

DECISION TAKER: Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency – Councillor Kelsie Learney

REPORT TITLE: TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER PROGRAMME FOR 2022-23

4 JULY 2022

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WARD(S): ALL

### PURPOSE

The Council has received a termination notice from the County Council in relation to the agency agreement it has in order for it to carry out traffic regulation work which means is that the agency arrangement will finish on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023; at which time this work will then pass back to the County Council to undertake. All Districts with such Agency Agreements are subject to these changes.

Due to the termination of the agency agreement with HCC it has become necessary to review the two year programme of traffic and transport work which was agreed in September 2021 and this report, therefore, presents a revised programme which takes into account the change of circumstances and the available resources to deploy to this work.

The revised programme is considered to be deliverable and focuses on the Council's priorities.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Traffic and Transport Programme April 2022 to 31 March 2023 as set out in this report (Appendix 1) be approved.

**IMPLICATIONS:****1 COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOME**

1.1 The traffic and transport programme of schemes and the prioritisation principles, as set out in pars 9.2 below, support the Council plan and the Parking and Access Strategy, along with road safety considerations in order to help deliver the following objectives:

- Tackling the Climate Emergency and Creating a Greener District
  - An increase in the proportion of journeys taken by walking, cycling and public transport
  - Deliver the City of Winchester Movement Strategy, the air quality management action plan and prioritise walking, cycling and public transport throughout the district
- Vibrant Local Economy - The city, market towns and rural communities across our district have a compelling and competitive visitor offer
- Living Well – making it safer and more appealing for our residents to cycle and walk to their destination
- Your Services, Your Voice - involving the public, businesses, stakeholders and ward councillors earlier and more deeply in the design and decision-making process

**2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

2.1 The proposed programme will be delivered through current resources. The programme is jointly funded by the Council and Hampshire County Council.

2.2 The current funding available from both Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council is set out below.

**Hampshire County Council**

£23,000 works

£3,600 advertising costs

£26,600 total

Plus £35,000 for staffing

**Winchester City Council**

£19,200 works

£2,700 advertising

£21,900 total

- 2.3 The funding and resources are required to deliver the Traffic and Transport Programme of Traffic Regulation Orders and studies, along with other traffic management functions provided to Hampshire County Council under the Traffic Management Agency Agreement, including the investigation and response to general enquiries and requests relating to traffic management, processing applications for disabled persons parking bays and access protection markings, advising on and processing temporary traffic orders for events on the highway and the provision of new tourist signs.
- 2.4 It should be noted that the Council is pleased to have recently processed 49 temporary traffic orders for road closures for events relating to the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, however, this has required a considered amount of resource from the traffic team which has impacted on its ability to deliver traffic regulation orders in recent months.

### 3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and associated regulations, set out the requirements for implementing parking restrictions, crossing points and other speed management infrastructure on the public highway.
- 3.2 The Traffic Management Act 2004 places a specific duty on Traffic Authorities in respect of managing the road network, 'the Network Management Duty'. This sets out a specific duty for local authorities to ensure expeditious movement of traffic on the network.
- 3.3 The schemes proposed will require statutory consultation to be undertaken, such as, a statutory period will also be observed where traffic restrictions are to be implemented, giving any relevant person an opportunity to make representations for or against a proposed scheme
- 3.4 The legal team are actively involved in making Traffic Regulation Orders as they progress through the process for schemes in the programme, as set out in the appendix of this report, and ongoing legal resources will be required to support this.

### 4 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 The draft programme reflects the principles and priorities agreed with the Cabinet Member for Service Quality and Transformation at 23 March 2020 Decision Day, where requests are assessed against a criteria and then prioritised on a district wide basis.
- 4.2 The detailed design and development of individual schemes will be subject to appropriate consultation and engagement with representative groups, residents and ward Councillors.
- 4.3 The draft programme has been shared with ward Councillors who are effected by any suggested changes to the programme.

## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 These are considered on a scheme by scheme basis in line with the Council Plan, the Winchester Movement Strategy, the Carbon Neutrality Plan and the Parking and Access Plan.

## 6 PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

- 6.1 Equality issues are considered carefully for each scheme. These will vary depending upon the nature and type of the work being progressed.

## 7 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Risks are assessed on a scheme by scheme basis taking into account local circumstances, equality issues and reflecting Hampshire County Council policies as highways and transport authority.

## 8 OTHER KEY ISSUES

- 8.1 Traffic Management is run under an agency agreement from Hampshire County Council. As such, projects need to be consistent with their policy for traffic management.
- 8.2 It should be noted that all new traffic regulation orders places further pressures on the parking enforcement team and may lead to a request for further Civil Enforcement Officer resources.
- 8.3 It should be noted that Hampshire County Council has served notice on this authority to terminate its Traffic Management Agency agreement on 31March 2023.

## 9 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

- 9.1 The recommended revised programme includes 19 schemes in various wards. See Appendix 1.
- 9.2 In order to formulate the draft programme each scheme has been assessed and given district-wide priority against the requirements set out below including consideration of equality issues:
- Safety Projects - relating specifically to road casualties or to safety led schemes such as Safer Routes to School Projects or School Travel Plans and/or in relation to issues along busy roads with high volumes of pedestrian movement.
  - Development related schemes required to fulfil Section 106 commitments

- Schemes required by Hampshire County Council as highways and transport authority.
- Schemes linked directly to the City Council's Major Strategic Programmes – such as the Parking & Access Strategy and the City of Winchester Movement Strategy
- Resolution of formally agreed Experimental Schemes
- Completion of Traffic Regulation Orders already in process

The City Council receives many requests for traffic regulation order work but only has a limited amount of resource to deliver changes. As such a sensible programme of work is suggested based on available resources. This is also impacted on by the County Council's decision to terminate all District agency agreements.

The Council has received a termination notice from the County Council in relation to the agency agreement it has in order for it to carry out traffic regulation work which means is that the agency arrangement will finish on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023; at which time this work will then pass back to the County Council to undertake. All Districts with such Agency Agreements are subject to these changes.

Due to the termination of the agency agreement with HCC it has become necessary to review the two year programme of traffic and transport work which was agreed in September 2021. This report, therefore, presents a revised programme which takes into account the change of circumstances and the available resources to deploy to this work.

The revised programme, set out in Appendix 1, is considered to be deliverable and focuses on the Council's priorities.

Schemes which now fall beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 are shown in Appendix 2 and will be considered and prioritised by Hampshire County Council.

The previous programme is attached as Appendix 3.

## 10. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 10.1 Continuing with an undeliverable list of project priorities or ad hoc prioritisation without clear principles agreed and without explicit involvement of ward members.

### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

#### Previous Cabinet/Committee Reports or Cabinet Member Decisions:-

6 September 2021 Decision Day TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME  
SEPTEMBER 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2023

Other Background Documents:-

Hampshire County Council Policy

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadsafety/makingroadssafer>

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 Traffic and Transport Programme to 31 March 2023

Appendix 2 Schemes beyond 31 March 2023.

Appendix 3 Previous programme as agreed 6 September 2021.