

		<b>AGENDA ITEM 5</b>
		<b>PSEG/02/14</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>23 January 2014</b>	
<b>LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANELS</b>		
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Councillor Rodney Bass, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation, has written as follows to the Chairman seeking an opportunity to address the Committee on the Local Highways Panels (LHPs).

‘During the course of the meeting of your Committee to consider the call in of my decision to re profile capital allocations to the LHPs for 2013/14 and to reallocate to other schemes just over £4M, I unwittingly made statements about the expected delivery of LHP schemes in the current which were far too optimistic for which I must apologise.

While this error does not negate the rationale for my earlier decision in any way (but on the contrary strengthens it to the tune of between £4M and £6M which is the amount of the further potential slippage on LHP schemes) it is a poor reflection of the responsiveness of the Highways service to the requirements and directions of the LHPs and in the management of its capital programme.

I shall, therefore, be obliged if you will allow me to make a further statement to your Committee in the New Year about the measures we shall now be taking to improve the responsiveness of the service to the decisions of the LHPs. I should also add that the Capital programme for next year 2014/5 will be the first that as Cabinet Member, I will have had an opportunity to help construct and I will try to ensure that it is both realistic and carefully monitored.’

*Note: Minute 4 of Committee meeting held on 24 October 2014 provides further background on this topic. The minutes are attached to this agenda.*

**Action required by the Committee:**

**On the basis of his request Councillor Bass be invited to address the Committee on the LHPs.**

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