

Report to: **Partnership Board –Transport for the South East**

Date of meeting: **26 September 2022**

By: **Lead Officer, Transport for the South East**

Title of report: **Update on the Major Road Network and Large Local Major priority schemes 2020-2025**

Purpose of report: **To provide an update on the Major Road Network and Large Local Major scheme programmes.**

RECOMMENDATION:

The members of the Partnership Board are recommended to:

- 1) note that two schemes have been given final funding approval by DfT;**
 - 2) note that the DfT’s MRN Programme review is ongoing and no announcement on the outcome has yet been made**
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1. Introduction

1.1 This report provides an update on both the progress of the TfSE Major Road Network (MRN) and Large Local Major (LLM) schemes, and the review of the programme requested by DfT in March 2022.

2. Background

2.1 At a meeting on 14 June 2019, the Partnership Board agreed the list of priority MRN schemes and a group of “emerging priority” LLM schemes that should be submitted to the DfT. Following further work in relation to the LLM schemes, the Partnership Board then agreed the list of priority LLM schemes that should be submitted to the DfT at their meeting on 19 September 2019.

2.2 Since the submission of the MRN and LLM priority schemes in 2019, good progress has been made with the development of individual schemes and a number have subsequently been approved to move through to the next phase of their development.

2.3 For the three schemes that have been approved to progress their Outline Business Cases (OBC), the Department has also made contributions totalling £2.853m towards the costs developing those OBC’s.

3. Major Road Network and Large Local Major Schemes Update

3.1 Since the last Partnership Board meeting in June 2022, two TfSE priority MRN schemes have been granted Full (final) Approval.

3.2 On 6 June 2022, the DfT announced that the Redbridge Causeway MRN scheme in Hampshire had been granted Full (final) Approval, and confirmed their funding contribution of £13.4m towards a total scheme cost of £17.5m.

3.3 On 7 July 2022, the DfT announced that the A284 Lyminster Bypass MRN scheme in West Sussex had been granted Full (final) Approval, and confirmed their funding contribution of £11.792m towards a total scheme cost of £37.453m.

3.4 These announcements mean that both schemes can now access the approved funding grants and can proceed to construction.

3.5 Good progress also continues to be made with the development of the other schemes in the TfSE area. Significant work has continued between the DfT, TfSE and the scheme promoters in the constituent authorities to progress the MRN and LLM scheme business cases. The timescales for this work are led by the individual scheme programmes and the development work being undertaken by the promoting authorities.

4. DfT review of the MRN and LLM programme

4.1 On 18 January 2022, all STB's received a letter from DfT explaining that it is unlikely that DfT will have sufficient funding to continue to fund all the schemes currently in the programme to the current scale or timing, and that therefore the DfT was carrying out a review of the programme, and that they sought the help of STB's in undertaking this.

4.2 TfSE requested updated scheme information from all scheme promoters and undertook a review of our MRN schemes in line with the criteria outlined by DfT.

4.3 At the Partnership Board meeting on 21 March 2022, Board members considered the outcome of the TfSE review, and agreed a revised list of priority schemes to be submitted to DfT.

4.4 The response to DfT was submitted to DfT on 22 March 2022, and this was followed by a subsequent meeting between DfT Officials and TfSE Officers to discuss the MRN programme and our response in more detail. 2 priorities emerged from the discussions. Firstly that managing the "tail" of the programme is a key concern for DfT and so opportunities to shorten timescales and bring forward delivery of schemes should be explored. Secondly, that it is imperative that scheme promoters actively engage with DfT officials and keep them up to date with progress on their schemes.

4.5 There has still not yet been a formal announcement from DfT on the outcome of their review.

4.6 For schemes that remain in the programme following the review, it is extremely important that scheme promoters continue to work closely with DfT officials in developing their business cases and schemes, and ensure that the DfT are kept up to date with scheme programmes and expected timescales for delivery. This will assist DfT officials in managing the wider MRN and LLM programmes and provide them with the evidence that will be needed to bid for the required funding in advance of future spending reviews.

4.7 The current status of each of the TfSE MRN and LLM schemes is shown within the tables at Appendix 1.

5. Conclusions

5.1 Board Members are recommended to note that two TfSE priority MRN schemes have been granted Full (final) Approval, which will facilitate their construction.

5.2 Board Members are also recommended to note that the DfT's MRN Programme review is ongoing and no announcement on the outcome has yet been made.

