

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)**DATE:** 14TH JULY 2021**LEAD OFFICER:** NICK HEALEY, AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER**SUBJECT:** HIGHWAYS UPDATE**DIVISION:** ALL**SUMMARY OF ISSUE(S):**

Elmbridge Borough Council has awarded CIL funding for a number schemes promoted by the Local Committee, which will enable these schemes to go ahead.

The feasibility study for new traffic and speed management measures in Oxshott Village Centre is moving forwards. A proposed overnight weight restriction has been proposed as a potential quick-win.

Officers have been working with members to agree priorities for Committee's 2021-22 capital maintenance programme of carriageways and footways.

Public consultations have been completed for two schemes that originally emerged from the Active Travel programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

- (i) Authorise the creation of a new cycle route along the east side of Seven Hills Road, in the form of a shared surface on the existing (widened) footway, in consultation with the Divisional Members and residents as appropriate (paragraph 2.5 refers);
- (ii) Authorise the Area Highway Manager to finalise the preferred options for improving the junctions at either end of Baker Street, Weybridge, in consultation with the Divisional Member and local community as appropriate, and to undertake any necessary legal procedure that may be necessary to deliver this scheme (paragraph 2.6 refers);
- (iii) Authorise the creation of a new cycle route connecting the end of Grotto Road to Oatlands Drive, in the form of a shared surface on the existing (widened) footpath, in consultation with the Divisional Members and residents as appropriate (paragraph 2.7 refers);
- (iv) Authorise the Area Highway Manager to advertise the legal notice for the introduction of a new Pegasus Crossing in Copsem Lane, Esher, at the point where the track underneath the powerlines crosses the road, in consultation with the Divisional Member and local stakeholders as appropriate, and to resolve any representations that might be received (paragraph 2.8 refers);
- (v) Subject to Elmbridge Borough Council awarding CIL funding, authorise the Area Highway Manager to advertise the legal notice for the removal of one Zebra Crossing and the introduction of a new Zebra Crossing in Walton High Street , in consultation with the Divisional Member and local community as appropriate,

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and to resolve any representations that might be received (paragraph 2.9 and Annex A refer);

- (vi) Subject to Elmbridge Borough Council awarding CIL funding, authorise the Area Highway Manager to deliver the road safety scheme Ember Lane, including any necessary legal procedure, in consultation with the Divisional Member and local community as appropriate (paragraph 2.10 refers);
- (vii) Subject to Elmbridge Borough Council awarding CIL funding, authorise the Area Highway Manager to deliver a scheme to improve traffic capacity, pedestrian and cycling facilities in Portsmouth Road Esher, including at the junctions with Station Road and the Scilly Isles, including any necessary legal procedure, in consultation with the Divisional Members and local community as appropriate (paragraphs 2.11 and 2.12 refer);
- (viii) Delegate authority to the Area Highway Manager to develop an overnight weight restriction for Oxshott Village in consultation with Divisional and Ward Members, the Mole Valley Local Committee and local communities as appropriate, including any legal procedure necessary to introduce the restriction, and should a scheme be identified that is supported by these stakeholders to implement the scheme (paragraphs 2.13 to 2.16 refer);
- (ix) Agree the 2021-22 programme of Capital Maintenance schemes, as detailed in Table 2 below, and to authorise the Area Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Member to amend this programme as appropriate should unforeseen circumstances arise that would put the programme at risk of delivery (paragraphs 2.17 and 2.18 refer);
- (x) Agree to remove from the programme of works the part-time pedestrianisation proposal for Bridge Road, East Molesey, which emerged from the Active Travel scheme (paragraph 2.19 and Annex B refer);
- (xi) Agree to defer the trial of a new part time pedestrian area at the Lime Tree in Thames Ditton High Street, and to delegate authority to the Area Highway Manager to continue discussion with the Division and Ward Members and the local community with the intent of agreeing a consensus on how Thames Ditton High Street might be improved (paragraphs 2.20 and 2.21 and Annex C refer);
- (xii) Authorise the Area Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s) to undertake all necessary procedures to deliver the agreed programmes.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Elmbridge Borough Council has awarded CIL funding for implementation of a number of schemes that have been promoted by the Local Committee. At the time of writing this report the outcomes of some applications for CIL funding were not known. Delegated authority is needed to facilitate the delivery of these schemes in consultation with local stakeholders.

