

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

WOKING JOINT COMMITTEE



DATE: 4 MARCH 2020

LEAD OFFICER: ANDREW MILNE, AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER

SUBJECT: HIGHWAYS UPDATE

AREA(S) AFFECTED: ALL

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

To report progress made with the delivery of proposed highways schemes, developer funded schemes, and revenue funded works for the 2019/20 financial year.

To provide an update on the latest budgetary position for highway schemes and revenue maintenance.

To agree the proposed capital works programme for 2020/21.

To report on relevant topical highways matters.

RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Committee is asked to:**

- (i) Note the progress with schemes and revenue funded works for the 2019/20 financial year.
- (ii) Note the budgetary position.
- (iii) Note that a further Highways Update will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.
- (iv) Agree the proposed capital works programme for 2020/21 shown in Table 2 in section 2.3 of this report.
- (v) Authorise the Area Highways Manager to undertake all necessary actions to deliver the capital works programme, consulting with the Chair, Vice Chair and Divisional Members where necessary.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The above recommendations are made to enable progression of all highway related schemes and works.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:
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- 1.1. Surrey County Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) states the aim of improving the highway network for all users, through measures such as reducing congestion, improving accessibility, reducing personal injury accidents, improving the environment and maintaining the highway network so that it is safe for all users.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1. Joint Committee finance

Capital budget 2019/20

- 2.1.1. The capital budget for the 2019/20 financial year is £177,778 (an increase of £141,415 from the 2018/19 capital allocation of £36,363).

Other funding sources 2019/20

- 2.1.2 In addition to the above capital budget there was some parking surplus available.
- 2.1.3 Surrey County Council Officers are currently working with Woking Borough Council Officers and relevant Local Members to identify opportunities for spending Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) moneys allocated to local Wards in delivering local highway schemes already identified on the Woking highway schemes list.

Capital Budget 2020/21

- 2.1.4 The Woking Joint Committee will receive a capital budget of £100,000 for the 2020/21 financial year for the delivery of ITS (highway improvement) schemes. This budget can also be used to support the delivery of capital maintenance projects, such as resurfacing.
- 2.1.5 In addition to this capital budget, approximately £105,000 parking surplus is available.
- 2.1.6 Each County Member will also receive £23,000 for capital maintenance projects.

2.2 Joint Committee capital works programme 2019/20.

- 2.2.1 The capital works programme is presented as a combined programme of both ITS and capital maintenance works in Table 1 to provide a clearer picture of works and budgets. This programme was formally approved by the Woking Committee at its public meeting held on 13 March 2019.

Scheme Name	Scheme type / Limits	Progress	Estimated cost (£)
ITS Westfield Road – speed reducing measures.	Design / Construct – traffic islands between Honeypots Road and Apers Avenue.	Construction commenced on 17 February.	40,000
ITS Bampton Way – pedestrian facility.	Design / Construct – enlarge existing	Constructed December 2019.	25,000

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	pedestrian refuge island adjacent to Goldsworth Park Centre.	Stage 3 Safety Audit to be carried out in March 2020.	
ITS Lock Lane – width restriction.	Design / Construct – Traffic Order and signs for width restriction at bridge over Wey Navigation at Pyrford Lock.	Traffic Order has been made and the necessary signs are being installed.	6,000
ITS A320 Egley Road – speed limit review.	Design / Construct – speed limit review between Turnoak Roundabout and Mayford Roundabout and including Guildford Road as far as Westfield Road.	The Traffic Regulation Order for the 30mph limit is being advertised.	12,000
Capital drainage.	Implementation / construction	Ongoing.	30,000
Signing / road markings / pedestrian dropped kerbs.	Implementation / construction	Ongoing.	10,000
LSR Goldsworth Road roundabout (Morrison's roundabout)	Carriageway maintenance – roundabout junction with Morrison's entrance.	Removed from LSR list – resurfacing needs to be a "major scheme"	-
LSR Westfield Road	Carriageway maintenance – either side of junction with Mayford Close	Completed.	40,500
LSR Havelock Cottages (Egley Road)	Carriageway maintenance – access road between Egley Road and cottages	Completed.	7,800
ITS - A320 Guildford Road junction with Mount Hermon Road and Hill View Road	Construction – junction improvements (potential for this to be delivered as part of the A320 Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) project from Victoria Arch, southwards.	Included in HIF project.	60,000
LSR Lincoln Drive, Pyrford	Carriageway maintenance – Old Woking Road to lamp column 2 (approx. 65m)	Contingency scheme.	43,000
LSR White Rose Lane	Carriageway maintenance – between Ashwood Road and Wendela Close.	Contingency scheme.	£48,000

