

SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 14TH DECEMBER 2010

LOCAL WINTER SERVICE PLANS

Report of the: Community Delivery Manager – Carol Valentine

Status: For Information Only

Chairman Mr David Brazier

Head of Service Head of Transportation & Planning – Mr David Hall

Introduction

1. Following the worst winter in over 30 years, a consultation exercise was carried out of the winter service delivered by Kent Highway Services (KHS). The final consultation report was produced by Ipsos MORI on 12 June 2010. Additionally the views of joint transportation boards were sought and the results thereof have been added to the consultation report to produce a revised draft Winter Service Policy 2010/11.

2. On 14 September 2010 the Environment, Highways and Waste Policy Overview Committee supported the Winter Service Policy Statement and Plan for 2010/11 and these have been used as the basis for all KHS winter service operations. Additionally local district based plans have been produced as detailed below.

District based winter service plans

3. Following the consultation exercise it was clear that district councils were keen to be involved in winter service, particularly in relation to snow clearance in key town centre areas. Arrangements have been put in place this year whereby labour from district councils can be used during snow days. These arrangements worked well when deployed in January 2010. Additionally KHS will supply a small quantity of a salt/sand mixture to district councils to use on the highway network. The details are contained in the plan attached at Appendix 1. This plan enhances the work that KHS will continue to do in providing a countywide winter service. The local plan comes into effect when a snow emergency is declared that affects your area.

Pavement clearance

4. The results of the consultation together with reports that came into KHS expressed concerns about clearing pavements/footways. To address this areas for clearing pavements have been identified in the district plans. These are the areas where local knowledge has indicated that people are concerned and would most like to be kept clear when there is snow and ice.

Conclusion

5. Working in partnership with the district councils will enable KHS to provide an effective winter service across the county.
