

MALDON DISTRICT LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2023 at 13:00P.M.

MICROSOFT TEAMS

Chairman:	Councillor M F L Durham (MD)
Panel Members:	Essex County Council – Councillor J Fleming (JF), Councillor W Stamp (WS) Maldon District Council – Councillor S Morgan (SM)
Officers:	EH Daniel Maclean (DM)– Highways Liaison Officer Team Leader
Secretariat:	Susan Hylands – Maldon District Council

Item		Owner
1.	Welcome and Introductions: The Chairman welcomed all Members to the meeting of the Maldon District Local Highways Panel and advised on the protocol for today's meeting.	Chairman
2.	Apologies for absence: Cllr S Morgan	All
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2023 were received and confirmed.	All
4.	Matters Arising from Minutes of the previous meeting: 20 July 2023 A review of the actions was undertaken: MFD advised that the SEPP funding has been used to fund a S106 officer on a fixed term contract at MDC as agreed at MDC's S&R Committee. They will be tasked with ensuring the delivery of projects.	All

<p>, 5.</p>	<p>Report on Funded Schemes 2023/24</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Officer drew the Panel’s attention to page 8 of the report which identified all of the requests that have been approved for funding.</p> <p>Potential carry forward from 2022/23 (subject to approval from ECC) Total value of potential carry forward schemes from 2022/23 £217,000 Sub-Total £217,000</p> <p>LHP Funding 2023/24 LHP funding 2023/24 £200,000 Reduction for Countywide Casualty Reduction Schemes - £29,250 Budget for Carriageway improvements - £70,750 Sub-Total £100,000</p> <p>Budget Summary 2022/23 Budget for LHP improvement schemes 2023/24 £100,000 Scheme Recommendations £87,500 Remaining budget to allocate £12,500</p> <p>DM provided a summary. It was noted that the capital budget has been used for planned maintenance. MFD noted that we were not advised in advance that we were going to lose an additional £70k. DM advised that he had spoken to the Assets Team who will be contacting Members with a breakdown of the three lists to show which roads are being treated.</p> <p>WS asked if each LHP had been required to contribute the same amount and if notification was given and what recourse is available via the Chairman/Chairman’s Panel. She now feels that it is unlikely her Division will receive any improvements and recorded her dissatisfaction.</p> <p>DM confirmed that the amount of £70,750 was Maldon’s allocation which follows the LHP formula. This amount will be for carriageway improvements throughout Maldon in addition to the pre-planned maintenance programme. The decision was made by the Cabinet office.</p> <p>MFD asked for confirmation that if the amount was proportionate to our overall budget have other panels lost even more and DM confirmed this was the case.</p> <p>MFD advised that he will raise the Panels’ concerns with the Chairman’s Panel or speak direct to the Cabinet Member.</p>	
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<p>JF noted that she did not recollection being consulted on the reduction for carriageway improvements. This is supposed to be a democratic Panel and the Panel wasn't given the opportunity to be involved. She noted her concerns around the overall principle of deducting money without consultation which throws into question why the Panel sits. JF requested a list of the spend of the £70k. She also noted a concern around the reduction in funding for casualty reduction schemes – there are two hotspots in her division with recent fatalities and there is nothing being put in place to address this</p> <p>DM responded and advised that the carriageway improvements list was circulated by the Cabinet Member earlier in the year which was all of the highway works in list of priority, Members were asked if they wanted to amend or feed in but it was recommended that the order was followed in order of severity.</p> <p>MFD noted that the resurfacing works in Fambridge Road and Wantz Road came from this funding.</p> <p>DM confirmed that with regard to the Casualty Reduction Unit each Panel makes a contribution which is then spent across the County not split in District. This is purely based reactively on sites throughout Essex. If accidents have occurred, they will flag up and may see those sites appearing in the list next year.</p> <p>MFD noted that the 40 mph speed limit extension on Maypole Road, Five Corners is out for consultation and that is funded through the casualty reduction funding.</p> <p>There is £12,500 remaining in the capital pot for schemes this year. Confirmation was received this week of the slippage available and MDC are receiving £59,625 of slippage. There were quite a few schemes last year that the Panel recommended that couldn't be delivered. Those schemes that were committed to but couldn't be delivered have been classed as slippage. The only scheme in Maldon was the Tiptree Road Wickham Bishops which Panel has funded this year. This provides a total of £72,125 remaining this year.</p> <p>MFD – noted and queried that we had 21 funded schemes in 2022/23 totalling £261,500 where we were hoping to get the funding back from to achieve all of the schemes already agreed but this now won't happen.</p> <p>DM confirmed this was the case and that these are now on the schemes awaiting funding. Those that weren't delivered haven't slipped unless committed to so all other schemes are now essentially awaiting funding. Another element is that the Panels allocated schemes to the amount expected and when that wasn't released any schemes under that amount weren't slipped either. They will now need to be reconsidered for funding either this year or next year.</p>	
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	<p>MFD confirmed that from last year's funded schemes the Station Road, Southminster 20 mph, Vicarage Road Tillingham, Marsh Rd, Tillingham have all gone. There are now have 54 traffic management schemes awaiting funding which total £432,750 and we have £70k.</p> <p>DM confirmed that this was the case.</p> <p>JF noted her concerns around the wider issue that when schemes become funded Members report back to Parishes and then lose credibility when they are not delivered. JF requested that her view that is not acceptable is fed back.</p> <p>MFD confirmed that he will be raising with the new Cabinet Member as an issue in terms of credibility and electorally.</p> <p>It was noted that Cllr Cunningham is the new Cabinet Member for Highways.</p> <p>WS agreed with the concerns stated by JF/MFD and asked for a statement from Cabinet or the Leader regarding the Highways Panel that Members can cascade to Parishes.</p> <p>JF noted that the problems are exacerbated in the District as there are only three Members and it is the District with the highest car use in the County.</p> <p>Action: MFD will write to the Cabinet Member and copy in WS/JF to request a written position.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Report on Schemes Awaiting Future Funding:</p> <p>The Highways Liaison Officer drew the Panel's attention to page 10 of the report which identified all of the requests that have been received for the consideration of the Maldon Local Highways Panel.</p> <p>The panel are asked to review the schemes making their funding recommendation for those schemes they wish to see delivered and also remove any which they would not want to consider for future funding.</p> <p>The breakdown of scheme types available for consideration is as below:</p>	<p>Highways Liaison Officer</p>