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LSR Coniston Road, Old Woking	Carriageway maintenance – complete length, joint sealing, repair of defective concrete areas and micro-surfacing.	Contingency scheme.	£35,000
LSR Brewery Lane, Byfleet	Carriageway maintenance – between High Road and Eden Grove Road.	Contingency scheme.	£52,000
LSR Goldsworth Road roundabout (Parley Drive)	Carriageway maintenance – roundabout junction with Parley Drive.	Contingency scheme.	£38,000

Table 1 – 2019/20 Capital works programme

2.3 Joint Committee proposed capital works programme 2020/21

2.3.1 The proposed programme shown in Table 2 was informally discussed and agreed in principle during a private meeting of the Woking Joint Committee held on 12 February 2020.

2.3.2 All costs shown in Table 2 are estimated. Members will note that the total exceeds the capital budget and the excess is intended to be funded from the parking surplus. The list is presented in priority order and it is suggested that the Joint Committee adopt a flexible approach to the list so that as schemes develop, the programme can be adapted to the available budget.

Capital schemes list (ranking)	Estimated cost (£)
Maybury Hill speed reducing measures (Joint 2)	25,000
East Hill speed reducing measures (Joint 2)	25,000
Sopwith Drive pedestrian facilities (18)	30,000
Parley Drive pedestrian improvement scheme (31)	25,000
High Street Horsell 20mph limit (35 – Church Hill)	10,000
Sopwith Drive / Parvis Road cycle kerb revisions (not ranked)	40,000
Signs, lines and dropped kerbs, various (not ranked)	15,000
Support for capital maintenance schemes	35,000
Total	205,000

Table 2 – 2020/21 Member Highway Fund spend progress

2.3 County Member capital maintenance projects.

2.4.1 County Members have been provided with a list of proposed capital maintenance schemes in their division to be considered for funding with their £23,000 capital allocation.

2.4.2 Invariably, it will not be possible to form a programme of resurfacing schemes each of which will cost precisely £23,000. Therefore, it is proposed that a flexible approach is adopted such that small amounts of the capital budget will be used to “top up” the £23,000 allocation and, as mentioned in paragraph 2.3.2 above, the parking surplus is used to part-fund the ITS programme.

2.4 Member Highway Fund

2.4.1 Each County Councillor has a Member Highway Fund allocation of £7,500 for 2019/20.

2.4.2 The Maintenance Engineer for Woking will provide guidance and assistance, organise cost estimates, and raise orders to ensure delivery of works.

2.4.3 To ensure that this fund is effectively spent, and to enable highways contractors to deliver works before the end of the financial year, all works should be agreed by 31 October 2019.

2.4.4 In the event of no firm spending decisions being made, the Maintenance Engineer will determine suitable works and organise their delivery.

2.4.5 A summary of spend progress is shown in Table 3.

Member	Allocation (£)	Spend to date (£)
Amanda Boote	7,500	7,500
Will Forster	7,500	7,500
Colin Kemp	7,500	7,500
Liz Bowes	7,500	7,500
Saj Hussain	7,500	7,500
Ayesha Azad	7,500	7,500
Ben Carasco	7,500	7,500
Total	52,500	52,500 committed

Table 3 – 2019/20 Member Highway Fund spend progress

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2.5.6 It has been confirmed that Members will receive £7,500 allocation for 2020/21.

