

## HIGHWAYS LOCAL SERVICE AGREEMENT QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT APRIL TO JUNE 2006

### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This quarterly update report is to inform Rochford District Council (RDC) Members of Essex County Council (ECC) Highway and Transportation issues in the district in the period from April to June 2006. This is in accordance with the working arrangements outlined in the Local Service Agreement.

### 2 BUDGETS FOR 2006/07

- 2.1 The currently known allocations are shown below although they are subject to minor changes on a needs – must basis.

### 3 THE LOCALLY DETERMINED BUDGET (LDB) 2006/07

- 3.1 This budget has been addressed within the separate Locally Determined Budget report 2006/07 presented to this Committee on 11 July 2006.

### 4 PATCHING, POTHoles & MINOR REPAIRS BUDGET 2006/2007 (Basic Maintenance)

- 4.1 This is essentially the basic maintenance budget with some of the allocation coming from revenue funds and some from capital funds.

#### 4.2 Revenue Budget

The Revenue Budget comprises small-scale work such as the routine patching of footways and carriageways, emergency drainage repairs and safety fence repairs, etc. Routine defects are identified by regular visual inspections and external sources of information.

<b>County Roads</b>	<b>£92,865</b>
<b>Local Roads</b>	<b>£87,611</b>
<b>Planned Parish Visits</b>	<b>£50,000</b>
<b>Drainage Investigations</b>	<b>£50,000</b>

#### Planned Parish Visits

This budget specifically allocates funding for schemes identified by the Parish Councils. We feel this is an important function of the highway authority as it ensures each parish receives some attention on issues important to the community. Requests have been slow coming in from some of the parishes this year so we have identified some of the work ourselves to ensure each parish receives its share. Work has yet to commence on these schemes.

**4.3 Capital Budget**

The Capital Budget will be spent on named Basic Maintenance Schemes as above exceeding an initial threshold of £2k.

<b>County Roads</b>	<b>£114,859</b>
<b>Local Roads</b>	<b>£110,634</b>

**5 TREES & WEEDS BUDGET 2006/07 (ENVIRONMENTAL)**

- 5.1 This allocation is for verge / weed control, scavenging and highway tree maintenance in the district.

<b>County Roads</b>	<b>£22,015</b>
<b>Local Roads</b>	<b>£21,205</b>

**6 DRAINS, SIGNS & LINES 2006/7 (SAFETY)**

- 6.1 This budget covers the twice yearly gully cleanse together with the maintenance of signs and lines.

<b>County Roads</b>	<b>£ 55,515</b>
<b>Local Roads</b>	<b>£ 53,473</b>

**7 GRASS CUTTING BUDGET 2006/07**

- 7.1 Most of this budget goes directly to Rochford DC to undertake the highway verge grass cutting on behalf of ECC. The remainder is used at the discretion of ECC to undertake ad-hoc safety cutting.

<b>Rochford DC Allocation</b>	<b>£33,455</b>
<b>ECC Allocation</b>	<b>£7,510</b>

**8 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (PROW) BUDGET 2006/07**

- 8.1 This budget has not yet been allocated but is for the continual maintenance of all footpaths, bridleways, etc. The additional 5 year rolling programme budget will continue this year to assist in the implementation this programme.

<b>All 'Ways'</b>	<b>£59,800</b>
<b><u>South Area</u> Ring Fenced 5yr Rolling Programme Allocation</b>	<b>£30,000</b>

The 20% PROW areas to receive visits this year will be Canewdon, Ashingdon and Rayleigh.

## **9 FOOTWAY MAINTENANCE SCHEMES**

- 9.1 The South Area has been allocated £634,615 for the maintenance of footways. We are continuing from last year with footway maintenance work in Plumberow Avenue and Grove Road. In addition, we are investigating schemes in Lascelles Gardens, Rochford, Princess Gardens, Rochford and Whitehall Road, Great Wakering.

### **Rochford Schemes**

**£200,000**

## **10 THE ECC MAINTENANCE INITIATIVE IN ROCHFORD DISTRICT 2006/07**

- 10.1 The South Area Office has been allocated £3.2m for the delivery of the ECC Maintenance Initiative in 2006/07 with £1.2m allocated specifically for the Rochford District. Below is a list of schemes identified from ECC survey data and local knowledge. This budget is subject to change as the year progresses so we have produced a reserve list of schemes that may or may not be undertaken.

<b>Road Name</b>	<b>Location description</b>
Carpenters Arms A129	west of petrol station dip - Resurfacing (1000m)
A1245	Carpenters Arms to Bedloes - Joints & overlay (300m)
Eastwood Road, Rayleigh	Poplar Road to Southend boundary - Resurfacing (1000m)
Eastwood Road, Rayleigh	Queens Road to Trinity Road - Resurfacing (400m)
Spa Road, Hockley	Spa PH to Station Approach - Resurfacing (200m)
Shopland Road, Sutton	Sutton Road to Shopland Hall - Resurfacing (1600m)
Lower Road, Hockley	Lovedown Farm to Beckney Farm - Surface Dressing (1000m)
Lambourne Hall Road, Canewdon	Gardners Lane to Loftmans Corner - Surface Dressing (1000m)
Barling Road, Barling	Stonebridge to Blue House Farm - Surface Dressing (1000m)
Barling Road, Barling	Silchester to Stonebridge - Surface Dressing (1000m)
Barling Road	Blue House to Barling - Surface Dressing (500m)
Anchor Lane, Canewdon	Larkhill Road to Gardners Lane - Surface Dressing (700m)
B1013 Stroud Green Rbt, Rochford	
Rectory Road, Hawkwell	from Main Road for 300m and under bridge - (200m)
Rectory Road, Hawkwell	- junction - (300m)
Folly Lane, Hullbridge	Aldermans Hill to Church Road - Inlay/Micro A (500m)
Stambridge Road, Rochford	Doggetts Road to Apton Hall Road - Surface Dressing & Resurfacing
Pagelsham Church End & East End, Pagelsham	Surface Dressing
Wakering Road, Wakering	Cupids Corner to Boundary - Surface Dressing (800m)
Pre-patching for 07/08	District Wide

