

All Member briefing note, 17 August 2020

Additional Funding - £2million has been committed to improve signing and lining across the county

Schemes are being developed to improve signs and lines with a key focus on safety. Schemes will be delivered by April 2021 and the volume of work will depend on the cost of the schemes.

The approach to the work is a 'fence to fence approach', meaning that we will be seeking to maximise what we do when we undertake the work to improve and enhance the highway corridor, focusing on the following:

- Replace worn, damaged, faded, illegible signs
- Replace damaged or rusty sign-posts
- Clean and cut back vegetation around existing sign location
- Refresh all road markings on the selected route, where this is required
- Replace all road studs, where intervention is required, and they are present on the selected route
- Replace coloured surfacing and High Friction surfacing, where this is still required from a safety perspective, and if it is present on the selected route.
- Replace black and white hazard marker posts, where present on the selected routes.
- Replace drainage covers where they are sunken, raised or have lost their high frictional properties.
- Deliver small scale carriageway patching and repairs to facilitate the above works.

To prioritise areas of focus we have considered:

1) Safety Schemes

These include sites with the following safety issues:

- A Roads – with above average dark time collision rates.
- A Roads/high flow routes (emphasis on rural roads, centre lines and cats-eyes, junctions including right turn lanes).
- High risk routes (based upon the EuroRap report* (European Road Assessment Programme, see following link for more info; [EuroRap webpage](#))

2) Local Identified Improvements

Area Traffic Engineers have assessed and prioritised routes within their local area where they consider there is the most significant need for improvements to signs and lines.

Phase 1 Road Safety Routes

Out of the safety schemes identified the following schemes are considered to be top priority, identified as the highest risk, and all will be delivered as part of Phase 1.

- A259 Chichester to Bognor – 5km
- A259 Worthing to South Lancing – 6km
- A283 – Petworth to Surrey Border – 10km
- A259 – Shoreham to the Brighton and Hove border – 5km
- Singleton to Westhampnett – 6km
- A272 – Petworth to Billingshurst – 13km

Phase 2 – Local Routes

The list below relates to first batch of routes that will be delivered as part of Phase 2 and have been identified as high priority for each area:

- A2085 Grinstead Lane, Lancing – 2km
- A272 Bolney Road, Ansty – 3km
- A29 Pulborough – 1.5km
- B2036 Balcombe Road, Crawley – 5km
- A286 Birdham – 3km
- A29 Westergate – 2km

We will be putting forward a further two priority local routes for each District/Borough. These will be priced and programmed for delivery, subject to costs.

Summary

With the £2m capital budget it is expected that by the end of the financial year for 2020/21 we will have delivered the highest priority safety routes, and 3 key local routes for each district, with an overall total of 24 sites.

The cost of individual schemes will impact on the total number of schemes that we can deliver and further progress updates will be provided in due course.

Timescales

Subject to road space, we anticipate the work will commence in August 2020 and be completed by the end of March 2021.

General Maintenance work

This project is in addition to the signs and line maintenance work that is carried out from our revenue budget. The focus of the revenue expenditure is fixing and maintaining signs and lines which are causing a safety issue so please do report any issues you have to the team (ideally via Love West Sussex or Members Highways) so they can respond as appropriate.

In addition to the above, Area Traffic Engineers will shortly be asking you to highlight one key route within your division where you have concerns regards 'dirty signs' and signs partly obscured by vegetation, so that they can see if this can be slotted into any nearby programmed sign repairs. We may not be able to deal with all the routes provided but if the Area Teams have this information they will try and maximise opportunities.