

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

DATE: 13 MARCH 2020

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. In addition, it details the committee devolved allocation for 2020/21 and how it is proposed to be allocated.

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

- (i) To note the committee approved allocations and works progressed during 2019/20.
- (ii) To approve the recommendations made in this report for utilising the available highways budget for 2020/21. (Paragraph 2.1.3 - 2.1.5 refers.)
- (iii) To approve advertising for the proposed new signal crossing that is to be located outside of Woolmer Hill School on Woolmer Hill Road, Haslemere.
- (iv) To delegate to the Area Highway Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Member, the ability to resolve any problems encountered, to facilitate scheme delivery throughout the year.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The committee is asked to agree the recommendations to enable progression of works orders and expenditure of the Committee budget during 2020/21.

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.

- 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 The Committee budget for 2019/20 is as detailed in the table below:

Committee Budget 2019/20	Amount
Capital maintenance	£200,000
Revenue maintenance	£0
Revenue Highway Fund (£7.5k pm)	£67,500
Parking surplus (15% top slice of £562k, equal to £9366 pm)	£84,300

- 2.1.2 Annex 1 identifies the programme of capital & revenue works approved for implementation during 2019/20.

2020/21 Highway Budget

- 2.1.3 The devolved Committee budgets for 2020/21 were confirmed earlier in the year and resolved that **an additional £1m of capital**, over last year's £2m, be allocated to the 11 joint and local Committees.
- 2.1.4 It has been approved that each of the 11 joint and local Committees will receive a share of a **£3m Capital Maintenance allocation**, comprising of a base allocation of £100,000 and that the remaining £1,900,000, be split by the number of County Committee members.
- 2.1.5 County Councillors will continue to be allocated a Revenue Highway Fund allocation, and this will remain at £7,500 per member, as in 2019/20.

Committee	Members	Total Capital
Elmbridge	9	£311,104
Epsom & Ewell	5	£217,280
Guildford	10	£334,456
Mole Valley	6	£240,736
Reigate & Banstead	10	£334,456
Runnymede	6	£240,736
Spelthorne	7	£264,192
Surrey Heath	6	£240,736
Tandridge	6	£240,736
Waverley	9	£311,104
Woking	7	£264,192
TOTAL	81	£3,000,000

2.1.6 The Waverley Committee devolved budget for 2020/21 is as follows:

Committee Budget 2020/21	Amount
Capital maintenance & ITS	£100,000
Capital maintenance (9 x £23.456k)	£211,104
Revenue Highway Fund (9 x £7.5k)	£ 67,500
	£378,604

2.2 Programme of Works 2020/21

Capital

- 2.2.1 At the Informal meeting of the Local Committee held on 31st January 2020, a programme of works was recommended for approval by the Local Committee.
- 2.2.2 It is proposed to again allocate £5,000 of the Capital fund for the provision of new signs and lines throughout the year, to be administered by the Local Team.
- 2.2.3 It was further agreed to divide the £100k of Capital maintenance and ITS equally between the 9 members.
- 2.2.4 The Area Highway Manager has been meeting individually with County Councillors, to allocate the £23,456 per member, plus balance of the highway fund where applicable.

Revenue

- 2.2.5 Last year, as a result of there not being a revenue maintenance allocation, at the March 2019 Committee, all 9 divisional members agreed to allocate £5k from their £7.5k Highway fund. This enabled at least some local revenue maintenance works to be carried out and administered by the Local Team.
- 2.2.6 It is hence 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 19/20 to enable these eminently worthwhile maintenance issues to be carried out. County Members would have direct control in the input of works list to the Maintenance Engineer.
- 2.2.7 Members have been receiving updates directly from their LHOs to what works are being carried out in their divisions utilising their Highway fund, and this will continue.
- 2.2.8 The Cabinet Member has advised that any Highway fund allocation **NOT** assigned by the end of October 2020 will be lost.

Parking

- 2.2.9 It has already been resolved previously that going forward the balance of the parking surplus was to be top sliced by 15% annually. The Committee would separately resolve to prioritise any relative projects that arise across the entire

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nine divisions of Waverley, and that the remaining 85% continues to be allocated as previously determined. (72% to 28%).

