

Forward Plan reference number: N/A

Report title: Local Highway Panel - Scheme Approvals for Essex Local Highway Panel Delivery for Financial Year 19/20	
Report to: Councillor Kevin Bentley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Deputy Leader	
Report author: Andrew Cook, Director for Highways and Transportation	
Date: 8 April 2019	For: Decision
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County Divisions affected: Essex Wide	

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. For the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Deputy Leader to consider the schemes which have been recommended unanimously by the Essex Local Highway Panels.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. For the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Deputy Leader to approve and sign off recommended Local Highway Panel schemes, in consultation with the Director for Highways & Transportation.

3. Summary of issue

- 3.1. Local Highway Panel meetings are held throughout Essex to identify local minor highway improvement schemes.
- 3.2. Local Highways Panel members have considered and recommended schemes within each Borough/City/District for approval by the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Deputy Leader. The report in Appendix 1 identifies the new schemes which each of the Local Highway Panels would like to recommend to be delivered in the 19/20 financial year.

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- 3.3. The Local Highways Panels have been established across each Borough/City/District to provide a forum for elected Members to consider and make recommendations for small highway improvement schemes within their given area.
- 3.4. This report includes all 12 panel sign off approvals however does not include schemes which will be considered as part of the Casualty Reduction Programme or the Match Funding which were agreed at previous panel meetings for delivery in 19/20. These will be signed by the Cabinet Member separately via their own CMA. It does however include any schemes which have been signed off in the previous financial year but require funding in 19/20 to complete.
- 3.5. The Appendix 1 scheme list includes for some panels a contribution to future Direct Delivery schemes, these will be smaller schemes which the panels would like to recommend between panel meetings without the need for additional Cabinet Member sign off. The reason for this is to ensure that these smaller schemes are able to be delivered quickly from request to installation. A maximum of £50,000 (10% of their panel budget) per panel has been allocated for these schemes. Direct Delivery Schemes can include but are not limited to bollards, signing, lining, minor footway improvements, bus stop raised kerbs and dropped kerbs.

4. Options

1 - That the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Deputy Leader approves the scheme funding recommendations made by the Local Highways Panel for formal sign-off. This is the recommended option by the 12 Local Highway Panels and officers to ensure that the schemes chosen under Localism are delivered.

2 – That the Cabinet Member does not approve the schemes in Appendix 1 for funding in financial year 2019/20. The risk with this option is that the Local Highway Panel funding will not be spent on the schemes chosen via Localism.

5. Issues for consideration

- 5.1. **Financial implications** - All 12 Panels have been allocated individual funding budgets divided to take account a number of influences, including road length, population and employment statistics. The amount allocated to each District/Borough/City will have a floor of £200,000 and a ceiling of £500,000.

District	Budget	Appendix 1
Basildon	£500,000.00	£451,750
Braintree	£407,788.87	£342,500
Brentwood	£224,937.91	£99,500
Castle Point	£228,675.30	£199,500
Chelmsford	£500,000.00	£437,000
Colchester	£500,000.00	£326,500
Epping Forest	£349,774.98	£185,000
Harlow	£243,657.67	£231,700
Maldon	£200,000.00	£115,000
Rochford	£213,904.24	£183,000
Tendring	£395,240.49	£289,000
Uttlesford	£236,020.54	£215,000
Total	£4,000,000.00	£3,075,450

- 5.1.2. All schemes are funded within the existing budget allocation. Not all panels have commissioned to 100% of their budget the majority should be able to agree their remaining budget at their June panel meeting. Tendring LHP over delivered against their budget last year so will not be able to commission any further schemes until the match funding has been resolved.

- 5.2. **Legal implications** All schemes are in line with Essex County Council policies, strategies and guidelines or have undergone the required CMA process to approve their progression.

6. Equality and Diversity implications

- 6.1. The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:
- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
 - (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- 6.2. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or

belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).

- 6.3. The equality impact assessment indicates that the proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic.
- 6.4. Each Local Highways Panel scheme varies from a speed survey to the installation of a traffic sign. Each local highway improvement scheme is in line with local and national policies which have already been subject to EqIA and no equality and diversity issues have been identified. Copy of EqIA is in Appendix 2.

7. List of appendices

Appendix 1 – Local Highways Panel Scheme Approvals Sheet –
19/20 Programme of Works

Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment

8. List of Background papers

Scheme Request Forms and pertaining documentary evidence, Validation Reports, Proposal Scheme Lists are all available on request.

I approve the above recommendations set out above for the reasons set out in the report.	Date
Councillor Kevin Bentley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Deputy Leader	30/08/2019

In consultation with:

Role	Date
Director Highways and Transportation Andrew Cook	16/05/2019
Executive Director for Corporate and Customer Services (S151 Officer) Margaret Lee	Consent not needed

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Director, Legal and Assurance (Monitoring Officer)	Consent not needed
Paul Turner	
	14/05/2019
Vicky Presland, Head of Design Services	