



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Central Community Assembly Report

Report of: Highways Link Manager /Central Community
Assembly Manager

Date: 27th September 2012

Subject: Central Assembly Highways Budget Update

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Summary:

At the June 21st Central Assembly meeting, the Assembly decided how to allocate their £40,000 Highways budget for 2012/13.

- Speed Indication Device Rotation and 5 new sites
- Walkley Traffic Review implementation
- Bundle of yellow lines
- One minor 20mph zone – Winn Gardens
- PFI-related complementary work

This report gives an update on the schemes chosen.

The report also gives an update on the corporately-funded 20mph zone chosen by the Central Assembly.

Reasons for Recommendations:

The purpose of the Highways Budget is to respond to local requests for Highways improvements. Traffic and Parking is one of the Central Assembly Community Plan priorities. The 2012/13 budget of £40,000 will only allow for small schemes to be implemented in this financial year, but the report gives a progress update on the schemes chosen.

Recommendations:

That the Central Community Assembly notes the progress made on the chosen Highways Small Schemes for 2012/13.

Background Papers:

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
NO Cleared by:
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by: Andrew Bullock
Equality of Opportunity Implications
NO Cleared by:
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
NO
Human rights Implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
Central Community Assembly area of Sheffield
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Safer and Stronger Communities
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

1. Summary

At the June 21st Central Assembly meeting, the Assembly decided how to allocate their £40,000 Highways budget for 2012/13.

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2. What does this mean for people within the Central Community Assembly Area?

The allocation of £40,000 for small Highways works via the Community Assembly allows some of the issues and priorities of local people to be addressed. The Highways projects referred to in this report will allow 12 sites to be visited by a Speed Indication Device; will see parking improvements on South Road; allow a number of double yellow line schemes to go forward; the implementation of a 20mph zone on Winn Gardens; and allow the Assembly to capitalise on PFI works in making minor improvements in a timely and economical fashion.

3. Outcomes and Sustainability

The funding identified in this report will contribute to the delivery of one of the priorities in the Central Community Assembly Plan – Traffic and Parking - thus benefiting residents in the Central Assembly Area.

The funding also supports the City Council's priorities, values and outcomes as set out in the Corporate Plan 'Standing Up For Sheffield'. In particular:

Priorities

- Supporting and protecting communities

Values

- Spend public money wisely
- Enable individuals and communities

Outcomes

- A Great Place to Live

4. Information Update

4.1 In the current financial year 2012/13, the Highways Budget allocation to each Assembly is £40,000, with £2000 of underspend carried forward from

last year. At the June 21st Assembly meeting, Members chose to allocate these funds as follows:

Project	Sum
a. Speed Indication Device (SID) rotation	£ 2664 plus £2075 for 5 new sites
b. Walkley Traffic Review - implementation	£12,500
c. 'Bundle' of yellow lines with one Traffic Regulation Order	Up to £10,000
d. Minor 20mph scheme works (Winn Gardens as first priority, any balance to Hanover)	£ 5000
e. PFI-related work e.g. tactile paved crossings	Up to £ 9,500,
	£41,739

The exact costings for each project may vary slightly (within an overall budget of £42,000), taking into account the need for commuted (ongoing maintenance) sums where appropriate.

4.2 This means that Highways resources have been fully allocated for the current financial year. If members of the public make requests for additional Highways works, e.g dropped kerbs, yellow lines, traffic calming, these will be placed on the Small Highways Request list for consideration in future years, or for future incorporation, if appropriate, into Streets Ahead work.

4.3 a. Update on SID rotation

The Assembly has purchased 2 Speed Indication Devices (SIDs), which can each be sited at 6 locations throughout the year on an 8-week rotation cycle.

The 12 sites agreed for 2012/13 are:

- Harcourt Road - new site
- Walkley Bank Road, lower stretch - new site
- Crookesmoor Road, upper stretch - new site
- Howard Road, relocated - new site
- Wadsley Lane – new site

- Hallowmoor Road, to help enforce the 20mph scheme
- Manchester Road
- Abbeydale Road, Rude Shipyard - out of town
- Loxley Road near Riverside Close
- Brocco Bank
- Crookes Road
- Cemetery Road - out of town

Officers are in the process of commissioning Amey (Streets Ahead contractor) to rotate and maintain the SIDs.