<b>RESERVE SCHEMES</b>	
Ashingdon Road	Somerset Avenue to West Street - Resurfacing (500m)
Hullbridge Road, Rayleigh	Resurfacing (300m)
Ferry Road, Hullbridge	Lower Road to Ambleside Gardens - Resurfacing (700m)
Lower Road	- west of Ferry Road - Resurfacing (100m)
Greensward Lane, Hockley	Plumberow Avenue to Lower Road - Resurfacing (1800m)
Hambro Hill, Rayleigh	roundabout - Resurfacing

## **11 ROCHFORD DISTRICT A130 POST BYPASS MEASURES**

11.1 On the 4th November 2005, Cllr Bass agreed to the southern section schemes of the A130 Post Bypass Measures. The majority of the work was undertaken last year but we intend to continue this year with the schemes listed below.

- A129 Bus Stop facilities immediately east Hodgson Way Roundabout, Shotgate
- Continuation of short cycle/bridleway section north of Moat Farm linking to Church Road at Bedloes Corner, Rawreth.
- A1245 continuation of last year's footway widening link north-east of Bedloes Corner, Rawreth
- Beeches Road/Old Chelmsford Road, Battlesbridge footway and drainage improvements continuing northwards from last year's scheme.

## **12 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 1 (LTP1) CARRY OVER SCHEMES**

12.1 We have received funding to continue this year with the schemes listed below that were unable to be completed within the LTP1 timescale.

- Ashingdon Road Cycleway at nos. 100/102 Ashingdon Rd.
- Bradley Way Cycleway – widening of existing footway.
- Hullbridge Road Cycleway.
- Greensward Lane/Plumberow Avenue Pedestrian crossing phase at signals.

## **13 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2 (LTP2)**

13.1 Bids were submitted by the South Area Office for numerous schemes across the Area. Unfortunately, we have been rather unsuccessful in achieving funding with Rochford only attracting funding for one Public Rights of Way scheme for 2007/08 in Rayleigh.

**14 EXTERNALLY FUNDED SIGNIFICANT SCHEMES**

14.1 These schemes are made possible by receiving funding mainly from private developers.

- Rawreth Lane junction with Downhall Park Way, Rayleigh – upgrade of existing signals to include PUFFIN crossing facility.
- Ashingdon Road junction with Brays Lane, Ashingdon – junction improvements to include removal of ‘Bennett’ style junction in favour of ‘T’ junction together with relocation of bus stops.
- Brays Lane junction with Golden Cross Road – Junction improvements – probably installation of mini roundabout and surfacing improvements.
- Eastwood Rise and Rayleigh Avenue, Rayleigh – remedial works to achieve adoptable status – subject to resident’s approval.

**15 CONTRACT 2006**

15.1 The new suite of Highways & Transportation contracts have now been in place since 1 April 2006. These have replaced the old contracts with Alfred McAlpine in the South Area and May Gurney in the North.

15.2 The successful Contractors and their respective Contracts are as follows:-

May Gurney	Maintenance Works South
Raynesway Construction Services (RCS)	Maintenance Works North
TE Beach	Improvements Works
T Cartledge	Street Lighting
May Gurney	Surface Dressing
Bagnall & Morris	Gully Emptying
Electrical Testing Ltd	Electrical Testing
To Be Determined	Structures

15.3 The working practice of the South Area Office has changed considerably with the introduction of these contracts. They place a much greater onus and control with us, bringing a much greater workload.

15.4 There have been some minor teething troubles with getting the contract up and running so work is sometimes not being undertaken on the ground as quickly as we would expect it to. These problems are being resolved and once overcome, the contract arrangements should show a marked improvement.

**16 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO) MAKING PROCESS**

16.1 Further to my reporting to you back in the July to September 2005 LSA report about a change in the TRO making process, there has been a slight further change in the interest of speeding up the sometimes lengthy process.

- 16.2 The original change was made to ensure a consistent and fair approach to all objectors across the County, whilst still respecting the views District and Borough Councils on Local Roads. For RDC Members who are not aware of the revised processes as previously reported, they were as follows:-

*‘For new TROs, we shall advertise and consult as we have done in the past and if no objections are received, we will process the Order. If objections are received, we shall produce a report as in the past, stating the objections together with our comments and overall recommendation to the Order.*

*For Local Roads, this will be presented to Rochford Members at either the Environmental Services Committee or the Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment. The report, together with the recommendation of Rochford Members, will then be presented to the Director of Highway Services (Tony Ciaburro) for the final decision.*

*For County Roads, the procedure requires that the report be presented directly to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation (Cllr Rodney Bass) for the final decision. However, we will continue to obtain the recommendations of Rochford Members either via the Environmental Services Committee or the Environmental Overview and Scrutiny Committee in advance.’*

- 16.3 In the interest of speeding up the TRO process, it has recently been agreed internally within ECC that a three week period be given to District / Borough Councils for a formal response on any objection put to them. As this will not fit with the RDC Committee dates, I would be grateful to receive a proposal from RDC Members advising how ECC officers can obtain a formal RDC comment.

## **17 RECOMMENDATION**

- 17.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the contents of the Local Service Agreement Update report: April to June 2006 be noted.

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Essex County Council

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**Background Papers:-**

None

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