

Cllr Tennent, Hampshire County Councillor – Report to Council 16 December 2019

Community Funded Initiative

The Community funded initiative is aimed at providing minor highway and transport improvements that are of a high value to a community but are not led by a road casualty reduction need. They are funded by parish councils rather than by the County Council and in our particular case may provide a workable alternative to the Meadowsweet Way signage.

It is important that your project is considered in line with published County Council policy and criteria, as well as local transport priorities. This information is available through the web site links below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/strategies/transportstrategies>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadsafety/makingroadssafer>

Projects that do not meet policy, criteria and priorities will not be supported.

Community support is vital to the successful delivery of your project and it is advisable to establish a level support before proceeding further.

Changes to traffic regulation fall outside the scope of this initiative due to their wider implications on the surrounding areas and the complex nature of making Traffic Regulation Orders. Additionally major engineering solutions will not be achievable through this initiative which is aimed at lower cost improvement and enhancements.

Allington Lane Railway Bridge

The second Highways issue is an update on the Allington Lane railway Bridge. Since Hampshire Highways have told me that they cannot make discretionary improvements to the approaches to the bridge and cannot make improvements to the bridge itself, because it is the responsibility of Network Rail I have asked for improved signage. This has just been rebuffed saying that the signage is adequate.

“ Given that the bridge already has a good level of signing it is difficult to see where we can improve it further. The addition of more signs could be detrimental to road safety as drivers can only process a certain amount of information in the short time they pass and over signing can cause confusion and distraction.

I will ask our local highways team to inspect the condition of the current layout to ensure that the signs and road markings are clear and visible on site.”

I will not relent on this matter and so I am happy to say that my alternative approach of speaking with Network Rail themselves is looking fair more promising.

” I am still trying to get a definitive answer and will get back to you as soon as I have any clarity.”

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

The Hampshire LGPS has accrued around £7bn of investments for its public sector pensioners. This is a substantial amount and can be invested in ways that have a positive effect on climate change. For more information see the report posted on Hampshire County Council's website.

The draft guide to the duties of Investment Decision Makers in LGPS Administering authorities on Responsible Investment in the Local Government Pension Scheme is on the County website

Appendix 2

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/hampshire-services/pensions/local-government/joint-pension-fund-panel/responsible-investment>