



Farnham Infrastructure Programme

Farnham Board Meeting Items 3-9 – Progress Update



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Items 3-9

DATE:	16 June 2023
REPORT OF:	TIM OLIVER – BOARD CHAIRMAN
LEAD OFFICER:	ELAINE MARTIN – PROGRAMME MANAGER
SUBJECT:	PROGRESS UPDATE

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

This paper summarises the activity and progress achieved since the March 2023 Board, including any matters of note arising during this period, and outlines the activity which will be carried out up until the next Farnham Board in September 2023.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Notes the progress update provided; and
2. Notes the ongoing update to the programme schedule and the associated revisions to forecast milestones.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To ensure the Farnham Board (Sponsoring Group) is aware of the programme progress to date and has visibility of future Programme activity.

Programme Projects Completed

Project	Element
Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision developed. • Optimised Infrastructure Plan developed, consulted on and endorsed. • Medium term interventions sifted into allocated projects.
Wayfinding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy completed and approved. • Artwork designed and approved. • Totems manufactured. • 11 of 15 totems installed.
20mph Limits/ Zones and Speed restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility completed. • Detailed design completed for 3 zones. • Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) advertised for 3 areas. • TRO approved for Weydon Lane and town centre.
A325 reclassification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study and surveys completed. • Detailed design approved. • Construction completed.
Re-routing of Heavy Goods Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study and surveys completed. • TRO advertised and finalised. • Detailed design completed. • Construction completed. • Review of other areas and negotiation with National Highways and Hampshire County Council.
Local Cycling and Walking Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy finalised and endorsed.
Town Centre Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility and surveys completed. • Future town visualisation and virtual reality completed. • Public consultation. • Review and design of East Street developer works. • Strategic modelling completed.
Farnham A31 Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility design completed. • Public consultation. • Submission of Strategic Outline Business Case to DfT for funding.
Western and Wrecclesham Bypasses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment of policy review completed.
Water Lane Roundabout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary design completed. • Successful Community Infrastructure bid – awarded £400k.
Borelli Park and Stride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with developer on redesign of the connecting pedestrian and cycling bridge.

Activities carried out since the previous board

Re-routing of Heavy Goods Vehicles

- Continued engagement with Hampshire County Council to request for Heavy Goods Vehicle rerouting signage. This item has been raised by Cllr Oliver with the Leader of Hampshire County Council.

Wayfinding Strategy

- Submission of land consents application for totems at Farnham Station.
- Finalisation of the artwork and sign placement checklists for totems as part of second phase of installation.
- Manufacture of remaining totems for second phase of installation.
- Installation of remaining totems within Farnham town centre and at Farnham Station commenced.

20mph Limits/ Zones and Speed Restrictions

- Finalisation of construction drawings.
- Contractor mobilisation for installation of signage on Weydon Lane and Farnham town centre.
- Discussion with SCC teams for options to extend 20mph speed limits along Upper Hale Road.

Reclassifying the A325

- Continued review of google maps.

Borelli Park and Stride

- Engagement with Crest Nicolson (developer at Brightwells), Farnham Town Council (FTC) and Waverley Borough Council (WBC) on interdependencies with Brightwell's development and design of the bridge and shared cycleway connecting Brightwell's Yard to Borelli Walk.
- Developer redesign of the pedestrian and cycle bridge connecting Borelli Park and Stride scheme and Brightwell's Yard.

Water Lane Roundabout

- Detailed design commenced.
- Topographical survey complete.
- Trial trenches and drainage surveys commissioned.

Town Centre Improvements

- Re-design of Brightwell's - East Street S278 Brightwell's scheme by Programme Team.
- Strategic traffic modelling for the hybrid options V and Y.
- Commenced traffic microsimulation of the hybrid options V and Y.
- Design of key junctions.
- Air Quality emissions study on the hybrid options V and Y commenced.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

- Review of the Farnham LCWIP sign off report by SCC Officers.
- Request for feasibility funding for Farnham.

Farnham A31 Corridor

- Awaiting outcome from Department for Transport.

Western and Wrecclesham Bypasses

- Environmental and cost report drafted by Atkins.

Wrecclesham Bridge

- Wrecclesham Bridge feasibility report completed by Atkins.
- Network Rail installation of bridge warning chevrons.

- Liaison with Network Rail for better signage than installed.

A31 Speed Management Scheme

- Ongoing discussions with SCC's Maintenance Team to align installation works with planned drainage improvements therefore sharing traffic management costs.
- Review of costs for implementation.

Activity up until the next Board

Re-routing of HGVs

- Ongoing engagement with developer and Hampshire County Council.

Wayfinding Strategy

- Installation of totems at Farnham Station.

