

**ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC PROTECTION  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**

**HIGHWAY FOOTWAY AND ROAD SAFETY  
INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE**

**Purpose:**

To provide an update on the current investment programme in relation to road safety and associated infrastructure.

**To consider and comment on the following issues:**

That the Committee considers and comments on the current investment programme in relation to road safety and associated infrastructure.

**Reasons:**

For the Committee's information.

**To be referred to the Executive Board / Council for decision: NO**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-** Councillor H.A.L Evans - Environment

Directorate		
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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## **ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**

### **HIGHWAY FOOTWAY AND ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE**

#### **1.0 Introduction and Background.**

- 1.1** The County Council employs many measures to prevent road traffic casualties including education, publicity campaigns, training, traffic management and other road safety initiatives as well as the construction of a number of road safety improvement schemes each year. The overall strategy is outlined in the Carmarthenshire County Council Local Transport Plan which is contained within the Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales.
- 1.2** These measures are funded from a variety of sources including both capital and revenue grants and other funds which are summarised as follows with further details provided in Table 1 at the end of the report.

#### **2.0 Local Transport Plan / Local Transport Fund**

- 2.1** The South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortium (SWWITCH) was formally dissolved in early 2014 and Welsh Government required local authorities to prepare a Local Transport Plan. The four West Wales local authorities agreed to continue a collaborative approach which is linked to the Swansea Bay City Region and the emerging City Deal. The priorities within the Carmarthenshire County Council Local Transport Plan (LTP) were approved in 2015.
- 2.2** Funding which was previously allocated to the Regional Consortium is now allocated to the individual local authorities on a competitive basis and bids for the Local Transport Fund (LTF) are submitted to Welsh Government on an annual basis. This LTF Grant is subject to an ever increasing level of scrutiny as the all Wales funding is limited. Each annual bid is now limited to a maximum of three projects, one of which must be linked to the provision of walking and cycling related initiatives as a result of the now enacted Active Travel (Wales) Act. The Wales Government has also recently advised that this LTF funding stream will be severely diminished in future years. Next year the level of funding allocated to the LTF will fall from £20 million per annum to £10 million per annum with £5 million allocated for schemes currently in delivery and the remaining £5 million allocated for Active Travel schemes. Four Million pounds is also being made available for local authorities to bid for a Local Transport Network Fund across Wales.
- 2.3** Bids for next year's funding are currently being finalised for submission by the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

### **3.0 Safe Routes in the Community**

**3.1** The Safe Routes in the Community (SRitC) grant provides direct funding from the Welsh Government for the County Council to deliver projects that improve accessibility and safety, and encourage walking and cycling within communities. The aim of the Safe Routes in the Communities programme is to change how people travel, resulting in greater social inclusion and improved community safety.

Safe Routes in the Communities funds capital works such as: -

- crossings
- traffic calming measures
- cyclepaths
- footpaths
- secure cycle facilities (including stands and CCTV), lockers and changing facilities.

**3.2** The County Council must bid for this funding on an annual basis. The Welsh Government has advised that only schemes included in a schedule of works to upgrade safe walking routes to schools included in a response to the Minister in the summer of 2014 would be considered. Again a maximum of three projects can be included in any bid and for the current 2017 – 18 year financial bids for works in the Carmarthen and Pontyberem areas were successful. A total of £25k is included in the current Capital Programme to utilise as match funding to the 2017 – 18 grant.

**3.3** Carmarthenshire County Council has been highly successful in securing this SRitC funding being consistently among the highest awards for this particular grant.

### **4.0 Active Travel Act and Local Authority Obligations**

**4.1** The Active Travel (Wales) Act makes provision for a number of items including the development of approved maps of existing active travel routes, the promotion of active travel journeys and to enhance the provision made for walkers and cyclists among others.

**4.2** A number of key obligations have been passed to Local Authorities to implement, including the mapping of routes, the need to have regard for the active travel route network in the development of transport policies, the promotion of active travel journeys and to enhance the provision made for walkers and cyclists.

**4.3** One of the obligations involved Welsh Government requiring all Local Authorities to submit details of all walking and cycling routes for inclusion in all Wales database of such routes (known as Existing Route Map). These details included an audit of all routes and Carmarthenshire County Council were one of only five Local Authorities that secured Wales Government approval without the need for further work. The Authority was also required to submit an Integrated Network Map during 2017.