The feasibility study for speed and traffic management measures in Oxshott Village centre has begun. A proposed overnight weight restriction has been identified as a potential quick win; delegated authority is needed to move this forward through its consultative and legal processes.

A programme of capital maintenance schemes needs to be agreed to invest Committee's £311,000 allocation for this purpose. Officers have worked with Members to agree priorities. However should unforeseen circumstances arise that might put the programme at risk, the Area Highway Manager needs flexibility to amend the programme as appropriate.

In March 2021 Committee agreed to two public consultations – relating to Bridge Road in East Molesey and Thames Ditton High Street – these consultations have now been completed in consultation with local Divisional and Ward Members.

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 in Elmbridge has been delegated Highways budgets to be able to contribute to the objectives set out in Surrey County Council's LTP, according to local priorities.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 Committee's budget allocations for 2021-22 are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 Allocations of Committee's 2021-22 budgets

Allocation	Amount
Capital maintenance. For example Local Structural Repair (LSR – large scale patching) of carriageways and / or footways.	£311,000 capital (approx. £34,500 per Division – priorities to be agreed with Divisional Members)
Capital ITS. For implementation of Highway improvement schemes.	£444,000 capital (to be invested in individual schemes)
Member Highways allocations (revenue) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions to Street Smart: • Revenue for Members to allocate: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £20,000 revenue (£2,222.22 per Division) £47,500 revenue (£5,277.77 per Division)
Total	£822,500

- 2.2 Committee agreed which schemes to promote with its £444,000 for Integrated Transport Schemes (ITS schemes) in March 2021. Officers are providing update briefings on this programme to members outside of the Local Committee process.
- 2.3 Committee has a well-established funding model for development and delivery of its annual ITS programme. Committee uses Parking Surplus funding to undertake feasibility studies, and then applies to Elmbridge Borough Council for CIL funding for implementation of schemes. This has been very successful and

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to date has resulted in over £1.4M CIL being awarded for Highway improvement schemes across Elmbridge.

- 2.4 New CIL funding has been awarded to enable construction of a number of schemes, for which Committee commissioned the feasibility studies.
- 2.5 The Oatlands & Burwood Park, Weybridge Riverside & Weybridge St George's Hill Local Spending Board have awarded £50,000 for the Seven Hills Road shared footway / cycleway project. The feasibility study for this project was presented to the Local Committee in March 2020. The new shared footway / cycleway is proposed to be on the east side of Seven Hills Road, and will involve widening the existing footway. It is recommended to authorise the creation of this new shared cycle route along the east side of Seven Hills Road. Committee has allocated £200,000 from its capital ITS budget to enable this scheme to proceed.
- 2.6 The Oatlands & Burwood Park, Weybridge Riverside & Weybridge St George's Hill Local Spending Board have awarded £25,000 for a project to improve the junctions at either end of Baker Street, Weybridge. The feasibility study for this project was presented to the Local Committee in March 2020. It is proposed to improve both junctions for pedestrians. At the junction with Monument Hill it is also proposed to make adjustments to improve visibility for drivers emerging from Baker Street. It is recommended to authorise the Area Highway Manager to finalise the preferred options for these junctions, and undertake any necessary legal procedure that might be needed to deliver the scheme. Committee has allocated £30,000 from its capital ITS budget to enable this scheme to proceed.
- 2.7 Committee has allocated £50,000 for a project to improve the Grotto Road path between Marlborough Drive and Oatlands Drive for both cyclists and pedestrians. This would create a new formalised cycle route, and would involve widening the existing asphalt path. The feasibility study for this project was presented to Committee in November 2019. It is recommended to authorise the creation of a new cycle route along this (widened) path.
- 2.8 The Esher and Hersham Local Spending Board have awarded £40,000 for a project to introduce a new Pegasus Crossing in Copsem Lane, Esher. The proposed location is at the point where the track underneath the powerlines crosses the road. The new crossing would be a traffic signal-controlled crossing, which could be used by pedestrians, equestrians and cyclists. It would connect together two areas of Common Land that are currently separated by the busy A244 Copsem Lane. Committee has previously commissioned a feasibility study for this scheme and are funding the detailed design for the scheme in the current Financial Year 2021-22. Committee would need to allocate additional ITS capital funding in 2022-23 to enable the scheme to be implemented. It is recommended that Committee authorises the advertisement of the necessary legal notice to introduce this new crossing.
- 2.9 A bid has been submitted to the Walton Local CIL Board for £195,000 for pedestrian improvements in Walton High Street. There are currently two Zebra Crossings in Walton High Street – one to the north and the other to the south. There is also a clear desire line for pedestrians to cross the road between the entrance to the Heart Shopping Centre and Boots. There are no crossing facilities on this desire line. If funding were to be awarded, the scheme would involve removing the northerly crossing, and introducing a new crossing on the

