

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 28 October 2008

Subject: Civil Engineering and Maintenance Portfolio

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Richard Bassett

Item:

Recommending:

That the report of the Portfolio Holder for Civil Engineering and Maintenance be noted.

I am pleased to report that we are continuing to make considerable progress on Highways issues. I have now received your comments back on the alterations for Traffic Regulation Order, (Amendment No. 14). I am reviewing these and will shortly forward our comments to Highways for their consideration and sign off. I will ensure members are aware of any updates

We have now held two meetings with local Epping members and highways to discuss the Epping parking review. Can I thank those members for their input and comments to the parking review. I now have received an updated plan from highways incorporating these comments which I will check and then forward to the County Highways Portfolio holder so we can progress according. The Buckhurst Hill and Loughton Broadway reviews are scheduled for the 23rd October and hopefully we can progress those similarly.

As I have previously stated it is my plan to clear the outstanding parking issues and reviews and treat any new requests as a separate item. However as stated if you need me to come to speak to people about local issues then I am more than willing to help and in support of this I have been busy this visiting parishes, groups and members who have specific issues and I will be monitoring progress and pushing forward items to help resolve them.

I have also attended the meeting of the PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) Parking Adjudication Joint Committee where we discussed the upcoming implementation of the Traffic Management Act 2004 regulations which they believe will finalized in the new year. We also discussed the issue of parking on pavement and the fact that we cannot enforce it yet inside London they can. There was some thought that members could implement a local parking regulation and I will be following this up with highways.

Following another fatal accident on the B194, Crooked Mile, I have also raised the issue of this roads safety with Highways and requested a full safety review of the road. They have agreed and I am currently working the Area Road Safety Officer on a plan for the road. They are planning to install 4 sets of Speed Loops and do some research on accident patterns. They will also be working with the Traffic Police to understand driving patterns on the road in an attempt to understand why drivers misread the road or to identify sections of the road which could be improved to assist safety. I have

been informed that they are arranging for an active campaign of enforcement in the area from November which will target speeding motorist, drink driving, weight limits and general bad driving.

With regards to ECC plans on localism I have received a note from Norman Hume that he will be in contact shortly to set up meetings with myself so that we can move forward with Localism in EFDC. As previously stated I am doing some work on how this should be structured but I am always open to member suggestions.