



Farnham Infrastructure Programme

Farnham Board Meeting Items 3-9 – Progress Update



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Items 3-9

DATE: 15 September 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 June 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 December 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 (HGVs)	<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"> • Full Strategy report finalised. • Strategy endorsed. • Funding allocated to progress feasibility.
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. • Surrey Coalition of Disabled People site visit. • Business questionnaire 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.
Wrecclesham Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation removed. • Highway signing enhanced. • Bridge painted to improve conspicuousness.

Activities carried out since the previous board.

Wayfinding Strategy

- Continued engagement with Network Rail regarding re-issue of License to Alter. Multiple meetings with Network Rail and Southwestern Railway.

20mph Limits/ Zones and Speed Restrictions

- Preparation for consultation on Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for speed tables on Upper Hale Road.
- Advertisement of TRO for speed tables on Upper Hale Road.
- Mobilisation for installation of signage in Weydon Lane and Town Centre (signage in Upper Hale to be installed in parallel with proposed speed calming measures).

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.
- Proposal developed for Atkins to carry out feasibility, design and costing of scheme.
- Formal response from Surrey County Council (SCC) to WBC on width the bridge and shared cycleway connecting Brightwell's Yard to Borelli Walk.

Water Lane Roundabout

- Submission of business case to SCC Infrastructure Board and Capital Programme Panel.
- Approval of business case at both forums.
- Instruction and completion of Stage 1 and 2 Road Safety Audit.
- Statutory utility searches completed.
- Detailed design complete and sent for internal review.
- Engagement with Surrey Coalition of Disabled People.
- Development of communication strategy.
- Drainage survey and trial trenches completed.
- Continued liaison taking place with Traffic Signals and Milestone.

Town Centre Improvements

- Paper submitted to June Cabinet following recommendation from Farnham Board, to progress to detailed design.
- Ongoing air quality analysis including mapping.
- Engagement with businesses in Farnham with online questionnaire.
- Site visit with Surrey Coalition group for Disabled People.
- Preparation of Business Case.
- Preparation of bid for funding from WBC's Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
- Discussions with Farnham Town Council for allocation of Neighbourhood CIL towards the project.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

- Farnham LCWIP to be delivered by the Transport Policy Team.

Farnham A31 Corridor

- Awaiting outcome from Department for Transport (DfT).

Wrecclesham Bridge

- Network Rail have repainted the Wrecclesham Bridge.

A31 Speed Management Scheme

- Speed limit reduction has now been installed.

Activity up until the next Board

Wayfinding Strategy

- Installation of totems at Farnham Station.

20mph Limits/ Zones and Speed restrictions

- Installation of signage in Weydon Lane and Town Centre.
- Review of feedback to consultation on TRO for speed tables on Upper Hale Road.
- Review of speed limit extents on Upper Hale Road.

Borelli Park and Stride

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

Water Lane Roundabout

- Internal review of detailed design.
- Stakeholder communication to be sent to residents and businesses.
- Temporary Traffic Order to be submitted.
- Utility search update.
- Final approval and construction issue of design.
- Work order placed.
- Construction estimates to be produced and agreed.

Town Centre Improvements

- Present Business Case to Infrastructure Board and Capital Programme Panel.
- Commence detailed design.
- Submission of bid for WBC Strategic CIL.

Project 2 – LCWIP

- Farnham LCWIP to be delivered by the Transport Policy Team.

Project 3 - Farnham A31 Corridor

- Awaiting outcome from DfT.

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	Jun-23	Oct-23	Awaiting approval from Network Rail.
20 mph Zones & Speed Restrictions	Construction complete (first phase)	Jun-23	Oct-23	Delay due to contractor resource.
Water Lane	Detailed design complete	Oct 23	Oct 23	
Borelli Park and Stride	Preliminary Design complete	TBC	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		TBC	TBC	Review of scheme viability.
North and South Farnham Studies		TBC	TBC	Review following town centre modelling outcomes.

Western Bypass		TBC	TBC	Review of scheme viability.
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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
Inflation	Due to current uncertain economic environment, inflation is likely to impact programme costs.
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.
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 the Farnham Infrastructure Programme. Finances for the programme are highly constrained.
Achievable Programme	The Farnham Infrastructure Programme is made up of a number of interdependent schemes and projects. A viable delivery programme is required to ensure successful outcomes

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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