

Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth Decisions

25 February 2025

Procedural Matters – Public Questions**Question 1 (RW)**

Question:

Can SCC please significantly improve their approach to engagement and information sharing with stakeholders (Residents Associations and other groups) - in general and for Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) in accordance with government guidance?

Reply:

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) are being developed across the county to provide strategic network plans for new and improved high quality safe cycling and walking infrastructure. Working in partnership with each District and Borough, Surrey County Council is following the Department for Transport (DfT)/Active Travel England (ATE) process for developing LCWIP plans as we move towards having feasible schemes that meet the strict design standards required by ATE to support funding bids for the delivery of schemes.

Stage 1 of our LCWIP process is to develop the strategic plans with concept ideas and interventions produced for the priority schemes identified within each local area. During this initial planning stage, we undertake targeted engagement through a series of workshops held with internal and external stakeholders, local user groups, and local Councillors. Information gathered during these sessions is used to support the continued early-stage scheme development and design. Once each local area LCWIP plan is complete it is published on the Surrey County Council and Borough/District websites. Completion of the LCWIP plan moves us forward into stage 2.

Stage 2 of the LCWIP process takes forward the priority schemes identified within each plan through feasibility design. Local Councillors are engaged throughout this stage of scheme design/development as scheme options are progressed through feasibility design using ATE tools to measure against the required Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/20 cycle infrastructure design guidance, and the Healthy Streets design code. Other key local stakeholders are engaged during the feasibility stage, for example where land and other local requirements are needed to complete the scheme design options. Additional design review surgeries are held with ATE during the feasibility stage as we work towards having viable schemes that meet ATE requirements and having taken local requirements, where practicable, into consideration throughout this stage of design work. On completion of stage 2 we expect to have scheme design options ready to take forward to seek the views of the public during a series of consultation events and related publicity. A programme for the public consultation stage will be developed as we move towards completion of scheme design options. Feedback from the public consultation activity will help inform the proposed scheme designs, with local support needed to take schemes forward and onto securing delivery funding.

More information on the LCWIP programme and plans being developed is available on the SCC website [Plans to improve walking and cycling - Surrey County Council](#) . Further scheme specific information will be added to the project webpages when these are available. Public consultation on schemes and options being developed through this process is expected to take place from later this year.

This is an inclusive approach to engagement and information sharing, as we seek to proactively involve stakeholders at key stages of LCWIP development. It is also how the council seeks to work across all our activity areas.

Matt Furniss

Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth

25 February 2025

Question 2 (SC)

Question:

When, and how, will the public be notified of the outcome of the Council's recent public consultation about its proposals for felling, and replacing, four trees in Walton High Street? How will the Council make its decision about 'next steps' in the light of strong public opposition to its proposals?

Reply:

The formal consultation regarding the removal of the existing trees, which were damaged during the works carried out in April 2023, and their replacement with new species along Walton High Street, closed on 14th February. A total of 245 mixed responses have been received and are currently being collated. These will be thoroughly reviewed by Officers and the Divisional Members before a final decision is made in the coming weeks.

The outcome will be formally communicated via our website. Residents are invited to sign up for automated email updates on the broader Walton High Street scheme at the website provided below:

walton-high-street.commonplace.is

Matt Furniss

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