

Market and Coastal Towns and Rural Devon Foundation and TCI Programmes/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 Mid 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 Mid 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 Mid Devon in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Crediton Link Road was awarded £2.961m from the DfT's Local Pinch Point Fund. The remainder of the funding is a combination of County Council borrowing and Section 106 agreements. Construction on the scheme has commenced.

The County Council contributed design funding and resources to enable the Highways Agency to successfully bid for the DfT's strategic network Pinch Point fund. This secured £1.4m for widening the southbound exit slip road at Junction 27 of the M5 from two to three lanes and enhancing the roundabout carriageway to dedicated two lanes. This includes installing part-time motion sensitive traffic signals at the top of the northbound and southbound off slips, leading onto the roundabout. These traffic signals will detect queuing and approaching traffic and react to maximise the amount of green light time and so minimise queuing traffic.

The first phase of the M5 Junction 28 improvements was completed in 2012/13. It is anticipated that Phase 2 works will start in Spring 2014. The scheme is funded by Mid Devon District Council using developer contributions.

Design and planning work on the proposed Tiverton Eastern Urban Extension access is continuing to progress it towards funding from the Government's new Single Local Growth Fund.

Joint funding County Council and Mid Devon District Council funding will enable design work on the Cullompton Eastern Distributor Road to continue to progress. The initial stage includes a Flood Risk Assessment.

The programme for Mid Devon includes one casualty and severity reduction scheme in 2013/14 at Higher Bull Ring/High Street, Cullompton. Casualty and severity reduction schemes for 2014/15 are yet to be confirmed and HATOCs will be advised at the beginning of the 2014/15 financial year.

There are a number of countywide schemes being progressed that will benefit Mid 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 the county 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 Mid Devon Local Development Framework/Local Plan to 2026 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.

Dave Black
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Electoral Divisions: All in Mid 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
01 hq 240913

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

| Mid Devon | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Scheme | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | Total |
| Crediton Link Road | 5,000,000 | 3,568,000 | 8,568,000 |
| M5 Junction 28 | 543,000 | 35,000 | 578,000 |
| M5 Junction 27 (Highways Agency) | tbc | tbc | 1,400,000 |
| Highway Improvements: Cullompton Station Road/High Street | 97,835 | 0 | 97,835 |
| Local Walking & Cycling Improvements: South View Road footbridge, Willand; Belle Parade Crediton; Higher Mill Lane/Middle Mill Lane, Cullompton | 157,185 | | 157,185 |
| Scheme Preparation: Cullompton Eastern Distributor Road; Tiverton Eastern Urban Access | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Casualty and Severity Reduction: B3181 Higher Bull Ring/High Street, Cullompton | 20,000 | | 20,000 |
| Devon Metro Station Improvements- Access to Morchard Road Station | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 |
| Devon Metro Station Programme - Eggesford Car Park | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 |
| Total | | | 10,831,020 |

| Countywide | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Scheme | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | Total |
| 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 |