**4.4** Welsh Government have recently advised that future funding for Active Travel related projects will be based on these Integrated Network Maps.

## **5.0 Road Safety Improvement and Footway Improvement Programme**

**5.1** At its meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011 the Executive Board approved the criteria for assessment, selection and prioritisation of Road Safety Improvement and Footway Improvements to be funded from the Council's capital budget allocation for such works. A new 3 year rolling programme was developed and implemented from 2013-14. The prioritised programme is subject to an annual review to allow for new requests to be assessed and to re-assess locations where circumstances are known to have changed since the last prioritisation assessment, with a fundamental review at periodic intervals. The criteria for assessment was updated in the spring of 2017 and formally approved by Executive Board on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

**5.2** During the summer of 2017 the prioritised programme was reassessed in accordance with the criteria to determine the next 3 year rolling programme to commence in 2018 – 19. A total of 365 number requests were included in this exercise the outcome of which is shown in Table 2 at the end of this report. The schemes will be subject to further feasibility works in future years, subject to the availability of funding.

**5.3** The committed schemes included in Table 1 will continue to be developed and implemented as funding and any other constraints permit.

## **6.0 Local Road Safety Grant (Capital)**

**6.1** The Local Road Safety Grant was introduced in 2000. The Local Road Safety Grant provides direct funding from the Welsh Government for the County Council to provide engineering solutions to road safety problems on the county road network. The County Council prioritises the selection of road safety engineering projects on the basis of historic casualty statistics along rural routes and at urban cluster sites. The Council assesses the casualty reduction performance of the each scheme delivered using the grant. There is a strong partnering approach to all initiatives funded from this grant through groups such as the Carmarthenshire Speed Limit Working Group with bodies such as Dyfed Powys Police and GoSafe.

**6.2** The County Council must bid to the Welsh Government for funding on an annual basis. The current programme of road safety engineering works being delivered using the road safety grant is shown in Table 1 at the end of the report.

## **7.0 Traffic Management and Accident Prevention Programme**

**7.1** The following traffic and accident prevention elements are provided on the county road network using the Councils revenue budget allocation for such works: -

- Traffic orders for speed limits, one way working, weight restrictions, width restrictions, buses only, no entry order, no motor vehicles order, disabled persons parking bays, waiting restrictions, residents parking zones;
- Traffic calming elements, road humps, narrowing's and chicanes, gateway and entry treatments, vehicle activated message signs, speed limit roundel markings, coloured surfaces, surface texture – skid resistant material;
- Hatched road markings, countdown signs, bollards, disabled parking bays.

**7.2** The current programme of traffic management and accident prevention projects being delivered using the revenue funding is shown in Table 1 at the end of the report.

## **8.0 Recommendations.**

Members are asked to note the report.

TABLE 1

## SUMMARY OF FUNDING FOR ROAD SAFETY RELATED AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEMES FOR 2017 – 18

PROJECT	COMMENTS	2017/18 BUDGET
Murray St MSCP	Annual capital maintenance linked to Whole Life Plan	£50k
<b>Road Safety Improvement Programme</b>		<b>£258k *</b>
C2134 Tycroes	Design only – potential s.106 contributions	* (includes slippage from 2016/17)
B4303 Swiss Valley - Llethri Road	Construction of Shared Use Facility - Completion of work commenced in 2016/17	
B4306 Hendy	Potential s.106 contributions. Completion of work commenced in 2016/17	
Rhos / Saron Footway Improvement	Construction	
Bronwydd	Design only	
A4066 Broadway, Laugharne	Design only – potential s.106 contributions	
<b>Safe Routes in the Community / Schools -</b>		
Carmarthen Area	Funded by WG Grant	£305,259
Pontyberem Area	Funded by WG Grant	£262,500
<b>Active Travel Projects</b>	<b>Funded by WG Local Transport Fund Grant &amp; CCC Capital budgets (as match funding)</b>	<b>£1,325k</b>
Amman Valley Cycleway	Completion of remaining length at Brynamman RFC, signing and marketing	
<b>Urban Connections</b>		
Llanllwch - Alltynap SUF	Design only	
A4138 Llethri Road – Dafen Village	Further continuation of work along A4138 commenced in 2015/16	
Llangennech – Bynea	Design only – s.106 contributions	
Carmarthen Branded Routes – Llangunnor – Dyfed Powys Police HQ	Design and construction	
Carmarthen Branded Routes - Trinity St Davids	Completion of work commenced in 2016/17 to link Yr Egin / S4C and Carmarthen Western Link Road	
Towy Valley Cycleway – Abergwili to Nantgaredig	Design and construction of initial phase (s)	
Towy Valley Project – Nantgaredig to Ffairfach	Design only leading to preparation of planning application	
School Transport Routes	Prioritised routes to reduce revenue costs	
Active Travel Mapping (including Integrated Network Maps)	As required by WG	

