

## **NETWORK MANAGEMENT GROUP FUNCTIONS**

Report of the Network Manager

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update members on the current list of highway adoptions in the Watford area, and report progress on the Lower High Street Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

### **2. HIGHWAY ADOPTIONS**

- 2.1 Hertfordshire County Council as the local highway authority has a duty to maintain certain roads within its boundaries. These are normally referred to as 'highway maintainable at public expense'.

- 2.2 Not all roads within the county are maintainable at public expense. There are a number of roads which are private where the term private refers to the maintenance rather than the use. These may be:

- i. Private Road: no public right of way  
no duty to maintain
- ii. Private Street: public right of way  
not adopted therefore no duty to maintain  
powers only in certain circumstances

- 2.3 Highway authorities have a statutory duty to keep a list of all highways maintained at public expense. HCC does this via the Gazetteer, which actually records most of the roads in Hertfordshire not just those which are publicly maintainable. The Gazetteer is available through the HCC website.

- 2.4 Developments often include the provision of new roads which the developer may want the local highway authority to adopt, so they become highway maintainable at public expense. Roads will be considered for adoption against HCC's policy as set out in 'Roads in Hertfordshire - A Guide for New Developments'. It should be noted that not all highway built as part of a development will be adopted. The developer may want certain roads to remain private or the roads may not meet HCC's adoption criteria.

- 2.5 In Hertfordshire adoptions are normally dealt with through Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980, which is the 'Power of highway authorities to adopt by agreement'.

- 2.6 The tables in Appendix A show the list all the sites in the Watford where:-
- i. There is a signed section 38 agreement in place between HCC and the site developer but the adoption process has yet to be completed;
  - ii. HCC is working with the developer to prepare an agreement to eventually adopt parts of the highway associated with the development.

### **3. LOWER HIGH STREET EXPERIMENTAL TRO**

- 3.1 At the January 2011 panel meeting, members resolved to overrule the remaining objections, and to proceed to making the experimental TRO permanent.
- 3.2 The TRO is due to be sealed before the end of March, and will become effective early April.

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That the panel notes the report and makes any comments to the Network Manager.

### **5. CONTACT OFFICERS**

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