

Information

Sheet Number: 2013-17/175

for County Councillors

From:	Phil Lowndes Strategic Manager Traffic & Transport Development
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Date:	26 th August 2015
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To:	All County Councillors
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Small Improvement Schemes Programme

The County Council's Small Improvement Schemes (SIS) Programme has been running for 3 years and has seen the successful implementation of over 120 minor highway improvement schemes so far.

Following a recent review of its implementation processes the programme is to be re-launched this autumn with some important changes. These are intended to provide more frequent opportunities for members to be able to submit schemes for consideration whilst allowing the programme to be more efficiently managed and implemented.

In order to explain the workings of the new programme three member briefing workshops are being held in County Hall at the following times;

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|----|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1) | 25 th September 2015 | Time: 14:00-16:00 | Venue: A117 Co. Hall |
| 2) | 29 th September 2015 | Time: 17:00-19:00 | Venue: B3N1 Co. Hall |
| 3) | 30 th September 2015 | Time: 13:00-15:00 | Venue: A117 Co. Hall |

Due to the changes in processing scheme applications the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport has determined that future scheme submissions will only be accepted for consideration from Members that have attended one of the briefing workshops. Invitations will be sent by email to all Members shortly.

Key Objectives of the new programme

- Better assistance and information for Members and stakeholders from scheme inception to delivery
- Greater certainty of programme delivery
- Clearer management of stakeholder expectation
- Ensuring value for money and delivering strategic objectives

Key Changes to the new programme.

- 1) Up to three windows of opportunity for scheme submission per annum (the first to open in October 2015).
- 2) Clarified process for scheme progression into the programme.
- 3) The introduction of a score-carding mechanism, with Member input.
- 4) A Members' Charter clarifying roles and responsibilities throughout the process.
- 5) Clearly identified communication channels with officer leads for each scheme.
- 6) A new website Somerset Traffic Choices to be launched in September to give Members and the public greater help and assistance in identifying the most appropriate potential schemes to address community concerns.

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