

## CABINET MEMBER REPORT

Councillor	Portfolio	Period of Report
John Fairclough	Cabinet Member Transportation	May 2013

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Thornton Switch Island Link - A5758 Broom's Cross Road</b></p> <p>The Secretary of State for Transport has decided to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order and Side Roads Order for the Thornton to Switch Island Link Road. He has accepted the conclusions and recommendations of the independent Inspector, who stated in his report, <i>"I conclude that the economic, social and environmental benefits that would result from the approved scheme demonstrate both the compelling case in the public interest for the CPO to be confirmed and the consistency of the approved Scheme both with long-standing Development Plan policy and the Government's most up to date national policy..."</i></p> <p>Notice of the decision will be published in local papers. There is then a formal six-week period where the decision could be challenged in the High Court. If no challenge is made, the council can proceed with acquiring the land and rights it needs to build the road. The detailed design of the road has been completed so work should be able to start as soon as the formal land acquisition processes have been completed. The timing of the Secretary of State's decision means that work may be able to start by the end of 2013 or early in 2014. Construction will take about 12 months.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Port Access</b></p> <p>Access to the Port of Liverpool is one of the key transport related elements in the Liverpool City Region deal. Sefton is leading on this issue on behalf of the City Region and the implications of this for staff resources are being addressed. The Port access steering group is now meeting every two months with the next meeting planned for late May.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>LTP3</b></p> <p>Sefton is continuing to work with Merseytravel and the other Merseyside authorities on the delivery of the LTP3 implementation programme. Sefton's LTP programme addresses the transport priorities approved by Cabinet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011. The 2013/14 draft LTP Capital Programme will be reported to Cabinet Member – Transportation later this month.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Local Transport Schemes</b></p> <p>Delivery of the LTP Capital Programme for 2013/14 is being progressed subject to confirmation by the Cabinet Member in late May.</p> <p>Key elements of the programme will include access improvements for the Aintree Retail Park, completion of the Hightown to Formby section of the coastal path, accessibility improvements to Education and Employment sites and the continued introduction of new low speed zones.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Street Lighting</b></p> <p>Following the street lighting consultation and subsequent approvals by Cabinet, officers are now working to implement the proposals and will provide regular updates to Cabinet Member. Identification of the £15,000 energy saving through the initiative to turn off selected street lights at certain times on A565 and A59 has been completed.</p>

	<p>This is now in the process of being implemented as a one year trial with reports back to Cabinet Member. A press release has been issued and advisory signage will be erected at appropriate locations. Funding is being sought to implement the replacement of a further 4500 units with lower energy white lighting. Approval has been granted by Cabinet Member to seek SALIX funding to deliver this initiative. Introduction of replacement 'slipper columns' has commenced and progress will be reported to Cabinet Member in due course. This does not provide a saving but more efficient use of already restricted budgets.</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Highways &amp; Engineering Design</b>  Implementation of Highways Resurfacing &amp; Surface Treatment Programmes is ongoing. The vast majority of both carriageway and footway schemes have been completed. The Council Website continues to be updated to indicate completion of highway maintenance schemes against programme.</p> <p>The highway maintenance programme has been presented to Cabinet member and been approved subject to the call in process.</p> <p>The Government has announced an allocation of additional local highways maintenance funding. In accepting the funding, we have had to agree to report to Department for Transport how the funding has 'complemented (rather than displaced) our planned highway maintenance expenditure'. The allocation to Sefton is £426,000 in 2013/14 and a further £219,000 in 2014/15. Work is ongoing with Capita has identified the works which will be undertaken with this funding. Cabinet Member will be kept informed of progress. All works must be identified on the Council's website By April 2014 (and 2015) in accordance with the conditions of the funding  Following the flooding incidents during the autumn and winter, officers have been working on the flood investigation report and have kept Members updated on progress. The report has now been published following briefings to Members.</p> <p>The Council had been asked to put a bid together to Defra for flooding resilience funding. Sefton submitted a pre qualification questionnaire on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January which was successful however the final bid proved to be unsuccessful.</p> <p><b>Winter Service</b>  During the winter of 2012/13, the roads were gritted a total of 71 times. The policy once again proved to be adequate for the Council's needs although the budget was overspent. Officers will be discussing with Cabinet Member the usual summer consultation on the policy and operational plan in the coming weeks.</p>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Network Management</b>  New policies have been presented to Cabinet Member in accordance with Cabinet wishes and have been approved subject to call in. These policies cover the licensing of advertising A-Boards and also containers and welfare facilities on the highway. It is hoped to implement these new policies in the coming months.</p> <p><b>Mobile Working</b>  Cabinet Member has approved a mobile working initiative which is an extension for the existing Mayrise systems used for the recording of data, customer enquiries and works noticing. Officers are currently developing a suitable implementation plan. The mobile working solution will offer greater flexibility and efficiency in inspecting, recording and managing on site works. It is planned to introduce the solution for highway maintenance, street lighting and network management.</p>

8.	<p><b>Parking Services Review</b></p> <p>The Parking Service Review will be undertaken in 2 phases.</p> <p>Phase 1 (February – September 2013) will concentrate on the design and operation of parking services and issues such as charging, methods of charging, enforcement, residents parking, etc. to ensure Sefton has a service offer that is value for money and can operate within reduced resources.</p> <p>Phase 2 (October 2013 – April 2014) will consider the wider parking strategy and policy for the Borough and its role and impact on development, regeneration, etc.</p>
9.	<p><b>Building Works – Sefton Client Team/Capita</b></p> <p><b>Major Capital New Build and Refurbishment Works</b></p> <p>Southport Cultural Centre: The building is now open with library, reception and tourist information facilities fully operational. The main and studio theatres are also in use, although there are outstanding elements, including installation of projection equipment, which must be completed before these too become fully operational. Post building fit out works to the bar and café fit out continue and, subject to equipment availability, are due for completion by the end of June.</p> <p>The Art Gallery has its first exhibition scheduled for September and the museum, which is subject to the final stage of the HLF bidding process is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2014.</p> <p>Meols Cop High School: works to provide additional teaching accommodation and library are now complete and have been handed over to the school.</p> <p>Crosby High School: Works to provide additional teaching accommodation was completed on time at the commencement of the 2012 September term. Tender preparation is underway for next phase of the works to provide a small sports hall and make amendments to layout which will greatly improve the operation of the school. These works are programmed for completion in time for the commencement of the 2013 September term.</p> <p>Birkdale Primary School: Works to provide an additional teaching accommodation, allowing an additional form entry from September 2013, is underway and progressing well. Completion will be phased with teaching accommodation being completed first and the remaining works, including new kitchen, dining and IT provision will be completed in December 2013.</p> <p>Southport Pier: Tenders to carry out a full feasibility study and provide options for the ongoing and long term maintenance of the pier structure are to be invited in the next week. Capita Symonds continue to carry out periodic structural inspections to ensure that any immediate work requirements are identified.</p>
10.	<p><b>Minor Capital and Maintenance Works</b></p> <p>A planned maintenance programme has been agreed for both schools and corporate buildings. Following Council's confirmation of funding on 9<sup>th</sup> May these works will now be progressed as quickly as possible.</p>

**Accommodation Strategy**

Accommodation Strategy works continues in order to consolidate staff into key properties thereby allowing existing outlying accommodation to be closed, yielding savings and potential capital receipt income. The current focus is primarily upon works facilitating the reorganisation of accommodation for adult and children social care which will ultimately allow for full implementation of their restructuring exercise.

**Revenue Works**

Capita Symonds continue to provide day-to-day reactive responsive maintenance cover to the Councils building stock and many of the schools in the borough.