

Farnham Infrastructure Programme

Farnham Board Meeting

AGENDA ITEM 06

DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2021

DOC NO: 4D476001- SCC-PRG-PAP-000022

REPORT OF: TIM OLIVER – BOARD CHAIR

LEAD OFFICER: SIMON DUKE – PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: SHORT-AND MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS UPDATE

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

To update the Board on Project 1 (Short- and Medium-Term Interventions) including progress to date regarding the short-term interventions of heavy goods vehicle (HGV) restrictions, speed limits, wayfinding and A325 reclassification projects, and the ‘sift 2’ process for the list of Medium-Term Interventions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Notes the progress update on the Short- and Medium-Term Interventions.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To provide Board Members with an update on Project 1 (Short- and Medium-Term Interventions).

DETAILS:

Projects already identified to be taken forward:

1. HGV Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Restrictions:

- Consultation for the TROs regarding sign locations were completed in the previous period.
- Sign drawings were reviewed by the Surrey County Council Design Team and finalised.
- Kier have been commissioned to procure and install the signs, currently due to complete in September 2021.

2. 20mph Speed Limits:

- Speed surveys were undertaken in June and July 2021 to supplement those conducted in November and December 2020 in the three proposed 20mph speed limit areas of Farnham Town Centre, Upper Hale Road and Weydon Lane.
- Signs designs and, where appropriate, complementary physical measures to actively reduce speeds have been developed for all three areas.
- Engagement has been undertaken with Surrey Police's Road Safety and Traffic Management Team, Surrey County Council's Highways Area Manager and Surrey County Council's Road Safety and Sustainable School Travel Manager.
- The proposed measures were presented to Waverley Local Committee on 3 September 2021 and approvals was received to proceed with statutory consultation on the proposals alongside further engagement with Waverley's Heritage officer, Farnham Town Council and Waverley councillors regarding the measures in Castle Street and a possible extension to the 20mph speed limit for Upper Hale Road.
- Road Safety Audit Stage 1 has been undertaken.
- The start of the Traffic Regulation Order consultation period is currently planned for November 2021.

3. Wayfinding

- A Wayfinding Strategy Report was prepared in July 2021 and identified the existing fingerpost signs and a new town centre pedestrian wayfinding strategy incorporating fingerpost signs with new mapping products consistent with those delivered in other Surrey towns.
- The Wayfinding Strategy report was developed working closely with stakeholders and has been shared with Surrey County Council officers, Waverley Borough Council officers and Farnham Town Council's Town Clerk.
- Feedback has now been received from all stakeholders ready for consideration.

4. A325 Re-Classification

- A technical note has been finalised following review by Surrey County Council's teams and Kier identifying the changes to road signs and carriageway markings to no longer sign the A325 as a route through Farnham town centre.
- The proposals involve removing 'A325' from directional signs and carriageway markings without replacing this with a new 'B' road number as this provides cost and programme savings.

- Kier have been commission and are coordinating installation alongside the installation of the HGV restrictions to minimise the need for additional temporary traffic management, thereby minimising traffic disruption.
- The changes to signs and markings will be made in September and early October 2021.

5. Medium-Term Interventions Pipeline

- In previous periods and following the allocation of funding for the Medium-Term Interventions, a working list of circa 100 projects was compiled based on stakeholder feedback including:
 - Maintenance (footways, surfacing, drainage)
 - Traffic management (signage, road markings, minor improvements, highway adoption)
 - HGVs (planned restrictions, town centre deliveries, freight consolidation)
 - Traffic speeds and traffic calming
 - Walking (crossings, signals, routes, wayfinding, Park & Stride and monitoring cameras)
 - Cycling (new routes, cycle parking, shelters)
 - Parking (on-street and off-street)
 - Buses (new services, shelters, information screens)
 - Schools (school streets, schools transport)
- To support the prioritisation of the Medium-Term Interventions, a Stage 1 sift was completed in previous period taking account of alignment with the Farnham Vision, availability of funding, timing, consistency with Projects 2, 3 and 4, planning policy and land availability.
- In this period a Stage 2 sift was undertaken to further prioritise the list taking account of:
 - Funding requirements.
 - Deliverability.
 - Environmental impact.
 - Carbon impact.
 - Consultation requirements.
 - Potential for modal shift.
 - Digital technology.
 - Health & safety.
 - Impact on local businesses
- The Stage 2 sifted list and methodology has been shared with Surrey County Council, Waverley Borough Council and FTC councillors. Feedback has been received from Surrey County Council / Waverley Borough Council councillors and is expected from FTC councillors on 17 September 2021.

CONSULTATION:

6. The TRO consultation for the HGV restrictions closed on 15 April 2021. No objections were received from statutory consultees.
7. The TRO consultation for the 20mph Speed Limits is set to commence in November 2021.
8. A public consultation exercise on the wayfinding project will need to be undertaken prior to implementation this will extend this project.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

9. The Board has no statutory powers and as such any decisions requiring approval by the responsible authorities, in this case Surrey County Council, will have individual risk assessments.

FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

10. The cost in respect of the works will be met from the £2m Surrey County Council capital allocation for 2021/22 and 2022/23. An additional £0.5m is available from Waverley Borough Council Car Parking Surplus, along with applicable Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 funding.
11. It is planned that the allocation for this project is spread across FY 2021/22 and FY 2022/23 to ensure sufficient time to assess and implement the schemes identified through the Medium-Term Interventions Pipeline.

SECTION 151 OFFICER COMMENTARY

12. There are no other implications in respect of this Report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – MONITORING OFFICER

13. The Board has no executive powers. Any decisions made would require Surrey County Council to follow its own legal advice and its approval procedures.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY

14. As part of Surrey County Council's reporting requirements, an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken for the Farnham Infrastructure Programme, and subsequently approved by the Programme Team at the September Programme Board.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

15. There are no other implications in respect of this Report.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

16. The HGV and A325 Reclassification works are being delivered in September and October 2021.

17. Further engagement with stakeholders and statutory TRO consultation will be undertaken for the 20mph speed limits.
 18. The Wayfinding Strategy Report will be refined based on stakeholder feedback.
 19. Following completion of the Medium-Term Interventions sifting process, proposals for improvements will be worked up in more detail for implementation and progress reports brought back to the Board.
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Annexes: None.

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