20mph Limits/ Zones and Speed restrictions

- Installation of signage in Weydon Lane and Town Centre (signage in Upper Hale to be installed in parallel with proposed speed calming measures).
- Continued preparation for consultation on TRO for speed tables on Upper Hale Road.
- Advertisement of TRO for speed tables on Upper Hale Road.
- TRO for extension of 20mph speed limits on Upper Hale Road.

Reclassifying the A325

- Continued review of google maps.

Borelli Park and Stride

- Planning position confirmed on bridge design.
- Review of arboricultural requirements for design.
- Instruction to Atkins for feasibility, design and costing of scheme.
- Commence process for making a Cycle Track Order and Planning Application for the Borelli Park and Stride route, including initial consultation.

Water Lane Roundabout

- Submission of business case to SCC Infrastructure Board.
- Instruction and completion of Stage 1 and 2 Road Safety Audit.
- Statutory utility searches.
- Continuing with detailed design.
- Engagement with disability groups.
- Communication strategy to be developed.
- Drainage survey and trial trenches to be completed.

Town Centre Improvements

- Review of car park information from Guildford Borough Council to inform preliminary design.
- Present Cabinet paper to commence detailed design of preferred option for the town centre, following recommendation from Farnham Board, and capital spend.
- Ongoing air quality analysis including mapping.
- Initial engagement with businesses and disability groups.

Project 2 – LCWIP

- Sign off of Farnham LCWIP.
- Review of options for feasibility funding.

Project 3 - Farnham A31 Corridor

- Awaiting outcome from Department for Transport.

Project 4 - Western and Wrecclesham Bypasses

- Review of next activities

Wrecclesham Bridge

- Continued liaison with Network Rail for better signage than installed.

Key Milestones

The key milestone summary of the Programme schedule is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Programme Milestones

Project	Milestone	Previous forecast	Current Forecast	Status/ Comments
Rerouting of HGVs	Construction complete	Oct-21	Oct-21	Additional signage on A287/B3349 roundabout being reviewed.
Removing A road category status	Construction complete	Oct-21	Oct-21	
Wayfinding Strategy	Construction complete	May-23	June-23	Installation dates impacted by the works on West Street.
20 mph Zones & Speed Restrictions	Construction complete (first phase)	Jun-23	Jun-23	
Water Lane	Detailed design complete		Oct 23	
Borelli Park and Stride	Preliminary Design complete		TBC	Preliminary design commencement dependant on planning design of bridge.
Town Centre Improvements	Construction complete	Oct-25	Oct-25	

LCWIP	Strategic plan endorsed	Mar-23	Mar-23	
Farnham A31 Corridor	Construction complete	TBC	TBC	Still awaiting outcome of DfT bid, once notified the programme will be reprofiled.
Wrecclesham Bypass	Construction complete	Jul-29	Jul-29	Review of scheme viability
North and South Farnham Studies	TBA	N/A	N/A	Review following town centre modelling outcomes
Western Bypass	TBA	N/A	N/A	Review of scheme viability

Key Programme Risks

The current key risks for the Programme are provided in Table 2 below. These risks are actively managed through the Programme risk management approach.

Table 2 - Programme Risks

Risk title	Risk description
Funding Availability Programme Wide	Risk of lack of funding available to deliver the full programme.
Alignment with evolving central government policy	There is increased number of changes to governmental policy which may affect the business case (s). Additional time and cost impact due to reshaping of existing business case to suit new requirements.
Project Costs	Given the cost assumptions made to date, there are concerns that once the projects are more defined, they may become unaffordable for FIP.
Scope Creep	As a result of additional work being added to the programme, there is a risk that additional work may reduce the funding available for other projects and schemes within FIP. Finances for the programme are highly constrained.
Inflation	As a result of increased inflation costs in 2022 (~7-10%), there is likely to be an increase in costs previously estimated for the Programme.
Managing Stakeholder Expectations	As part of the programme, there are many stakeholders, with differing aspirations for the Programme. This results in many contrasting views to consider as part of the solutions delivered within the Farnham Infrastructure Programme.

Risk management and implications

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

The cost and value for money in respect of the works will be identified within the Surrey County Council Report.

Section 151 officer commentary

As proposals are developed some may require Surrey County Council approval, individual S151 approvals will be sought.

Legal implications – Monitoring Officer

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

Equalities and diversity

A Programme-level Equality Impact Assessment was carried out in August 2021. This was approved by the Programme Team at the September 2021 Programme Board and indicated that there are currently no substantive concerns associated with the Programme's proposals based upon the level of information available.

Other implications

There are no other implications in respect of this Report.

What happens next

FIP activity will continue in line with the summary provided above.

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