2.6 Parking

2.6.1 The report on the 2019 review was presented to the joint committee on 25 September and the proposals were formally advertised in on 17 January 2020, with a closing dates for comments and objections of 14 February.

Other highway related matters

2.7 Customer services

2.7.1 The total number of enquiries received in the calendar year 2019 is 126,399 an average of 10,533 per month, this represents a decrease of approximately 14% from the total received in 2018. This reflects the milder winter and the work that has taken place to improve the website and online reporting.

2.7.2 The decrease in defect reports is reflected in the balance of enquiries between SCC and Kier. All reports are categorised at the point of logging, either automatically through the website or by officers. Safety defects are directed to Kier with the remainder passed to the SCC local office for further investigation. During 2018 the average split was 47% SCC and 53% Kier, in 2019, because of the reduction in reports this has increased the proportion sent to SCC to 51%.

2.7.3 For Woking specifically, 6,641 enquiries were received between January and December of which 3,608 were directed to the local area office for action, of these 97% have been resolved. This is slightly above the countywide average of 96%.

2.7.4 Since January 2019, Highways & Transport have received 150 Stage 1 complaints. Sixty one were escalated to Stage 2, of which the Service has been found to be partially or fully at fault in 18 cases. In addition ten have been escalated to the Local Government Ombudsman, the Service was found to be partially at fault in one case.

2.8 Centrally funded maintenance

2.8.1 Table 4 below shows the Horizon 2 Woking **Roads** programme for 2019/20 showing the month during which the works are proposed.

Horizon 2 – 2019/20 Carriageway programme, Woking				
Road name	Location	Limits	Type of work	Status
A322 Bagshot Road	Woking	Heath House Road to The Fairway	Major Maintenance	Complete
A3046 Chobham Road	Horsell Common	Littlewick Road roundabout to	Surface Dressing	Complete

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		Surrey Heath boundary		
C12 Littlewick Road	Horsell Common	Carthouse Lane roundabout to A3046 Chobham Road	Surface Dressing	Removed due to unsuitability for programme
B380 Smarts Heath Road	Mayford	Saunders Lane to Smarts Heath Lane	Surface Dressing	Complete
D3746 Engliff Lane	Pyrford	Coldharbour Road to Bolton Lane	Surface Dressing	Complete

Table 4 - 2019/20 Horizon 2 Woking Roads Programme

2.8.2 Table 5 below shows the Horizon 2 Woking **Pavement (Footway)** programme for 2019/20.

Horizon 2 – 2019/20 Pavement (footway) programme, Woking				
Road name	Location	Limits	Type of work	Status
C141 Hook Heath Avenue	Woking	St Catherines Close to railway bridge	Footway Slurry	Completed – some snagging to be done.
D3673 Lambourne Crescent	Sheerwater	Albert Drive to just past Lockwood Path (both sides)	Footway Slurry	Completed.

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D3709 Heathside Road	Woking	White Rose Lane to Heathfield Road (south side only)	Footway Slurry	Completed.
D3766 Hart Road	Byfleet	Rectory Lane to St Mary's School (both sides)	Footway Slurry	Completed.

Table 5 - Horizon 2 Woking Pavement (Footway) Programme.

2.9 Gully cleansing

2.9.1 Surrey County Council maintain 13,270 gullies, and 40 soakaways in Woking. This is an important activity that reduces the likelihood of flooding on the public highway, and helps to keep roads and footways safe.

2.9.2 Not all assets are cleaned on an annual basis, as some require cleaning more frequently, and others less so, depending on local circumstances such as whether there are trees nearby, or the location is rural or urban.

2.9.3 Each year, the programme of cleaning is updated and optimised based on the condition the assets were found to be in when they were last visited. The programme is also adjusted to take into account local issues such as roads where access to assets is difficult due to parked cars and other obstructions.