RUPERT CLUBB

Lead Officer

Transport for the South East

Contact Officer: Sarah Valentine

Tel No: 07701 394355

Email: sarah.valentine@eastsussex.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Transport for the South East MRN/LLM Programme Tracker

Schemes granted Full Approval

Scheme Type	Scheme Name	Authority	Development Stage	Comments	Funding secured (£m)
MRN	Redbridge Causeway	Hampshire CC	Final Approval	Final funding approval granted 6 June 2022	£13.400
MRN	A284 Lyminster Bypass	West Sussex CC	Final Approval	Final funding approval granted 7 July 2022	£11.792

Schemes at OBC Development Stage

Scheme Type	Scheme Name	Authority	Development Stage	Comments	Funding secured (£m)
MRN	A22 Corridor Package	East Sussex CC	OBC	OBC being developed, planned submission Nov 2022	
MRN	A259 (King's Road) Seafront Highway Structures ('Arches') Renewal Programme	Brighton and Hove CC	OBC	OBC being developed, planned submission March 2022	
MRN	A28 Birchington, Acol and Westgate-on-Sea Relief Road	Kent CC	OBC	Approved (7/12/21) to proceed to OBC development £750,000 development funding awarded	£0.750
MRN	A259 Bognor Regis to Littlehampton Enhancement	West Sussex CC	OBC	Approved (01/11/21) to proceed to OBC development £849,000 development funding awarded	£0.849
LLM	A326 Capacity Enhancement	Hampshire CC	OBC	Approved (01/02/22) to proceed to OBC development £1.254m development funding awarded	£1.254

Schemes at SOBC Development Stage

Scheme Type	Scheme Name	Authority	Development Stage	Comments	Funding secured (£m)
MRN	A259 South Coast Road Corridor	East Sussex CC	SOBC	SOBC being developed, planned submission Oct 2022	
MRN	Northam Rail Bridge Replacement and Enhancement	Southampton CC	SOBC	SOBC submitted on 23/06/21 Ongoing liaison with DfT	
LLM	City Centre Road	Portsmouth CC	SOBC	SOBC being developed	
LLM	A31 Farnham Corridor	Surrey CC	SOBC	SOBC submitted to DfT (18/11/21)	
LLM	A229 Blue Bell Hill Junction Upgrades	Kent CC	SOBC	SOBC submitted 23/12/20, ongoing liaison with DfT	
LLM	West Quay Road Realignment	Southampton CC	SOBC	Approved (3/10/19) to proceed to SOBC development	

Total MRN/LLM funding secured (£m)	£28.045
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Schemes recommended for removal from the programme

Scheme Type	Scheme Name	Authority	Development Stage	Comments
MRN	A249 at M2 Junction 5	Kent CC	Recommended for removal from the programme	Main scheme being constructed by National Highways Overbridge no longer meets objectives as stand alone scheme
MRN	A320 North Corridor	Surrey CC	Recommended for removal from the programme	Scheme has secured funding through the Housing Infrastructure Fund
LLM	M2/A2 Brenley Corner Upgrade	Kent CC	Recommended for removal from the programme	Being taken forward as a RIS3 Pipeline scheme
LLM	New Thames Crossing East of Reading	TVLEP (Wokingham BC)	Recommended for removal from the programme	Unable to meet timescales, but to be retained as a pipeline scheme

TfSE Pipeline schemes

Scheme Type	Scheme Name	Authority	Development Stage	Comments
MRN	A259 (King's Road) Seafront Highway Structures ('Arches') Renewal Programme (continued)	Brighton and Hove CC	Pre-SOBC	For consideration in MRN2
MRN	A2270/A2101 Corridor Movement and Access Package including Cophall Roundabout	East Sussex CC	Pre-SOBC	
MRN	A22 Corridor Phase 2	East Sussex CC	Pre-SOBC	
MRN	A299 Thanet Way Major Structural Renewal	Kent CC	Pre-SOBC	
MRN	A228 Colts Hill Strategic Link	Kent CC	Pre-SOBC	
MRN	A24/A243 Knoll Roundabout and M25 J9A	Surrey CC	Pre-SOBC	
MRN	A259 Chichester to Bognor Regis Enhancement	West Sussex CC	Pre-SOBC	
MRN	A24 Corridor Horsham to Worthing	West Sussex CC	Pre-SOBC	
LLM	New Thames Crossing East of Reading	TVLEP (Wokingham BC)	pre-SOBC	
LLM	A325 Wrecclesham Relief Road	Surrey CC	pre-SOBC	
LLM	A24 Corridor Improvements Horsham to Capel	Surrey CC/ W Sussex CC	pre-SOBC	
LLM	A22 N Corridor (Tandridge)	Surrey CC	pre-SOBC	

Updated August 2022