Budget Summary

Traffic Management	£432,750
Walking	£56,500
Passenger Transport	£15,500
Total	£504,750

DM suggested that due to timescales focus should be on design with a view to funding implementation next year.

MFD view that should concentrate on small things that can be delivered such as 20's plenty. He noted a concern that if only pursue design schemes then nothing will be delivered. Views were invited.

The meeting discussed the option of allocating £25k to each Member for their area. DM noted that where there are no TROs involved if a scheme was recommended he could speak to the design team to see if delivery could be fitted into the programme. The proviso would be that there is a risk due to the late stage in the year.

The meeting noted particular issue at Kitts Hill and it was agreed that DM would arrange a meeting with the Design Team and will report back by email to confirm what can be added to the programme. DM confirmed that the small schemes such as 20's plenty and signage are much more likely to be delivered as can be done via direct delivery. It was suggested that Members highlight their priority schemes and DM can then highlight any real concerns around these. Anything with a TRO won't happen as the TRO process is too long and no money for the surveys.

WS raised a question around the speed reduction on Fambridge Road as Cllr Scott had advised this would be delivered. DM confirmed that he is awaiting an update from the head of the Road Safety Team and will advise WS once received.

In response to a question around the scheme at Cock Clarks, MFD confirmed that the last Chairman's Panel didn't consider any schemes from any District but instead set out the road map and the agreement made at that Panel was that had to all submit the schemes that we wanted to be on the agenda for the next Panel. DM highlighted that Cllr Scott contacted DM asking for the confirmed cost and scope of Hackmans Lane as he wants to find the money to get it delivered. So although it wasn't considered at the Panel it does seem as though it is being progressed separately. DM has gone back to him with costings.

	<p>The meeting noted their concerns around the functioning of the Highways Panels.</p> <p>Agreed/Action:</p> <p>Members to provide recommendations for their £25k spend to DM by close of play 28 09 23.</p>	
7.	<p>Report on Revenue Spend</p> <p>No Discussion.</p>	
8.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no further business for discussion.</p>	
9.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>TBC</p>	