

## **REPORT AGENDA ITEM 6**

### **LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS FORUM FOR HARBOROUGH**

**10TH MARCH 2010**

#### **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT**

a) **Anaerobic biodigester - Fosse Way, Sapcote**

An update was requested on the credibility check on the associated transport issues involved in the planning application – anaerobic digestive facility at Sutton Elms.

The Highway Authority has now had a chance to fully assess the impact of these proposals on the local highway network. It is satisfied, subject to conditions, that the proposals will not give rise to any unacceptable impacts on the surrounding highway network. Whilst there will inevitably be an increase in traffic to/from the site, a scheme of improvements to Fosse Way and its junction with the Guthlaxton Gap are proposed which will help to mitigate this impact. Conditions are recommended to strictly control the amount of waste delivered to the site and also to ensure that all heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) use the Council's recommended lorry routing network and not local roads.

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b) **Cycling update**

As requested at a previous forum meeting, officers offered to attend one of the Harborough Cyclists Group meetings to discuss their concerns but no response was received from the Group.

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c) Roundabout sponsorship initiative

The roundabout sponsorship initiative has now been running for nearly 4 years. Income from the scheme over the first 3 years has been approximately £200,000. It should also be noted that, if the sponsored roundabouts were still being maintained by the County Council, the additional burden on the highway maintenance budgets would be of the order of £60,000 pa.

The scheme has attracted sponsorship for 55 of the 90 suitable roundabouts in the County. At present, the total number of sponsored roundabouts in each District or Borough is as follows:

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Blaby                 | 8  |
| Charnwood             | 18 |
| Harborough            | 7  |
| Hinckley and Bosworth | 5  |
| Melton                | 2  |
| NW Leicestershire     | 12 |
| Oadby and Wigston     | 3  |

An assessment of the roundabouts in the Harborough District is shown in the table below.

| Ref No. | Roundabout details  | Sponsor                  | Comments                                       | Location          |
|---------|---|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| HA 01   | A4303 Coventry Road / Hunter Boulevard                              | Gazeley                  | Enhancement through improved maintenance       | Magna Park        |
| HA 02   | A4303 Coventry Road (SW of Lutterworth)                             | Plumb Partners Group Ltd | Enhancement through improved maintenance       | Lutterworth       |
| HA 03   | A426 Rugby Road / A4303 Lutterworth Road (Frank Whittle Roundabout) | Maincor                  | Enhancement through improved maintenance       | Lutterworth       |
| HA 05   | A4304 Rockingham Road / Euro Business Park                          | Currently Un-sponsored   | Reinvestment for New Planting & Maintenance    | Market Harborough |
| HA 06   | A508 Springfield Street / Kettering Road                            | Previously Sponsored     | New planter additions in place by sponsor      | Market Harborough |
| HA 07   | B6047 Leicester Road / Alvington Way                                | Castle Lane Day Nursery  | Reinvestment for New Planting & Maintenance    | Market Harborough |
| HA 08   | A6 Harborough Road / Melton Road                                    | Foxton Locks Inn         | Enhancement through maintenance & reinvestment | Market Harborough |
| HA 10   | A6 Great Glen Bypass (South)  | Leicester Grammar School | Enhancement through improved maintenance       | Great Glen        |
| HA 11   | A6 Great Glen Bypass (North)  | Bob Gerard               | Enhancement through improved maintenance       | Great Glen        |
| HA 12   | A508 Northampton Road / Compass Point Business Park                 | Rieker Shoes             | Enhancement through improved maintenance       | Market Harborough |

Of particular note amongst these roundabouts are the Frank Whittle roundabout on the south side of Lutterworth and the Foxtan Locks roundabout on the A6 north of Market Harborough.

However, it should also be noted that the current recession is putting pressure on the sponsorship initiative. New sponsors are difficult to find and, when current deals are up for renewal, existing sponsors are either not continuing with the sponsorship arrangements or negotiating much lower rates than previously agreed. As a result of this situation, the current year's income may be reduced.

**Officer to Contact** – Martin Broomhead

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