

Highways

Area Board Practice Papers

May 2013

Community Area Transport Groups

Each Area Board has set up a Community Area Transport Group (CATG) that gives local people a way to have a say about highways issues and priorities in the local area and how money should be allocated to support transport and highway improvements.

The CATG comes together to consider proposals submitted by the public and parish and town councils and to recommend those schemes that can be taken forward in any year. Resources are limited, so it is important that schemes are prioritised in this way. Obviously, not all schemes can be taken forward and some proposals may have to wait a while before they become a priority for funding.

Local budgets for highways schemes

Wiltshire's Area Boards have been given a budget of £250,000 to fund transport and highways improvement schemes. This is around £13,000 to £17,000 for each area. The money can be used as a contribution towards schemes such as zebra crossings, footways and traffic calming measures and other small scale projects. There is also a further fund for larger schemes to which the Area Boards can bid.

The CATG funding is for capital projects and can only be used to provide new and improved highway works. It can be used for schemes that improve safety, increase accessibility and sustainability by promoting walking, cycling, public transport and improve traffic management. It cannot be used to fund ongoing revenue costs – such as maintenance or passenger transport services.



Councillor Jon Seed on the site of a local CATG scheme in Melksham

Who is on the CATG?

Your local Community Area Transport Group (CATG) includes Area Board councillors, representatives from local town/parish council and community organisations such as disabled people's forums, chambers of commerce and cycling or pedestrian groups.

All meetings are attended by a range of highways officers who work in the local area and can give specialist advice

What does the CATG do?

Examples of solutions that can be considered by CATG:

- Village gateways
- Pedestrian crossings
- Footway widening
- Traffic calming
- Traffic lights
- Roundabouts
- Speed indicator devices
- New grit bins (but not refilling)
- Dropped kerbs

How do I submit an idea to the CATG?

- You can report a highways issue in your area using the online issues system: [submit your speeding issue](#). Here, you will find links to help you find a solution to many routine matters such as pot holes, faulty street lights, blocked drains, etc. However, if the problem needs works to be carried out you can use the Community Issues System to tell us about the problem, where it takes place, who you think needs to come together to tackle it and also suggest a solution.

- We will contact your local town or parish council to find out whether they agree that it is an issue and that they would support such a scheme. If they agree, our Highways officers will investigate the issue and potential solutions.
- When your proposal has been evaluated by the Council's highways staff it will be submitted to the CATG for consideration. The CATG will then decide whether it should go forward onto the list of priority schemes and if so, when it can be funded. If the scheme is not supported by the CATG or the local parish council, then it will not be taken forward at this time.
- The CATG will make its recommendations to the Area Board who will decide which schemes will be taken forward. The meetings of the Area Board are open to the public and you would be most welcome to attend and take part in the discussion. You will be kept informed of progress by email.
- Implementation of the scheme will depend upon the availability of funding and the progress of other schemes currently underway. It may also move up or down the list depending on other priorities that may emerge in the future.
- Town/ parish councils may be asked to contribute towards the costs of schemes.
- Schemes that require larger amounts of funding than CATG can provide might also require a bid to the Highways Substantive Fund. This will be dealt with through the CATG and might also require a contribution from the town/parish council

How will I be involved and kept informed?

- By raising the issue through the online system www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards, it will be logged and handled by the local community area manager (CAM).
- Regular emails will keep you informed of the different stages of the process, such as the CATG's decision and the outcome of any remedial work.
- You will be invited to attend the CATG meeting when the matter is discussed.
- And, of course, once approved, you will be able to see the results in your community.

Further information

For more information, please access our [web pages here](#).

To suggest a CATG project, please go to the [Community Issues System](#) and provide details



Highway inspections in the Pewsey area