

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

13 June 2011

Report of the Director of Kent Highway Services

Part 1- Public

Matters For Information

1 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

Summary

This paper provides a comprehensive update on current and future works on the highway, funded from a range of sources.

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Highway and transportation improvement schemes are funded from a range of sources such as the Integrated Transport Programme, the Member Highway Fund and from contributions arising from the development planning process.

1.2 Funding Context

1.2.1 The funding context for the current and future years is a result of the pressures arising from the recent Comprehensive Spending Review. On 8 April 2011, Kent County Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste announced the programme of works that would comprise the Integrated Transport Programme 2011-12 at the KCC Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee **Annex 1**.

1.2.2 **Annex 2** identifies the Integrated Transport schemes across the county to be implemented in 2011-12. In addition to this list, a scheme to deliver the next phase of the River Dour cycleway in Dover is also being funded (£100k KCC investment). This scheme is being match-funded by Sustrans and is costing a total of £800k.

1.2.3 The schemes in Annex 2 have been mainly compiled from the 2010-11 schemes list. Members are aware that following the coalition Government's decision to reduce the in-year local authority Integrated Transport budget in June 2010, the County Council had to undertake a review of its capital funding prioritisation. This resulted in a significant reduction in the number of schemes that were programmed for delivery during the last financial year. This reduction was endorsed by KCC Cabinet scrutiny in July 2010.

1.2.4 Therefore, the 2011-12 Integrated Transport programme aims to clear some of the backlog of schemes which had previously been assessed, designed and consulted on and formally approved by the Cabinet Member. The schemes that will be delivered in 2011-12 focus on improving road safety, tackling congestion and maximising external funding contributions.

1.2.5 **Future bids for funding**

1.2.6 It is likely that approved schemes from the 2010-11 programme that have not yet been implemented will be given priority when compiling the 2012-13 programme.

1.2.7 For this reason, KHS are not investing significant resources in developing new Integrated Transport schemes at present. Only those that can demonstrate a quantifiable injury crash saving or assist in obtaining alternative sources of funding will be progressed. Instead, Members are encouraged to explore the opportunities presented by the Member Highway Fund. It has been agreed that the current Member Highway Fund Allocations will not be carried over into next financial year and therefore, all current allocations need to be spent by the end of this current financial year and as yet in Tonbridge and Malling slightly less than £400k (£395,649) is still to be committed. The current position on Member Highway Fund schemes is as set out in **Annex 3**.

1.3 **Developer Funded Schemes (Section 278 Works)**

1.3.1 These are works funded by developers approved via the planning process and subject to a Section 278 Agreement. Currently programmed schemes are listed at **Annex 4**.

1.4 **Developer Funded Schemes (Section 106) Schemes**

1.4.1 These are works to be funded by developers approved via the planning process and subject to a Section 106 Agreement as set out in **Annex 5**. This represents a considerable programme of highway and transportation improvement associated with development in the Borough over the next few years. It is characterised by a complex web of timescales, trigger points and overlapping works that will require careful co-coordinating. It could also require some advanced design work. This had previously been cut from the forward budget but it is pleasing to see that this facilitating provision has been reinstated in the programme set out in Annex 2.

1.5 **Legal Implications**

1.5.1 None at this stage.

1.6 **Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

1.6.1 As reported.

1.7 Risk Assessment

1.7.1 Not applicable.

1.8 Policy Considerations

1.8.1 Community.

Background papers:

Nil

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