

Report to: Economy, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 16 March 2016

By: Chair of the Review Board

Title: Scrutiny Review of Highway Drainage

Purpose: To present the outcomes of the scrutiny review and make recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee considers the report of the Review Board and makes recommendations to Cabinet for comment, and County Council for approval.

1. Background

1.1 Through its work on the Highways contract re-procurement, the Economy, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Committee understands the important role that highways drainage has in prolonging the life of the carriageway surface, preventing flooding and ensuring road safety.

1.2 The Economy, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Committee established the Scrutiny Review of Highway Drainage in East Sussex to consider the maintenance, repair and investment in the systems of drains, gullies and ditches forming the underlying infrastructure of East Sussex roads. The review examines the factors that lead to the efficient and effective management of highways drainage infrastructure.

1.3 The review looked at all the factors involved with highways drainage including:

- the arrangements for gully emptying;
- maintenance of drainage ditches and grips (grips are small channels connecting the drainage ditch with the edge of the road);
- maintenance and renewal of highway drainage pipes and culverts; and
- the impact of street cleansing on highway drainage.

2. Summary

2.1 The members of the Review Board are Councillors Richard Stogdon (Chair), Michael Pursglove, Pat Rodohan, and Barry Taylor.

2.2 The attached report (appendix 1) contains the findings and recommendations of the Review Board. An evidence pack of supporting documentation is available on request from the contact officer.

2.3 The Committee is recommended to receive the Review Board's report for submission to Cabinet and County Council on 26 April 2016 and 10 May 2016 respectively.

3. Recommendation

3.1 The Committee is requested to consider and endorse the report of the Review Board for submission to Cabinet and Full Council.

RICHARD STOGDON
Chair of the Review Board

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LOCAL MEMBERS: All.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1. Scrutiny Review of Highway Drainage in East Sussex, Report of the Review Board.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None.