2.9.4 For 2019/20, 10,442 gullies are due to be cleaned in Woking, and 22 soakaways.

2.9.5 As the cleaning programme is managed on a Countywide basis, cleans in Woking will take place throughout the course of the year. To date, 9,154 gullies and 8 soakaways have been treated.

2.10 Road safety

2.10.1 Table 6 below shows the Woking road safety programme for 2019/20 and the progress made in delivering the schemes.

Scheme Name	Detail	Update
A324 Brookwood Lye Road	Speed limit reduction from 60mph to 40mph	Completed.

Table 6 – 2019/20 Woking Road Safety Programme

2.11 Passenger Transport

Nothing to report.

2.12 LED street light conversion

2.12.1 Work has continued on the programme to roll out LED lighting for existing street lights across the county. The legal agreement between SCC and the Service Provider has taken longer than expected but is nearing conclusion. It is now expected that the programme to install the LED lighting will commence early in

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the Spring of 2020. Once the programme is complete it is expected that the Council will save 60% of its current energy costs for street lighting. Prior to rolling out the programme a successful pilot site has been running in Kingfisher Drive, Guildford since late 2018. This was expanded in the summer to test the robustness of the Communication Management System (CMS) that comes with this upgrade, which has also been successful.

2.13 Woking Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF)

2.13.1 At the Full Council meeting on 13 February 2020, Woking Borough's elected members approved the next stage of a £115 million highways enhancement scheme, which will be Woking's biggest infrastructure project to date.

2.13.2 Acceptance of a £95 million grant, offered by the Government and administered by Homes England, paves the way for the Council to complete the acquisition of the Triangle site on the south side of the town, deliver the significant improvements to the town centre's road network and widen the outdated Victoria Arch bridge by 2024.

2.13.3 In 2018, Woking Borough Council in partnership with Surrey County Council submitted a comprehensive funding bid to the Government's highly contested Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF), which finances a small number of strategic and high impact infrastructure schemes to unlock housing sites.

2.13.4 The decision to formally accept the HIF grant is the first step towards determining official working arrangements with government agency, Homes England, and triggers the start of detailed negotiations to finalise the grant's conditions and contract. It is anticipated that the contractual arrangements could be secured in a matter of weeks, quickly followed by a comprehensive procurement process to select contractors to deliver the bid proposals.

2.13.5 The Councils' successful HIF bid sets out carefully considered and modelled proposals to alleviate long-term congestion issues within Woking Town Centre, future proof the highways and rail network, and unlock 13 brownfield sites for much needed town centre housing, of which over 40% would be affordable.

2.13.6 The proposals are reliant upon the delivery of each stage. These include:

- **The acquisition and demolition of all properties located within 'The Triangle'** (pocket of land surrounded by the one-way gyratory system, incorporating Guildford Road, Victoria Road and Station Approach). The Triangle is of strategic importance for the entire project. Without the acquisition and demolition of the existing site, it is not possible to deliver the proposed highways improvements along Guildford Road and the widening and replacement of Victoria Arch railway bridge. Works are anticipated to start in summer 2020 and conclude in summer 2021.
- **The delivery of highway improvements along Guildford Road.** Working with Surrey County Council, the proposed improvements include: the removal of the one-way gyratory system and the introduction of a two-way dual carriageway, shared pedestrian and cycle paths, and installation of four new toucan crossings for pedestrians and cyclists. Works are anticipated to start in late 2021 and conclude in early 2024.

The widening and replacement of Victoria Arch railway bridge. Working with Network Rail, the ambition is to widen the highway that passes under the bridge

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to improve traffic flows between both sides of the town and provide better access across the railway and to the railway station for cyclists and pedestrians. The road widening will link with the redeveloped dual carriage highway to the north. Works are anticipated to start in spring 2022 and conclude in early 2024.

