

Report of the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture to the meeting of Bradford South Area Committee to be held on 26 June 2014.

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Subject:

TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS RESTRUCTURE

Summary statement:

This report seeks to inform members of the details of a restructure involving the Traffic & Highways Area teams.

Wards: All Bradford South

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Portfolio:

Housing, Planning & Transport

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Environment and Waste Management

1.0. SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report seeks to inform members of the details of a restructure involving the Traffic & Highways Area teams.

2.0. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. For a number of years the Area Committees have been served by constituency based Traffic & Highways teams. These teams have provided expertise on traffic management and highway maintenance issues and delivered programmes of highway safety or traffic management schemes, and minor maintenance works.
- 2.2. In order to achieve budget savings in 2014/15 and subsequent years and provide a sustainable staff resource capable of delivering Local Transport Plan priorities a restructure of the Traffic & Highways teams is currently being implemented.
- 2.3. The new teams will cover larger geographical areas but be split into traffic management and maintenance specialisms.
- 2.4. Three teams will now deliver Casualty Reduction schemes and general traffic management measures (such as parking restrictions, pedestrian and cycling facilities etc.) as follows: -
- Traffic & Highways South (covering Bradford East and Bradford South constituencies)
 - Traffic & Highways North (covering Keighley and Shipley constituencies)
 - City Centre & Bradford West (this team will also undertake traffic management works in the city centre associated with major developments, including the Westfield site)
- 2.5. There will be two teams with specific highway maintenance functions. These will cover day-to-day inspections and prioritisation of minor repair works through to the programming of more major carriageway and footway resurfacing schemes. The geographical split will be as follows: -
- Highway Maintenance South (covering Bradford East, Bradford South and Bradford West constituencies)
 - Highway Maintenance North (covering Keighley and Shipley constituencies)
- 2.6. There will also be a Network Resilience team that, amongst other functions, will administrate a permit system for statutory undertakers' works on the highway, carry out inspections of statutory undertakers work and facilitate events on the highway.
- 2.7. A list of new teams and corresponding Principal Engineers' contact details is attached as Appendix 1

3.0. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. The changes to the area teams set up form part of a wider restructure covering all aspects of highway delivery that also includes Highways Structures & Demolition, Highway Development Control, Street Lighting and Urban Traffic Control (traffic signals). This report focuses on the teams that hold the most significant implications for the Area Committees in terms of day-to-day activities and monthly reporting.
- 3.2. Principal Engineers will continue to bring strategic reports to the Area Committee; however scheme specific reports will generally be presented by the Senior Engineer who is overseeing a project.

4.0. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1. The restructure is expected to deliver savings of £355,000 in the current and subsequent financial years. The savings are being achieved through voluntary redundancies, changes to career grades and the deletion of vacant posts.

5.0. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 5.1. Failure to change to a more sustainable structure would have a detrimental impact on the Council's budgeting process.
- 5.2. Future funding bids could be jeopardised without a team structure capable of successfully delivering significant works programmes for the Local Transport Plan.
- 5.3. The proposed structure will facilitate a highways inspection regime and works prioritisation methodology. A failure to carry this out effectively would lead to inefficient use of resources, speed up the deterioration of the highway network, and lead to an increase in successful claims against the Council.

6.0. LEGAL APPRAISAL

- 6.1. There are no specific issues arising from this report.

7.0. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The new teams will ensure that due regard is given to Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 when prioritising proposals and developing detailed designs.

7.2. SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.3. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

There is no impact on the Council's own and the wider District's carbon footprint and emissions from other greenhouse gases arising from this report.

7.4. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

The Area teams will be set up to effectively undertake an evidence-based approach to Casualty Reduction which will be beneficial in terms of Community Safety. Effective prioritisation of highway repairs also holds safety benefits.

7.5. HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

None.

7.6. TRADE UNION

None.

7.7. WARD IMPLICATIONS

Local Ward Members will continue to be included in the scheme development process

7.8. AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

None

8.0. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1. None.

9.0. OPTIONS

9.1. None.

10.0. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1. That the Bradford South Area Committee notes the details of the Area teams set up that forms part of Transport Delivery Group and Highway Asset Management Group restructure.

11.0. APPENDICES

11.1. Appendix 1 – New Area teams and Principal Officer contact details.

12.0. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1. None.

New Area teams and Principal Officer contact details

Team	Geographical Area of Responsibility	Work areas covered	Principal Officer	Contact details
Bradford South – Traffic & Highways	Bradford East & Bradford South constituencies	Casualty Reduction schemes, Traffic Management schemes, on-street parking	Andrew Smith	Ext.4674 andrew.smith@bradford.gov.uk
Bradford North – Traffic & Highways	Keighley & Shipley constituencies	Casualty Reduction schemes, Traffic Management schemes, on-street parking	Simon D'Vali	Ext.7407 simon.dvali@bradford.gov.uk
Bradford West/City Centre – Traffic & Highways	Bradford West constituency	Casualty Reduction schemes, Traffic Management schemes, on-street parking City Centre traffic management.	Chris Bedford	Ext.7645 chris.bedford@bradford.gov.uk
Highway Maintenance - South	Bradford East, Bradford South & Bradford West constituencies	Highways/safety inspections General highway maintenance Major Maintenance schemes	Andy Whelan	Ext.4409 andy.whelan@bradford.gov.uk
Highway Maintenance - South	Keighley & Shipley constituencies	Highways/safety inspections General highway maintenance Major Maintenance schemes	Andy Fisher	Ext.5714 andy.fisher@bradford.gov.uk
Network Resilience	Full district	Statutory undertakers inspections, highway permits scheme, events on the highway	Darren Badrock	Ext.7420 darren.badrock@bradford.gov.uk