



Farnham Board

Items 3-6 Progress Report

22 March 2023



Farnham Infrastructure Programme

Farnham Board Meeting

Items 3-6

DATE: 22 March 2024

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 December 2023 Farnham 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 June 2024.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Programme projects completed,
2. Notes the progress update provided; and
3. 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. • 13 of 15 totems installed (final two to installed as part of the town centre works).
20mph Limits/Zones and Speed restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility completed. • Detailed design completed for 3 zones. • Traffic Regulation Order advertised for 3 areas. • Traffic Regulation Order legal for Weydon Lane and Town Centre. • Installation of signage in Weydon Lane and Town Centre completed.
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. • Traffic Regulation Order 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. • Priority routes developed.
Town Centre Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility and initial 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. • Business Case to Infrastructure Board 26.09.23 • Community Infrastructure Levy Bid submitted to Waverley BC. • Traffic Regulation Order for parking advertised.
Farnham A31 Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility design completed. • Initial public consultation. • Submission of Strategic Outline Business Case to DfT for funding. • Approval by Treasury to commence Outline Business Case development.
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 Waverley Community Infrastructure Levy bid – awarded £404k. • Detail design completed.

Borelli Park and Stride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with developer on redesign of the connecting pedestrian and cycling bridge. • Ecological and topographical surveys completed.
Wrecclesham Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation removed. • Highway signing enhanced. • Bridge painted to improve conspicuousness. • Feasibility report on longer-term solutions completed.
A31 Speed Management Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed limit reduction completed.

Activities carried out since the previous Farnham Board

20mph Limits/Zones and Speed Restrictions

- Review of feedback of consultation on Traffic Regulation Order for physical measures on Upper Hale Road.
- Advertisement of Traffic Regulation Order for speed limit on Upper Hale Road.
- Ready for construction.

Borelli Park and Stride

- Discussions with developer of Brightwells for construction of southern section.
- Ecology walkover.

Water Lane Roundabout

- Street lighting investigations.
- Traffic signal design.
- Pre-construction activities/Contractor Mobilisation.
- Advance communication with Residents and Businesses.
- Commenced on site 7 March 2024.

Town Centre Improvements

- Ongoing Detailed Design.
- Review of bus journey times and mitigation.
- Review of feedback to consultation on Traffic Regulation Order for parking, loading and bus stops.
- Early contractual engagement for works phasing and site compound.
- Urban design material palette discussions with local members.
- Basement and pavement coring surveys.
- Ongoing development of communications plan for the construction phase.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

- Farnham LCWIP being led/delivered by Surrey CC Transport Policy Team.
- Stage 2 feasibility design proposal drafted; scope of work in review to finalise priority cycle/walk routes to take forward within available project budget.
- Farnham LCWIP Report update/addendum being prepared to capture recent stakeholder activity for consensus reached on priority routes.

Farnham A31 Corridor

- Pre-Outline Business Case (OBC) activities to update critical parts of the business case since the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) was submitted in Nov 2021. This includes a cost-effective review and validation of the outcomes of the SOBC and identify key steps required to proceed to OBC.

Activity up until the next Farnham Board

20mph Limits/Zones and Speed restrictions

- Review of feedback from Upper Hale Road speed limit Traffic Regulation Order.
- Ready for construction of Upper Hale Road 20mph.

Borelli Park and Stride

- Arboricultural and environmental discussions.
- Finalisation of preliminary design.
- Early contractual engagement for works phasing and site compound.

Water Lane Roundabout

- Construction started, programmed to complete in May 2024.

Town Centre Improvements

- Completion of relevant site surveys including drainage, ground penetration radar and trial pits.
- Finalisation of material palette, landscaping and street furniture.
- Traffic Regulation Order for the changes to the highway.
- Completion of detailed design.
- Pre-construction activities including phasing plan and traffic management.
- Advanced communication with Residents and Businesses.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

- Stage 2 feasibility design proposal being commissioned with design team. Work activity and process is aligned to countywide LCWIP programme development.
- Public consultation on schemes and options will form part of the feasibility stage work.
- SCC/WBC/FTC Officer project team members to be confirmed; project inception meeting being scheduled.
- Farnham LCWIP Report update / addendum for completion and publishing.

Farnham A31 Corridor

- Programming activities required for Outline Business Case development.
- Ongoing discussions with Department for Transport and Transport for the South-East.

Wrecclesham and Western Bypasses

- Ongoing review of scheme viability - including environmental impact and cost.

Key Milestones

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

Table 1 - Programme Milestones

Project	Milestone	Current Forecast	Status/Comments
Rerouting of HGVs	Construction complete		Additional signage on Hampshire CC land being installed
Removing A road category status	Construction complete		
Wayfinding Strategy	Construction complete		
20mph Speed Limits Weydon Lane and Town Centre	Construction complete		
20 mph Speed Limits Upper Hale Road	Construction starts	July 24	
Water Lane	Construction starts	Mar 24	Started construction 7 March 2024
Borelli Park and Stride	Construction starts	Dec 24	Estimated construction start date (currently liaising with contractor)
Town Centre Improvements	Construction starts	Sep-24	
LCWIP	Strategic plan endorsed		
Farnham A31 Corridor		TBC	DfT have confirmed the Farnham A31 Corridor SOBC has been successful, given the delay, the programme will be reprofiled.
Wrecclesham and Western Bypasses		TBC	Review of scheme viability.
North and South Farnham Studies		TBC	Review following town centre modelling outcomes.
Western Bypass		TBC	Review of scheme viability.

Key Programme Risks

The current key risks for the Programme are provided in Table 2. 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. It should be noted that the programme for the town centre has been requested to be accelerated prior to the surveys and detailed design being fully completed. Thus, there is a risk that unforeseen issues could arise resulting in a delay to the requested 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.

Contact Officer:

Elaine Martin
Programme Manager
Elaine.Martin@surreycc.gov.uk