desire line. For ease of understanding, a layout drawing is shown in Annex A – showing the current and proposed layouts. Design details – including the new parking arrangement – would be design and decided in consultation with local stakeholders. The feasibility study for this project was presented to Committee in March 2020. Subject to funding being awarded for this scheme, it is recommended that Committee gives authorisation for the necessary legal procedures to be undertaken to facilitate delivery of this scheme.

- 2.10 A bid has been submitted to the Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood and Weston Green Local CIL Board for £55,000 for road safety improvements in Ember Lane. Committee has also allocated £90,000 from its capital ITS budget to enable this scheme to proceed. The scheme comprises a package of measures with the intention of reducing drivers' speeds in Ember Lane – especially on the approach to and around the sharp bend at Chestnut Avenue. The feasibility report for this project was reported to Committee in November 2019. If CIL funding were not to be forthcoming, officers would work with local Members to agree what elements of the project should be prioritised and which should be deferred, to enable a scheme to go ahead that could be delivered Committee's allocation alone. It is recommended to authorise any necessary legal procedure to deliver a package of measures, subject to the outcome of the CIL bid.
- 2.11 A bid was submitted to the Strategic CIL Member Working Group for a substantial project to improve traffic capacity, pedestrian and cycling facilities in Portsmouth Road Esher, including at the junctions with Station Road and the Scilly Isles. The Strategic CIL Member Working Group agreed to recommend to Elmbridge Borough Council's Cabinet that the bid should be approved. Elmbridge Borough Council's Cabinet were due to decide the outcome of this bid on 7th July 2021. At the time of writing this report (27th June 2021) the outcome of the bid was not known.
- 2.12 A number of members have of the Working Group and Cabinet have raised concerns about aspects of this scheme. Officers are working to explore options to mitigate their concerns in the run up to Elmbridge Borough Council's July Cabinet meeting. This may result in minor adjustments to the scheme that was presented to Committee in March 2020. It is recommended – subject to the CIL bid being successful – that authorisation be given for any legal procedure needed to facilitate the delivery of this scheme.
- 2.13 The Leader of Surrey County Council, with support from the Divisional Member, Ward Members and officers has been working with the Federation of Oxshott Residents' Associations (FEDORA) to identify and prioritise different concerns in Oxshott Village – primarily on the A244 corridor. As a result Committee agreed to the commissioning of a new feasibility study for a 20mph Zone in the centre of Oxshott, and an overnight weight restriction. At the same time officers are working with local landowners and other stakeholders to improve the pedestrian facilities through the village.
- 2.14 Traffic surveys were conducted at the end of June to establish the speed and volume of traffic at a number of locations. These surveys also gathering information on the types of vehicle passing through the different locations. This information was not available at the time of writing this report, and so it is intended to summarise the results of these surveys to Committee verbally.

- 2.15 The implementation of an overnight weight restriction is simpler in technical terms than a 20mph Zone but will require much wider consultation. The 20mph would slow traffic through the village centre – but wouldn't have any impact on the surrounding communities. However the weight restriction could result in HGV traffic being diverted along other roads, and thereby having a negative impact on another community – including in Mole Valley depending on the extent of the restriction.
- 2.16 Once the traffic survey results are known, we would then be able to quantify the level of HGV traffic that could potentially be diverted. This would feed into engagement with any communities that are concerned that they might be affected, which in turn would feed into decisions on the extents of a new restriction. Therefore it is recommended that Committee should authorise the development of the overnight weight restriction proposal in consultation with Divisional and Ward Members in the areas of Elmbridge and Mole Valley that might be affected – including Surrey County Council's Local Committee for Mole Valley, who would need to give formal approval if the proposed weight restriction were to extend into Mole Valley. It is also recommended that authorisation be given to move through any legal processes that might be necessary to implement a new restriction.
- 2.17 Officers have been working with Members to agree priorities for Committee's £311,000 capital maintenance allocation. Table 2 below shows the agreed priorities. These have been selected to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable that an even share of funding will be invested in each Division. Officers will prioritise the highest priority scheme in each Division. If funding is left over in any Division, officers would then move to the next priority for delivery.
- 2.18 It is recommended that Committee agrees the programme of work shown in Table 2 below, and authorises the Area Highway Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Member to amend this programme as appropriate, should unforeseen circumstances arise that puts the delivery of the programme at risk.

