

**Market and Coastal Towns Rural Foundation Programme/Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 2011 to 2026: Proposed Programme 2012/13 to 2014/15**

Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

***Please note that the following recommendation is subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.***

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the transport capital programme for the East Devon HATOC area agreed by Cabinet on 11 July 2013 is noted.

**1. Summary**

This report summarises the 2013/14 and 2014/15 schemes relevant to the East Devon HATOC area that were agreed by Cabinet in July 2013. The programme takes account of the additional funding awarded by the Department of Transport (DfT) for various schemes across the County.

**2. Background/Introduction**

The June 2013 meeting of this committee received a report on the Local Scheme programme funded through the Local Transport Plan Integrated Block only. That report noted that Cabinet approval for the wider programme from all capital funding sources would be sought in July 2013 and the approved programme reported to the HATOCs at the next round of meetings.

The July report to Cabinet took account of anticipated DfT funding decisions on a number of bids by the County Council. This included the Local Pinchpoint Fund and Linking Communities funding for National Parks as well as DCC supported Highways Agency bids for pinch points on the strategic network.

**3. Proposal**

Appendix I sets out the schemes that are expected to be constructed or design progressed in East Devon in 2013/14 and 2014/15 in addition to those noted in June's report.

The missing section of the Exe Estuary cycle route at Clyst Bridge is expected to be completed in the 2013/14 financial year. Much of the Stop Line Way cycle route section between Seaton and Colyton is also expected to be completed in the current financial year.

Design work, consultation and land negotiations are progressing in 2013/14 for the Sidbury to Sidford, Northern Exmouth to Exe Estuary and Town Centre and Woodbury to Exe Estuary cycle links with the intention of the schemes being implemented in 2014/15.

Discussions are continuing with Exmouth Town Council on the completion of the final stage of the Strand enhancement scheme by the end of 2013/14.

Work has started on the new Cranbrook rail station with completion of the scheme expected in 2014/15. Design work on an improved public transport interchange at Exmouth is being progressed and this will be followed by a consultation. Although a long term proposal initial

feasibility work has also begun on the creation of an additional loop on the railway line between Exeter and Honiton/Axminster. This would enable a future half hourly frequency on this section of the line subject to service viability and provide greater resilience to the network when the Great Western Main Line via Cowley Bridge is closed. It would also support planned housing and employment growth in East Devon. External funding would be required for any scheme to proceed in the future.

Design work is also being progressed on longer term schemes associated with the infrastructure plan in the East Devon Local Plan. These include the Axminster Relief Road, Skypark spine road and the Dinan Way extension, Exmouth. Initial study work will also begin on long term improvements to the A30/A303 through East Devon and beyond in conjunction with the Highways Agency.

There is one casualty and severity reduction scheme in the East Devon area in 2013/14 at Putts Corner, Sidbury. The 2014/15 programme is currently being reviewed and this HATOC will be notified of any potential schemes in the area when it is available.

There are a number of countywide schemes being progressed that will benefit East Devon. The South West Smartcard project is now almost complete with the majority of bus operators having now installed smart card reading equipment. These accept the National Bus Pass for older people and in some cases those with disabilities. Operators are now working with the County Council to introduce new smartcard bus tickets for all users that offer greater flexibility and value for money as well as greater convenience.

The County Council is working jointly with Torbay Council to introduce real time bus information across Devon which will be available through a variety of mediums including the internet and mobile phones. Screens will be provided at a limited number of locations across the County and the proposed sites will be confirmed in 2014. The service will replace the current limited system for Exeter. It is hoped that the service will be made available from mid-2014. It is intended that the system will also support bus priority at selected traffic signal sites across the County. This will improve the punctuality of services by reducing late running and also help improve their financial viability.

A programme of public rights of way improvements will be made across the County but the detailed locations were not available at the time this report was written.

#### **4. Consultations/Representations/Technical Data**

The overall shape of the programme has been based on the Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2026 which included extensive consultation. This has been supplemented by consultation on the East Devon Local Plan including the infrastructure necessary to support growth and development.

Reports to Cabinet and HATOC for detailed design approval include information on the detailed consultation undertaken for each individual scheme.

#### **5. Financial Considerations**

The programme of schemes in the area is funded by a combination of sources including Local Transport Plan Integrated Block, developer contributions and external funds.

## 6. Legal Considerations

There are no specific legal considerations affecting the programme of schemes. Individual scheme approval reports will detail any legal issues specifically affecting them.

## 7. Risk Management Considerations

The programme has been planned to minimise risks to delivery by making prudent assumptions about funding, consultation and technical risks associated with individual schemes.

Each individual scheme is regularly assessed for risks at its different stages of design and construction with appropriate mitigation measures introduced where possible. Individual scheme reports to Cabinet and HATOC will include information on relevant risks.

## 8. Options/Alternatives

The programme for the area has been developed on the basis of the strategies within the Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2026. The phasing of schemes over the period is based on a number of factors including available funding and technical requirements.

Some schemes are linked to specific locations/types or funding sources such as S106 agreements. Options for individual schemes will be explained in the relevant scheme design approval report.

## 9. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The programme agreed by Cabinet supports the twin major Local Transport Plan objectives of economic growth and carbon reduction whilst also making a contribution to improving public health by encouraging increased levels of walking and cycling. It presents good value for money whilst also making effective use of external funding sources.

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## Electoral Divisions: All in East Devon

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Reference
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Nil

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sc/cr/ltp programme  
03 211013

**Appendix I  
To PTE/13/92**

2013/14 and 2014/15 Programme of Schemes in East Devon

See also the programme of local schemes included in the June report to this committee.

<b>East Devon</b>			
<b>Scheme</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Scheme Preparation:</b> Axminster Relief Road; Dinan Way, Exmouth; A376/A3052 Clyst St Mary; A303 Improvements, Skypark spine road	<i>tbc</i>	<i>tbc</i>	<i>tbc</i>
Exe Estuary Cycle Route	2,600,000	0	2,600,000
The Strand, Exmouth	<i>tbc</i>	0	<i>tbc</i>
Stop Line Way cycle route	624,000	0	624,000
Exeter to Broadclyst cycle route	3,000	132,000	136,000
<b>Bus Waiting infrastructure improvements:</b> Bus shelters - Clyst St George	3,000		3,000
<b>Local Walking and Cycling Improvements:</b> Sidbury-Sidford	30,000	500,000	530,000
<b>Strategic Cycle Network - Rural Connections:</b> Woodbury to Exe Estuary Trail	15,000	<i>tbc</i>	<i>tbc</i>
<b>Strategic Cycle Network - Urban Connections:</b> Northern Exmouth to Exe Estuary Walking and Cycling Link	50,000	248,000	298,000
Devon Metro Station Programme - Exmouth Public Transport Interchange	15,000	80,000	95,000
Devon Metro Station Programme - Cranbrook Station	2,000,000	1,786,000	3,786,000
Devon Metro Station Programme - South West Main Line Study	40,000	0	40,000
<b>Casualty Severity and Reduction:</b> A375 Putts Corner, Sidbury	20,000		

<b>Countywide</b>			
<b>Scheme</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>Total</b>
Smarter Travel - South West Smartcard Project	20,000	0	20,000
Countywide Bus Real Time Information System (Back Office)	50,000	161,000	211,000
Countywide Bus Real Time Information System (On-street signing)	50,000	100,000	150,000
Countywide Bus Real Time Information System (bus priority at traffic signals)	50,000	100,000	150,000
Public Rights of Way Improvements	150,000	100,000	250,000