

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 South Hams HATOC area agreed by Cabinet on 10 July 2013 is noted.

1. Summary

This report summarises the 2013/14 and 2014/15 schemes relevant to the South Hams 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 July 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 South Hams in 2013/14 and 2014/15 in addition to the local schemes noted in July's HATOC report.

The 10 July Cabinet meeting considered a report on a proposed scheme at Redworth junction, Totnes incorporating improved pedestrian crossing facilities as well as replacement of the ageing traffic signal equipment. It decided to defer a decision on this scheme in the light of representations received to enable the consideration of the suggested alternatives. Since then the signal equipment has been declared electrically unsafe and it has been decided to replace the signal equipment only in its current layout from maintenance budgets. Future alternative junction layout options, including those put forward by local community representatives, will be considered for future implementation.

A new section of the South West Coast footpath will be completed at Strete by March 2014 at a cost of £345,000, jointly funded by Natural England and the County Council through the Local Transport Plan. This replaces one of the last on-road and unattractive sections of the path.

The A38 Deep Lane junction has been the subject of past consultation on future major improvements in conjunction with the new community at Sherford and extensions to the Langage Business Park. Some S106 funding is available to complete an initial phase of works by 2017. The Section 106 for Sherford was signed this month, enabling the planning permission to be granted. Work on the delivery of Sherford is due to start imminently and this gives the impetus to consider options for the future delivery of the junction improvement and other ancillary schemes such as the Park and Ride.

This Committee has received a number of reports on the alternative traffic management options for Totnes High Street. Some funding will be available for further improvements in this location and linked schemes in surrounding streets (including Coronation Road) subject to a future decision on a permanent scheme.

The July meeting of this Committee approved the installation of a zebra crossing on Plymouth Road to improve the pedestrian experience there. This scheme is funded from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) and is almost complete.

There are a number of countywide schemes being progressed that will benefit South Hams. 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 South Hams Local Plan to 2033 including the infrastructure necessary to support growth and development.

The Totnes on the Move Community Board plays a major role in informing priorities for the area. Its proposed prioritised schemes will be considered for future available funding primarily linked to S106 contributions.

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 South Hams

[Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers](#)

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Background Paper	Date	File Reference
Nil		
aa071113shh	sc/cr/ltp programm	04 hq 191113

**Appendix I
To PTE/13/99**

2013/14 and 2014/15 Programme of Schemes in South Hams

South Hams			
Scheme	2013/14	2014/15	Total
A38 Deep Lane Junction		55,000	55,000
Bus waiting infrastructure improvements: Bus shelters - Ivybridge	5,000		5,000
Highway Improvements: Totnes High Street/ Coronation Road/Station Road traffic management and pedestrian crossing	25,000	TBC	25,000
Strete - new section of South West Coast Path	345,000	0	345,000

In addition there are local schemes for 2013/14 and 2014/15 totalling approx. £145,000 as per HATOC report 12 July 2013.

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