

## LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL – MINUTES AND ACTIONS

	<b>PRESENT:</b>
<b>Date: 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>	<b>Panel Members:</b> Cllr Keith Bobbin, Cllr Anthony Hedley, Cllr Mark Ellis, Cllr Nigel Le Gresley, Cllr Malcolm Buckley, Cllr Kerry Smith
<b>Venue: Committee Room 4, County Hall</b>	
<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Kay Twitchen, Cllr Melissa McGeorge, Cllr William Archibald, Beverley Gould – Principal Transport Strategy and Engagement Officer	<b>Other Attendees:</b> Cllr Ray Howard – Deputy Cabinet Member, Will Price – Highway Liaison Officer, Anthony Buston - Senior Transport Strategy and Engagement Officer, Peter Wright - Design and Consultancy Manager, Helen Akpabio – Sustainable Travel Planning Manager

<b>Item:</b>	<b>Action:</b>	<b>Action Owner:</b>
1.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Cllr Bobbin welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> There were none.	
3.	<p><b>Minutes of meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014 and Matters Arising</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a correct record.</p> <p>As proposed at the last meeting, Helen Akpabio (Sustainable Travel Planning Manager) was invited to give an overview of the function of her team, and to discuss the ways in which they may be able help reduce inconsiderate/ anti-social driving and parking outside schools.</p> <p>HA described some of the initiatives the School Travel Plan Team had overseen prior to their previous disbanding (back in November 2011), and the positive impact these initiatives had on reducing car journeys. HA told the Panel that it was her hope to deliver similar local and national initiatives (such as Mode Shift Stars) with equally positive results. She described the way in which data would be compiled, through monitoring in the form of a ‘Hands Up’ survey, to provide evidence of the success of each initiative. She also informed the Panel of the importance of the support of head teachers and other local figureheads, and asked for the Panel’s help through the provision of any contacts alongside any suggestions they may have. HA invited any</p>	

	<p>questions/comments from the Panel.</p> <p>Cllr Buckley supported the positive initiatives outlined, but said that enforcement was also required to tackle those who would not participate. He outlined the impact the spy car had had in the past and also voiced his support for “drop off areas” outside new schools.</p> <p>Several Members agreed with the importance of enforcement. Councillor Le Gresley discussed the need for PCSO’s to be empowered to enforce traffic offences. He also spoke of the need for a co-ordinated approach across all agencies.</p> <p>Councillor Ellis suggested “traffic management plans” could be introduced whereby each school would be responsible for ensuring conscientious parking.</p> <p>Councillor Le Gresley voiced his concern at the lack of resource available to enforcement agencies.</p> <p>Councillor Hedley expressed a need for any positive initiatives to be cyclical, since cohorts of parents change every 3-5 years.</p> <p>HA thanked Members for their valuable input and asked them to send her any further ideas/information/contacts/requests.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Basildon District Approved Scheme List</b></p> <p>WP Highlighted the schemes that required discussion and asked that any other questions on existing schemes were raised:</p> <p>LBAS004001 – Basildon to Billericay Cycle Route – WP sought clarification from the Panel as to whether this scheme should be cancelled. Following the concerns shared by Cllr Twitchen and other Panel Members at the last meeting, and the request that a scheme of this type be considered only after the Basildon Settlement Plans had been finalised, WP suggested that this scheme should indeed be cancelled on the basis that it could be re-commissioned when and if the appropriate time arose. This was agreed by the Panel.</p> <p>LBAS001002 – Noak Hill junction with Wash Road – WP alerted the Panel to the completed Feasibility Study attached to the papers which had been undertaken following the cancellation of the “no right turn”</p>	WP

	<p>scheme. He advised the Panel that the study provided 3 possible improvement alternatives from which they could select their preferred option, and that this could be discussed within the potential schemes section of the meeting. Councillor Buckley raised his view that any scheme should look at High Road North, Dunton Road and Wash Road collectively rather than in isolation, since all 3 neighbouring roads shared similar problems. The Panel agreed this would be discussed further within the Potential Scheme section.</p> <p>LBAS142034 – Janet Duke School – Cllr Ellis noted that the delivery date for this scheme had slipped to 22/07/2015. He sought assurances that it would not slip any further. WP outlined the reasons for the slippage, advised that this was the current scheduled delivery date, and said that he would feed Councillor Ellis’ views back to engineers.</p> <p>LBAS142038 – Hillside Rd/Langemore Way – WP advised that no suitable use for the small amount of S106 money could be found/had been forthcoming. Therefore he recommended that the £1000 allocated to scheme design should be cancelled. Agreed by Panel.</p> <p>LBAS142049 – High Road North – WP advised that topographical surveys and detailed designs were now complete, and asked the Panel for approval of £16,000 to deliver works on the ground. This was agreed by the Panel. However, Cllr Buckley suggested that signs had already been changed. WP commented that this would not yet have happened as part of the scheme but that he would investigate where any new signage had come from. It was also agreed that High Road North would be monitored after the changes had been implemented. If any further alterations proved required these could be considered at a later date.</p> <p>LBAS 142044 – District Wide Surveys – The Panel approved the undertaking of surveys on Hill Avenue, Gardiners Lane North, Dunton Road and Bridge Street. They also agreed to allow the chair individually to approve the undertaking of surveys between meetings since it was accepted that this would speed up the validation process.</p>	<p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>WP</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Highways Improvements Programme - Schemes for Consideration 2015-16</b></p> <p>LBAS 152001 – Hornsby Way, Basildon – WP sought clarification as to whether the Panel wanted to go ahead with the recommendations of the feasibility study (i.e. the introduction of speed cushions, junction plateaus, or flat top road humps) or whether they still wished to explore alternative measures alike the CCTV that had been discussed at the previous meeting. There was a discussion around the merits of CCTV and many agreed with Cllr Ellis that if it were to deter drivers from using</p>	