4.3 b. Walkley Traffic Review Implementation

Last year, the Assembly sponsored a Traffic Review in Walkley, and over 250 people commented on how the traffic situation could be improved.

Many different issues were raised, the most frequent being parking on South Road. Currently, a single yellow line prevents parking at peak times (ie 8am-9.30am, and 4.30pm-6.30pm) along the majority of South Road, limiting the ability of people to use their local shops. At the June Assembly meeting, the Central Community Assembly approved a sum of £12,500 to make some changes, and a scheme has therefore been developed to try and make it easier to park on South Road, without affecting traffic flows.

The proposed scheme focuses on improving parking availability on South Road, between Walkley Lane and Greenhow Street. Parking would be allowed at all times, but only in those places where the road is wide enough for a parked car, and for two vehicles to pass each other. This principle should ensure that traffic still moves smoothly at peak times. Officers are consulting on whether a short stay parking limit should be introduced on South Road, to make it easier for shoppers to park, but it is not intended that pay and display would be introduced.

Another frequent request was for junctions along South Road to be kept clear of parked cars. As part of the proposal, new double yellow lines would be installed around each junction, again between Walkley Lane and Greenhow Street. Loading and unloading would still be permitted (where currently allowed) on double yellow lines.

The scheme would mean that over 22 parking spaces would now be available at peak times, between Walkley Lane and Greenhow Street. An Advanced Stop Lane would be installed at the junction with Walkley Lane. Requested by cyclists during the consultation, this would help cyclists to get to the front of the queue and cross the junction more safely. See Map A below.

There are also some additional proposals for new yellow lines at some junctions around Walkley – see maps below.

As South Road is scheduled as a Streets Ahead zone in early 2013, it may also be possible to link in with this scheme and improve the crossing signals on South Road near the bottom of Greenhow Street, which would allow the re-instatement of the currently banned right turn.

Unfortunately, the limited funding available means the scheme can't address many of the other issues raised, such as extending the lay-by near to Greenhow Street, or providing better crossing facilities near to Fulton Road. However, all suggestions will be kept on file and may be progressed if funding can be found in future.

Attached are the initial plans, which have been displayed in Walkley Library from 3rd – 10th September, with a staffed drop-in on Wednesday 5 September between 2pm and 7pm. A number of helpful comments have been received, including:

- Short stay restriction would be welcomed - some surveys would help to identify exactly what is happening now and allow us to tailor the TRO to suit.
- The parking bay opposite Carr Road was supported but it was suggested it should all 'move' 5m further north to help traffic exit Greenhow Street more safely.
- The parking bay outside Bargain Booze also needs a short stay restriction, possibly including one that permits loading only in the 7.30am-8.30pm period.
- Fir Street – serious need to improve visibility to the right as you exit Fir Street.
- Greenhow Street - extend proposed double yellow lines down to cover 2 other accesses.
- Greenhow Street - request for left only restriction to be removed - possible if funding allows.
- Request for all junctions along South Road/Howard Road to have double yellow lines.

Highways staff will consider all comments and suggestions, and once there is a final proposal, the legal order to introduce the waiting restrictions will be advertised. This is likely to be in the late autumn, and there will be another opportunity to comment formally again at that time. All properties directly fronting the proposals will be informed of the final scheme at that time, as well as all those people who have responded to the current and previous consultations. If objections are received, they would be reported to the Council's Cabinet Highways Committee who would make a decision on how to proceed.

It is hoped the final scheme will be decided in time to implement it in the early part of 2013, when South Road is scheduled to be re-surfaced.

Map A – South Road Proposals



Walkley Traffic
Review - South...

Map B – Other proposed yellow lines in the area.



Walkley Traffic
Review - Area ...

4.3 c. 'Bundle' of yellow lines with one Traffic Regulation Order

Members prioritised the following 8 requests (two per ward) on the understanding that not all may be funded this year; but if they cannot be completed this year, they would be top priority next year for completion.