Table 2 Capital Maintenance programme for 2021-22

Road Name	Location	Comment	Priority in Division
D6926 Monks Avenue	West Molesey	Footway repair. Replace slabs with asphalt.	1
D6938 First Close	West Molesey	Repair footway section: resurface & provide edgings.	2
D3904 Burhill Road	Hersham	Carriageway: large patches.	1
D3848 Thistlecroft Road	Hersham	Carriageway: large patches.	2
D6868 Station Road	Cobham	Carriageway patch from post box towards Station.	1
D6871 St Andrews Walk	Cobham	Carriageway patching in the turning circle outside number 8.	2
D6869 Pipers Close	Cobham	Carriageway patching from junction with Stoke Road to turning circle.	3

A309 Kingston bypass	Hinchley Wood	Footway reconstruction – complete.	1
Station Road B364	Thames Ditton	Footway repairs between Watts Road and Basingfield Road.	1
D6808 Betts Way	Long Ditton	Carriageway patching from Rectory Lane to end of cul de sac.	2
A309 Portsmouth Road Esher	Esher	Carriageway patches between Sandown Park and Beaumont Cottages.	1
D3840 Netly Drive	Walton	Carriageway patching between Oakbank Avenue and Hurtwood Road.	1
Homefield Road D3839	Walton	Carriageway patching between Field Common Lane and number 38.	2
Byfleet Road	Weybridge	Safety barrier at junction with Brooklands Road.	1
D3911 Summers Close	Weybridge	Carriageway patching between Brooklands Road and parking bays.	1
D3830 Rydens Road	Walton South	Sections of carriageway patching.	1
D3822 Kings Road	Walton South	Carriageway patching from Sydney Road to end of cul de sac.	2

2.19 In March 2021 Committee agreed to consult the business community in Bridge Road, East Molesey, on a proposed part time pedestrian zone scheme. The business community was asked for their views on the proposals for a weekend pedestrian zone, which would require the road to be closed during its hours of operation. The results from the consultation are shown in Annex B. Ten businesses responded during the consultation period – a response rate of 23%. Among respondents 60% were opposed to the proposal, and 40% supportive. It is therefore recommended to remove this project from Committee’s programme of works.

2.20 In March 2021 Committee agreed to consult the business community in Thames Ditton High Street on a proposed part time pedestrian area by the Lime Tree. The business community was asked to express their support or otherwise for a weekend only conversion of part of the carriageway to a pedestrian area. This would have resulted in a loss of on-street parking, but through traffic would not have been affected. The results of the consultation are shown in Annex C. Ten businesses responded – a response rate of 24%. Among respondents 70% were supportive of the scheme and 30% opposed. However among those who were in favour two expressed reservations, including a perceived need to provide alternative parking. This was a common theme in feedback that had been received from an earlier consultation – unfortunately there is no opportunity to provide alternative at the present time.

2.21 In view of the very poor response rate, and the reservations expressed, it is recommended to defer the trial of a new part time pedestrian area at the Lime

Tree in Thames Ditton High Street, and to continue discussion local stakeholders with the intent of agreeing a consensus on how Thames Ditton High Street might be improved. Officers would report back to the Local Committee if a consensus were to emerge.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 As described above.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 As described above.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 As described above.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to take account of the needs of all users of the public highway.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The Local Committee prioritises its expenditure according to local priorities.

8. OTHER 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.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	A number of schemes being promoted by the Local Committee are intended to promote sustainable transport.
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	A number of schemes being promoted by the Local Committee are intended to promote active travel.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 Authorisation is sought to move forwards with Committee's programme of capital investment work, subject to the outcome of CIL applications for a number of schemes.

9.2 Recommendations are made in the light of public consultation results relating to two schemes emerging from the Active Travel programme.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 The Area Team Manager will work with Divisional Members, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to deliver this Financial Year's Divisional Programmes, and to develop next Financial Year's programme of investment.
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Contact Officer: Nick Healey

Consulted: See above.

Annexes: Three

Sources/background papers: None

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