors can request and pay for new grit bins, or extension of use of an existing grit bin, by contacting the Maintenance Engineer, who will advise.

2.5 Street Lighting

- 2.5.1 A trial of LED lighting units is being carried out in Kingfisher Drive, Merrow, to demonstrate the difference in intensity and colour.

2.6 Major schemes

- 2.6.1 There was no update at the time of writing this report.

2.7 Centrally funded maintenance

Horizon 2

- 2.7.1 Horizon 2 is the name given to the Council's Asset Management Programme for the period 2017 – 2021. The programme of works to be delivered for Waverley has been revised since the last Committee meeting and can be found on the website at :-

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/horizon-highway-maintenance-investment-programme>

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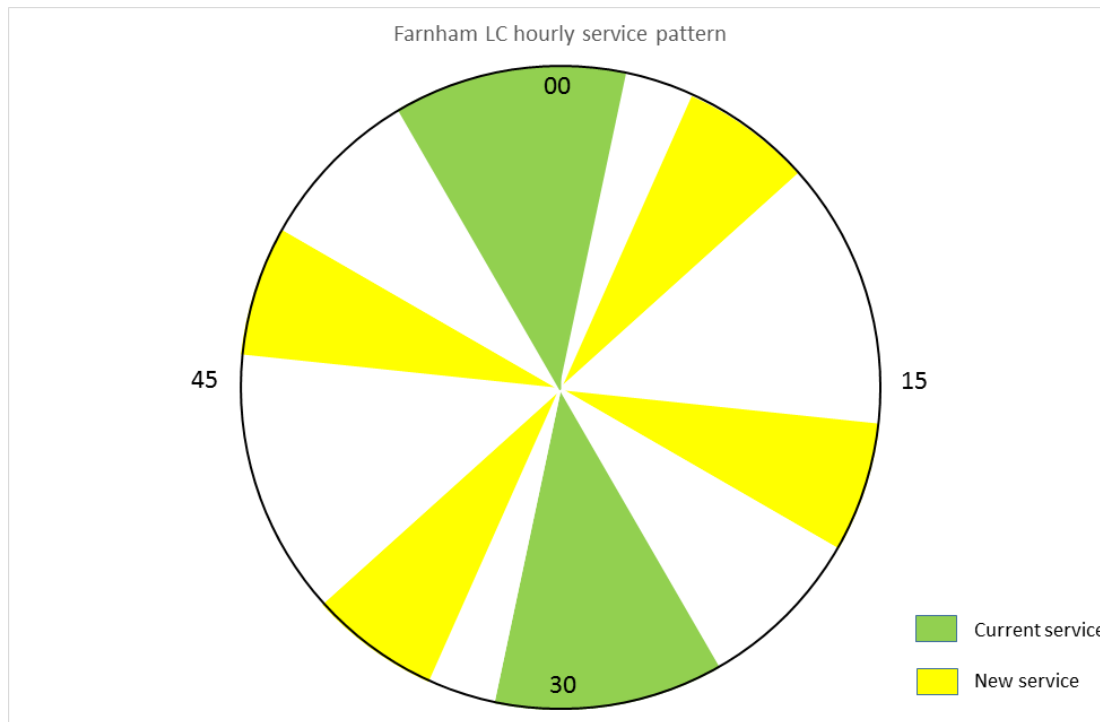
Additional £5m – Winter damage programme

- 2.7.2 The focus for this has been on the Surrey Priority Network SPN 2 & 3 (essentially B & C roads) and the list of schemes identified for this funding is currently being delivered.
- 2.7.3 This programme of works is ongoing, however this is obviously subject to any clashes with other programmed highway work that is also occurring on around the network and our ability to permit network space.
- 2.7.4 In addition to the £5m being invested during 2018/19, the cabinet approved on the 29th May 2018 to a further investment during 2018/19 of £7m followed by a further £8m in 2019/20 to improve the condition of the highways network.