Central Ward	Broomhill Ward	Walkley Ward	Hillsborough Ward
Glover Rd Lancaster St.	Burns Road Chesterwood Drive.	Palm Street Orchard Road	Proctor Place Ben Lane, either side of junction with Laird Avenue

The Traffic Regulation Order for these yellow lines is being progressed by the Traffic Regulations Group ready for advert.

4.3 d. One minor 20mph scheme (Winn Gardens or Hanover)

Members agreed to allocate £5000 to minor 20mph scheme works; to agree to prioritise the Winn Gardens scheme for installation; and to request officers to manage the Winn Gardens scheme as economically as possible, with any underspend to be allocated to the Hanover scheme.

4.3 e. Streets Ahead -related work

The Assembly can maximise PFI benefits by adapting to the Streets Ahead zone programme, and our order and priority for works will need to come directly from that programme.

(Information about the scheduling of Streets Ahead work over the coming years can be accessed via the following web address:-

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/roads/works/schemes/streetsaheadproject/works-schedules/works-map.html>)

4.4 Corporately-funded 20mph zone.

Each Assembly area has been offered a corporately-funded 20mph zone in their area. There was a very tight timescale for deciding on zones for approval by Cabinet Highways Committee, allowing for very restricted public consultation. Members chose a zone based on accident statistics, and the opportunity to link with an existing and proposed new zone to increase the impact of the improvements.

Below is an extract from the Cabinet Highways Committee Report considered by the Committee on September 13th 2012. (The full report can be found on the Council website at:

Nominated area - Central	Ref No.	Why?	Why not?	Budget Estimate	2 nd and 3 rd choices
Walkley (south part, including lower Crookesmoor Road/Addy Street)	C09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Links to an existing 20mph scheme (which includes Addy St). - Previous requests, Members feel it will be popular. - There have been a relatively high number of accidents (Walkley as a whole ranks 2nd in Central, Walkley (southern part) is still 7th) - On budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No schools - Crookesmoor Road / Addy Street is a 'C' road 	£40,207	2 nd : C07 Hillfoot and C09 Walkley (northern part). Petition in Hillfoot; two schools; but expensive - £52,971 with no offer of a contribution from the CA 3 rd : C09 Walkley (northern part). As Walkley (southern) but fewer accidents; one school; affordable - £35,591

Before a 20mph scheme is implemented all households within the prospective area will receive a leaflet explaining the long-term aims and short-term limitations of sign-only 20mph speed limits, with residents invited to comment on or object to the introduction of a 20mph Traffic Regulation Order. Objections would be reported to a future meeting of the Cabinet Highways Committee.

5. Financial Implications

The Central Assembly has a £40,000 Highways Budget in 2012/13, to help fulfil the priorities identified in the Central Assembly Plan, plus a carry-forward of £2000. These sums have been allocated as set out in 4.1 above. There are no additional financial implications within this report.

All schemes will include an appropriate sum to cover commuted (future maintenance) costs where required.

6. Legal Implications

The Council, as the Highways Authority for Sheffield, has the powers under Part V of the Highways Act 1980 to implement the improvements requested in this report.

This funding is allocated from the Local Transport Plan budget and as such all projects using this funding will need to comply with the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan.

7. Equality of Opportunity Implications

The Central Community Assembly Highways budget is being applied across the Assembly area, with measures which will benefit all parts of the community, including pedestrians, public transport users, car users and those with limited mobility.

8. Human Resource Implications

There are no specific human resource implications for the Council as a result of the allocation of this funding.

9. Environmental and Sustainability Implications

The proposals in this report promote responsible driving and pedestrian safety.

10. Mitigation of Risk

The risks relating to this proposal have been considered by the Central Community Assembly Team and Highways Officers. These risks will be regularly reviewed and monitored.

11. Alternative Options

No alternative options have been considered, as this report provides an update on decisions previously made.

12. Reasons for Recommendations

The purpose of the Highways Budget is to respond to local requests for Highways improvements. Traffic and Parking is one of the Central Assembly Community Plan priorities. The 2012/13 budget of £40,000 will only allow for small schemes to be implemented in this financial year, but the report gives a progress update on the schemes chosen.

13. Recommendations

That the Central Community Assembly notes the progress made on the chosen Highways Small Schemes for 2012/13.

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