	<p>Hornsby Way it may simply displace them elsewhere. Cllr Howard and Cllr Smith suggested that uninsured drivers and others committing driving offences should have their vehicles crushed. WP explained that this would be the responsibility of the police/DVLA and not something over which the Panel could take any direct action. WP appreciated the sentiment of the Panel in seeking more sweeping action, but suggested that as a Localism Panel we should also seek to resolve issues on a case by case basis. The Panel agreed that this potential scheme should be considered again in March following a prior meeting with the Essex Chief Constable.</p> <p>LBAS 152004 – Noak Hill junction with Wash Road – WP gave the Panel an overview of the options outlined in the study (roundabout, mini roundabout or traffic lights) and advised that the next phase of the process relied upon the Panel selecting one of these options, after which engineers could undertake traffic modelling and other survey work to assess the way in which this would affect the road network in the locality. In light of Councillor Buckley’s sentiment that improvements should consider High Road North and Dunton Road too WP advised that surveys/modelling could be expanded to look at these roads in more detail. WP and PW advised that the estimated cost for surveys would then rise to £20,000. Councillor Hedley reminded the Panel that numerous options had been considered/initiated at Noak Hill Rd/Wash Rd in the past only to be cancelled. It was his view that officer’s recommendations should be followed and decisive action taken. The Panel agreed upon the option of a signalised junction and the undertaking of surveys/traffic modelling looking also at Dunton Rd and High Rd North.</p> <p>LBAS 152005 – High Road, Langdon Hills – The removal of barriers where still present and replacement with bollards, bend warning signage and a tree/end barrier system was described by WP and approved by the Panel (Estimated cost £27,000).</p> <p>LBAS152006 – Byway 17, Little Burstead – Alterations/improvements to drainage capacity and surface of the PROW were approved by the Panel (Estimated cost £15,000)</p> <p>WP advised that there were a number of other schemes listed which had been requested by Panel Members but which had not yet been validated, and invited any questions/comments.</p>	<p>WP</p>
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	<p>Councillor Ellis advised that the un-validated section of the papers should list who each request had come from. WP to include this at next meeting.</p> <p>Twinstead - Councillor Buckley suggested that the removal of speed humps on Twinstead should only be considered if there is majority support from local residents. Therefore consultation would need to be undertaken as part of any scheme.</p> <p>Golden Jubilee Way – WP commented that a pedestrian crossing had been requested at this location in the past but this had proved unfeasible. WP suggested that the Panel may be better advised to explore the possibility of expanding/changing drainage infrastructure in the subway to prevent it from becoming flooded. The Panel agreed. WP to explore this in advance of the next meeting.</p>	<p>WP</p> <p>WP</p>
8.	<p><b>A.O.B</b></p> <p>Councillor Ellis sought action to resolve parking issues outside the David Lloyd Fitness Centre on Festival Way. WP explained that he was liaising with SEPP since the introduction of parking restrictions here did not meet Essex County Council’s collision or congestion criteria. Update to be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Smith enquired about the cost of installing a new salt bin. WP said he would email Councillor Smith with the cost as he was unsure at that time.</p> <p>Councillor Hedley outlined proposals to create a formal parking area close to Billericay School. Members and Peter Wright agreed that this was a good idea in principle. WP asked that Councillor Hedley send in a scheme request form so that this could be explored in more detail.</p> <p>WP sought an allocation of £2500 of 2014/15 funding to put “Keep Clear” markings on the Sun Corner Roundabout to prevent cars blocking exits from adjoining roads. This was approved by the Panel.</p> <p>Councillor Bobbin proposed that 15 mins during each meeting should be dedicated to non-panel members wishing to discuss issues. This was agreed, with Members saying it should take place at the end of the meeting once visitors to the Panel had chance to hear the meeting’s proceedings.</p>	<p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>AH</p>
9.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	

	Members agreed the next meeting could be brought forward to the 26 <sup>th</sup> March. Further dates to be circulated by email.	WP
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