2.8 Passenger Transport

Farnham Railway Station

- 2.8.1 On 19 May 2019, South Western Railway (SWR) introduced changes to its timetable, adding over 300 train services per week across the network. Many of these service enhancements are based on consultations that were undertaken with stakeholders.
- 2.8.2 The introduction of these additional services is clearly welcomed in principle. Indeed they meet certain needs identified in our own Rail Strategy.
- 2.8.3 However, in our consultation response to the proposed changes the council highlighted the need for the rail industry to consider the impact of level crossing down time at key locations. It is vital that the potential impact on traffic flows at key level crossing is understood and mitigated, if the new timetable results in additional barrier down time, particularly in the a.m. and p.m. peak periods. Farnham was cited as a specific example, as our own assessment in 2018 showed that the timetable changes could result in the level crossing barriers being closed for up to twice as long.
- 2.8.4 At a recent meeting with Network the potential additional down time was discussed. This is summarised in the clock face graphic below. This graphic for an operating hour shows the new service in yellow added to the current services in green and the minutes the barriers will be down and the crossing closed to vehicular traffic for existing and new services. The additional trains add more downtime at times that the crossing is currently open. Overall it is pushing the downtime from 14 minutes in the hour to 30 minutes in the hour. The timing of the new services offers no potential overlap at Farnham, which could have reduced the down time.



2.8.5 Diversion routes avoiding Farnham level crossing are very limited locally. Mitigation discussions are on-going with Network Rail, including the potential for localised signing asking motorists to switch off vehicle engines whilst waiting at the crossing. The rail industry agreed to provide local information to residents explaining what is happening.

Bus Stop - Petworth Road, Wormley

- 2.8.6 The existing southbound located on Petworth Road, Wormley, outside the post office and opposite the junction with Gurdon's Lane, is currently served by Stagecoach services 71, 471 and PT3. Buses are currently unable to access the stop due to parked vehicles in the bus layby. As part of an investigation into this, Stagecoach have also confirmed that this is an operational issue for them.
- 2.8.7 It is important that buses are able to access stops to provide step-free access, to ensure that all passengers are able to safely board and alight, especially those with mobility issues, wheelchair users or those with push chairs. Where there is unrestricted parking, this is not possible and buses are prevented from drawing level with the kerb.
- 2.8.8 It is proposed that the bus stop clearway will operate twenty four hours a day Monday to Sunday. This will also include providing a bus layby cage, to the current length of approximately 40m, with appropriate markings to the stop in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual – Chapter 5 Road Markings Diagram 1025.4.

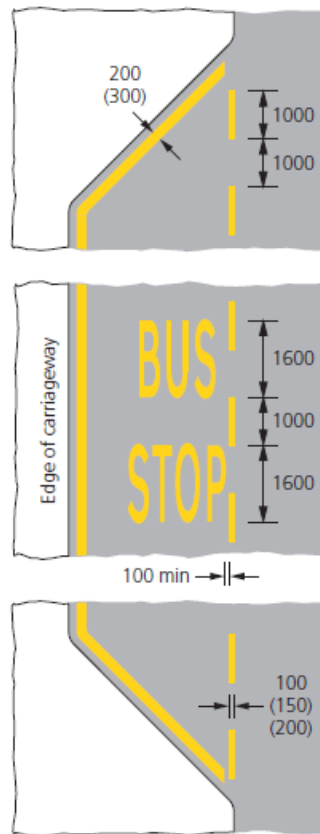


Diagram 1025.4

2.8.9 If approval is forthcoming from this Committee, a formal consultation will be carried out with affected frontages and feedback considered from respondents, ahead of a final decision by the Passenger Transport Team, to amend the bus stop.

2.9 Other key information, strategy and policy development

2.9.1 There was no update at the time of writing this report.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 Officers seek to implement the most cost effective measures which meet scheme objectives. Officers will revert to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Member, or indeed the Committee as appropriate, whenever preferred options need to be identified.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 None at this stage. Officers will consult the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Members as appropriate in the delivery of the programmes detailed above.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The financial implications of this paper are detailed in section 2 above

6. WIDER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder as well as improve peoples' perception of crime.
Equality and Diversity	It is an objective of Surrey Highways to take account of the needs of all users of the public highway.
Localism (including community involvement and impact)	The Local Committee prioritises its expenditure according to local priorities.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report.
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	No significant implications arising from this report.

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 7.1 This Financial Year's approved programmes are currently in the process of being processed as identified in Annex 2.

8. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 8.1 The Area Highway Manager will work with Divisional Members, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to deliver this Financial Year's approved programme of works.

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Consulted:

As detailed within the report.

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Committee revised running list of Local Transport Plan schemes

Annex 2 – Progress of Committee capital and revenue schemes 2018/19.

Annex 3 – s106 agreements Godalming, Milford, Witley

Annex 4 – s106 agreements Farnham

Annex 5 – s106 agreements Haselmere & Western Villages

Annex 6 – s106 agreements Cranleigh & Eastern Villages

Background papers:

Local Committee (Waverley) March 2019 Highways Update.