2.2.10 The exact figures for are not yet available, however it is anticipated that an additional £153,000 will be received for 2019/20 and hence the Committee 60% share will increase by a further £92,000. This will bring the total surplus figure to circa £570,000 ahead of any splits or further draw downs. 15% would hence equate to a figure of £85,500.

2.2.11 Hence a figure of £9500 per member can be utilised during 2020/21.

Local Committee	2019/20 £9366/member	Total
3X Farnham Members	(3x£9366)=£28,098	£435,513 +£72,000
6X Waverley Members	(6x£9366)=£56,196	£42,516 +£28,000
Balance Surplus		£478,029 +£92,000

Other highway related matters

2.3 Customer services

2.3.1 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.

2.3.2 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%.

2.3.3 For Waverley specifically, 17,618 enquiries were received between January and December of which 8,972 were directed to the local area office for action, of these 97% have been resolved. This is in slightly above the countywide average of 96%.

2.3.4 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.

2.4 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.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/Waverley

2.4.2 As in previous years, members will be sent an electronic copy of the 2020-21 Cold Weather Plan along with links to the revised 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 Work has continued on the programme to roll out LED lighting for existing street lights across the county.

2.5.2 Once the programme is complete it is expected that the Council will save 60% of its current energy costs for street lighting.

2.5.3 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.

2.6 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>

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

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

2.9 Other key information, strategy and policy development

Woolmer Hill School

2.9.1 A new signal crossing is proposed to be located outside of Woolmer Hill School on Woolmer Hill Road, Haslemere.

2.9.2 The crossing will provide a safe location for pupils and other pedestrians to cross the road directly outside of the school entrance.

2.9.3 The scheme is being funded by a Section 106 contribution that has been allocated to towards improving safety outside of the school.

2.9.4 The scheme will also comprise of the construction of a new footway along the grass verge between the entrance and exit of the Edge Leisure centre / school entrance.

2.9.5 Annexes 2, 3 & 4 identify the scheme.

Waverley Local Transport Strategy

2.9.6 Following the adoption of Waverley Borough Council's Local Plan (Part 1) in 2018 and as Part 2 nears publication, Surrey County Council has begun developing the Local Transport Strategy for the borough with the objective of adopting and publishing the document in early 2021.

2.9.7 Forming part of Surrey Transport Plan, the Local Transport Strategy for Waverley will set out how county strategy and policies are applied in a way that is relevant to the borough. It will seek to address transport issues, both existing issues and those arising from the impact of planned development set out in the Local Plan, and will include a Forward Programme of potential schemes identified to help deliver the growth and climate change aspirations of the borough.

2.9.8 During spring this year (2020), Surrey County Council's Transport Policy & Major Projects team will be carrying out early engagement on this strategy with key stakeholders, including Waverley Borough Council officers and Members. To start this early engagement process, the team has had initial meetings with borough planning and air quality officers, as well as the Waverley Air Quality Steering Group.

2.9.9 It is anticipated that a report will be brought to the upcoming June meeting of the Local Committee to present a draft strategy and seek agreement to undertake a full public consultation later this year.

2.10 Gullies

2.10.1 Surrey County Council maintain 157,454 Gullies and Catchpits and 7,060 soakaways across the County.

- 2.10.2 17,550 gullies/catchpits and 91 soakaways are in Waverley. This is an important activity that reduces the likelihood of flooding on the public highway and helps to keep roads and footways safe.
- 2.10.3 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.
- 2.10.4 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.
- 2.10.5 For 2019/20, 10,083 gullies/catchpits have been cleaned of the 11,865 due to be cleaned. Of the 17 Priority 1 (P1) soakaways, 3 have been inspected and 2 cleaned, whilst all 4 P2 soakaways have been inspected and 2 have been cleaned.
- 2.10.6 As the cleaning programme is managed on a Countywide basis, cleans in Waverley will take place throughout the course of the year.

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 finalised as identified in Annex 1.

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 – Progress of Committee capital and revenue schemes 2019/20

Annex 2, 3, 4 – Woolmer Hill School scheme.

Background papers:

Local Committee (Waverley) December 2019 Highways Update.