

# **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

## **BRIEFING PAPER: : Environment and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee**

---

25<sup>th</sup> October 2012

**Date of Meeting:**

**Report of:**

John Nicholson – Strategic Director, Places and Organisational Capacity

**Subject/Title:**

Route Management Studies

**Portfolio Holder:**

---

### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report outlines the process that has been followed and provides feedback on the success of the engagement events.
- 1.2 This will include an update on the range of issues and how Cheshire East Highways are progressing the works and studies that have been identified.
- 1.3 Four routes were identified for studies in the 2012 / 13 financial year. These are the A34, A50, A51 and A49.
- 1.4 A further route, A530, is also to be carried out in the 2012 / 13 financial year with the engagement event planned for the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012.
- 1.5 These routes were identified based on concerns raised in relation to safety and the operation of the routes.
- 1.6 This report summarises the progress to date both in relation to the consultation phase of the studies, works on site and further works required in assessing road safety and speed limit issues
- 1.7 Updates are also available through the Cheshire East Highways service information website - <http://www.cheshireeasthighways.org/Welcome.aspx>

### **2.0 Progress**

- 2.1 An engagement event was held on the 31<sup>st</sup> July for the A34, A50, A51 and A49 (the A51 was also reviewed at an earlier event 30<sup>th</sup> May).
- 2.2 Key stakeholders were invited including Parish and Ward Councillors the Fire and Police and Council Officers with in total 34 people attending the event.

- 2.2 This allowed those who attended to view plans showing information including that relating to road safety, congestion, road condition. Cheshire East Highways staff were present to answer questions and feedback was recorded.
- 2.3 Opportunity was given to those unable to attend to provide feedback through a downloadable questionnaire.
- 2.4 Following the feedback the data has been collated and categorised into maintenance issues and traffic and road safety issues. As summarised in the table below.

Route	Maintenance Issues		Traffic/Road Safety Issues	
	Number of comments	Main Themes	Number of comments	Main Themes
A50	17	Road markings Hedging/verges Footway condition	40	Speed Safety Crossing Footway provision Signage
A34	16	Road markings Hedging/verges Road surface Footway condition	32	Speed Safety Crossing Footway provision Traffic volume
A49	5	Road Surface	42	Speed Footway provision HGVs (noise/vibration) Safety
A51	6	Road Surface Hedging/verges	40	Speed Safety Traffic volume

- 2.5 A full summary of the comments are included in Appendix A – to follow

### **3.0 Wards Affected**

- 3.1 Wards along the routes assessed.
- 3.2 The implementation of the minor works and traffic / safety investigations are to be completed within the 2012 /13 financial year.

### **4.0 Local Ward Members**

- 4.1 All Ward Members along those routes assessed.

### **5.0 Policy Implications including - Carbon reduction - Health**

5.1 None

## **6.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Director of Finance and Business Services)**

6.1 To identify and complete those works / investigations and outcomes that can be completed within the 2012 / 13 financial year budget provision.

## **7.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

7.1 Where changes are made to the speed limits, traffic orders will be required to support the revised speed limit.

## **8.0 Risk Management**

8.1 This will be covered by registers associated with the works.

## **9.0 Background and Options**

9.1 The Route Management Process has been introduced to provide a consistent approach to the review of the operation of key routes within the Borough of Cheshire East.

9.2 This allows for an approach that considers road safety, traffic, new developments, and road condition in identifying the issues affecting the route.

9.3 Using engagement events key stakeholders have been invited in to meet officers to identify those issues that are affecting the route. This has also included council officers to identify issues that have been raised across the authority.

9.4 The process and progress has been reported through the Cheshire East Highways service information website-

<http://www.cheshireeasthighways.org/Welcome.aspx>

## **10.0 Access to Information**

10.1 The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name:	Pryce Evans
Designation:	Programme Manager
Tel No:	01270 685879
Email:	<a href="mailto:pryce.evans@cheshireeasthighways.org">pryce.evans@cheshireeasthighways.org</a>