

Regeneration and Transport Select Committee
Review of Highway Network Management
Chair's Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee –
July 2008

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

The Committee has received further evidence from Steve Keetley (Consultancy Practice Manager); Brian Buckley (Group Leader, Highway Network Management); Steve Dodds (Engineer); John McMahon (Highway Asset Manager) and Craig Willows (Service Development Manager – Care for Your Area) regarding consultation exercises undertaken to ascertain residents' satisfaction with highways and the information provided to residents concerning highway maintenance works. The Committee has also looked at a recent marketing strategy for highways and will be using all of this data for comparison with the results of the MORI poll, set to be released in November.

The Committee plans initially to take further evidence from SBC officers on financial considerations and from representatives of the utilities companies operating in the Borough at a coordination meeting of the North East Highway Authorities and Utilities Committee.

The Committee will also be sending out a questionnaire to all Members regarding highway network management to further inform the review.

Timescale for review

The review was initially scheduled to report to Cabinet in November. However, the Committee is looking to report to Cabinet in January 2009, to allow for the review to take into account information and findings regarding highways from this year's MORI poll.

Monitoring

The Committee has received a progress update on the review of Planning Services, and is set to receive a progress update on the Street Lighting review.