PROJECT	COMMENTS	2017/18 BUDGET
Ammanford Economic Regeneration Highway Infrastructure – <b>Wind Street / Tiryddail Lane Junction</b>	Completion of land acquisition, issue of tenders and initial construction works – funded by WG Local Transport Fund grant	£961.1k
<b>Cross Hands Economic Link Road Phase 2</b>	Continuation of land acquisition, issue of tenders and advanced construction works - funded by WG Local Transport Fund grant	£2,161.4k
<b>Traffic Management Schemes (funded by Road Safety Grant)</b>		<b>£445.5k</b>
B4297 Halfway to Talyclun	Route treatment works – funded by WG grant	
B4297 Tycroes to Gorslas	Route treatment works – funded by WG grant	
<b>Traffic Management Schemes - Miscellaneous</b>		<b>£237.215k</b>
Manor Way, Llanllwch	Junction & Splitter island improvements	
St Celynin's Church, Bronwydd	Priority Give Way System	
George Street Llanelli	One Way System	
Park Lane Llangennech	Weight Limit	
Meidrim School & Village (Phase 1)	20 mph restriction	
North Parade Carmarthen	One Way System, various traffic orders, signage & markings	
	<b>OVERALL TOTAL 2017/18 BUDGET</b>	<b>£6,005.974k</b>

TABLE 2

**PRIORITISED PROGRAMME FOR ROAD SAFETY, FOOTWAY and  
OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE  
(FOR DEVELOPMENT and IMPLEMENTATION FROM 2018 – 19 FINANCIAL YEAR on)**

LOCATION
Allt y Cnap Road / Llanstephan Road, Johnstown, Carmarthen (B4312 / C2078)
Llanstephan Road flyover, Johnstown (B4312)
Ponthenri (B4317 / C2077)
Llanybydder Square to Pencarreg (A485)
A484 between Idole and Cwmffrwd (A484)
Nantgaredig to Abergorlech (B4310)
Oaklands Junction, Cwmffrwd (A484 / B4309)
Nantycaws (C2071)
Carway / Pontyates
Llangain (NR Lodge/Llwyn-du) (B4312)
Llangain (Belmont to kiosk) (B4312)
Kidwelly (Carmarthen Road) (B4312)
Carmarthen Road, Cwmann (A485)

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: S.Pilliner

Head of Transportation and Highways

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Road Safety is one of the Carmarthenshire Integrated Community Strategies. Road Safety strategies are also set out in the Carmarthenshire County Council Local Transport Plan which is contained within the Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales.

Delivery of sustainable transport projects is also one of the objectives of the Carmarthenshire County Council Local Transport Plan which is contained within the Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales.

## 2. Legal

The Council has a statutory responsibility to manage and maintain public roads. That duty includes the investigation of road traffic accidents, the provision of road safety measures and enabling the expeditious movement of traffic.

The Council has a statutory responsibility to promote walking and cycling and other sustainable modes of transport as outlined in the Active Travel (Wales) Act.

## 3. Finance

The budgets for the current financial year to deliver sustainable transport and road safety projects are set out in the report.

## 4. Risk Management Issues

Potential for challenge to the Council's management of sustainable transport and road safety project grant claims.

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: S. Pilliner

Head of Transportation and Highways

1. Local Member(s) - N/A.
2. Community / Town Council - N/A.
3. Relevant Partners - N/A.
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A.

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**  
**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**  
**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales		<a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1085004/Joint-Transport-Plan-300115.pdf">http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1085004/Joint-Transport-Plan-300115.pdf</a>