2.14 Woking Integrated Transport Project and Town Centre Works

2.14.1 Chobham Road Pedestrian Canal Bridge

Work commenced during November 2019 with the drain-down of the adjacent section of the canal. Since then the initial section of path under the road bridge from the southeast nears completion and that for the return to the southwest side and improvement to the ramp on the north-western side of the road bridge have progressed. Works are on programme for the canal refill at the end of March, after which works are expected to continue up to May 2020 with the completion of the path surfaces and hand rail.

2.14.2 WITP Phase 4 and 5

In light of the success of the HIF funding for the widening of the Victoria Arch and the junction improvements to the south along Guildford Road, it may become necessary to revise the timescale for phases 4 and 5 (the section of Victoria Way between the Arch and the Lockfield Drive Junction). This is to avoid completing the section closest to the Arch, just to revise it all again 2 years later. WBC are currently looking into the potential of delaying completion or revising the scheme.

2.14.3 Chertsey Road

A preliminary design is currently being progressed for the provision of a cycle link to the east the town centre along Chertsey Road southbound towards the Station. A design is expected to be available for consultation in around 8 weeks.

2.14.4 Dukes Court

Following the completion of the carriageway repairs and resurfacing along Stanley Road and the provision of a new access to the Dukes Court office development, good progress is being made on first phase of the related works along Dukes Street. This first phase involves the provision of the landscaping and restaurant unit along the northernmost section, which are expected to be completed by mid-summer this year. The second phase, the southern section of Dukes Street, will follow on during the late summer. This involves the pedestrianisation of the carriageway to the south of the junction with Locke Way to provide a landscaped public realm.

2.14.5 Church Street East

With the resurfacing of Church Street East now completed, which involved full depth reconstruction surfaced in block paving, WBC now wish to pursue the pedestrianisation of the western end between Chobham Road and the town gate. The consultation process will start shortly.

2.14.6 Commercial Way

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The section of Commercial Way accessed from Chertsey Road (via Chobham Road) has been subject to an access restriction Monday to Saturday 10:30AM to 4:00PM. However, this has not been enforced for a number of years.

WBC now wish to expand the scope of this restriction forming a pedestrianised zone. Access would be controlled by automatic bollards, allowing entry by pre-approved vehicles only, in a similar way to the restrictions introduced at Church Path.

The consultation process will start shortly.

2.14.7 Lockfield Drive

The design for the widening of Lockfield Drive to provide 2 lanes eastbound towards the junction with Victoria Way is progressing. The design of the first phase, an additional eastbound lane over approximately 75m just before the canal bridge deck is near complete. Currently we are waiting for statutory undertaker's equipment diversion information before finalising the design.

The second phase provides an addition right turn lane onto Victoria Way and a left turn lane into the new multi-storey car park around the corner of Debenhams. A speed survey will be conducted shortly to ensure visibility for drivers joining Victoria Way eastbound is sufficient.

2.15 Other key information, strategy and policy development.

Nothing to report.

3 OPTIONS:

3.1 Options, where appropriate, have been presented in this report.

4 CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 Consultation is routinely carried out for highway-related schemes with relevant key parties, including residents, Local Members, Surrey Police and Safety Engineering. Specific details regarding consultation and any arising legal issues are included in individual scheme reports as appropriate.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Proposed ITS schemes are prioritised to ensure that the maximum public benefit is gained from any funding made available. As far as is practicable, Officer proposals follow the Countywide scheme assessment process (CASEE) and the prioritisation order determined by this.

5.2 The Committee Capital and Revenue Maintenance budgets are used to target the most urgent sites where a specific need arises, to keep up with general maintenance activities that reduce the need for expensive repairs in the future, and to support local priorities. The nature of these works is such that spend may vary slightly from that indicated.

6 WIDER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications
Equality and Diversity	No significant implications
Localism (including community involvement and impact)	No significant implications
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications
Public Health	No significant implications

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

7.1 The Committee is asked to note the progress with all schemes and budgets.

7.2 It is recommended that a further Highways Update is presented at the next meeting of this Committee.

8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

8.1 Officers will continue to progress delivery of all schemes and ensure effective use of all budgets.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

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Annexes:

Background papers:

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