



Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party 30 November 2010

Engineering Services Works Programme

Summary

This report updates the Working Party on progress with key matters within the work programme of the Engineering Services Section of the Council.

The Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party is **RECOMMENDED** to note the contents of this report.

Reminder

Updates on the programming of the maintenance work, road closures, progress on major schemes, etc. are included in regular Engineering Updates in the Members' Bulletin. Members also receive direct contact regarding significant engineering works in their own wards.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of the engineering schemes or highlight any particular issues, please contact the Engineering Team directly. Contact details at the end of this report.

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Working Party of:-

- (a) Highway Maintenance progress;
- (b) Traffic Management update; and
- (c) Integrated Transport update.

2. Highway Maintenance

- 2.1 The resurfacing of Glastonbury Road, Cannon Street and Orchard Street is programmed for week commencing 29 November 2010.
- 2.2 The resurfacing of footways in Long Meadow will commence during the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Winter Maintenance

- 2.3 The gritting of the highway is the responsibility of Suffolk County Council and understandably this effort is concentrated on the main roads carrying the most traffic. The Borough Council will continue to provide assistance to the County Council with footway clearance in the event of snow upon request; however the capacity to do this has diminished with the transfer of the Highways Operation staff to County Council. The Borough Council will continue to deal with gritting of car parks and other similar areas.
- 2.4 In response to concerns raised last winter there has been a greater emphasis on self help in preparing for this winter. An increased number of grit bins have been deployed in response to a large number of requests. In Bury St Edmunds the grit bins are provided and maintained by Bury St Edmunds Town Council.
- 2.5 Concerns have been expressed about the liability of anyone who decided to clear snow from the public footway. The government has issued the following advice:-
- 'We can confirm that anyone who clears snow from outside their own or someone else's property would only be liable for an accident if their efforts actually made the pavement less safe than it was with the snow and ice undisturbed and as a result somebody is injured.'*
- 2.6 Further information and advice is available on the Suffolk County Council website.

3. Traffic Management

- 3.1 The following event temporary road closures are planned for the period up to Christmas:-
- charity market - Cornhill/Buttermarket from 4.00 pm Thursday 9 December;
 - Christmas Sunday market - Cornhill/Buttermarket every Sunday until Christmas; and
 - late night shopping every Thursday until 23 December 2010.

4. Integrated Transport

4.1 Toucan Crossing, Tollgate Lane

Suffolk County Council is working on a proposal to install a new toucan crossing in Tollgate Lane as shown on the plan at Appendix A. This is part of the strategic cycle route being developed between the town centre and the northern end of the town. The crossing and associated cycle path is intended to link between Philip Road and the well used unmade track between Tollgate Lane and Northgate Avenue. The crossing will also help address concerns expressed by parents crossing to reach the adjacent Tollgate Primary School.

The County Council has commenced consultation on this proposal. It should be noted that to achieve the necessary sight lines and combined footway/cycle path on the northern side of the road is likely to result in some loss of trees.

For further information, please contact:-

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