

Community Self-Help

15 May 2019

Welcome and introduction

Councillor Mary Evans

Suffolk County Council's Deputy Leader and
Cabinet Member responsible for Highways
Transport and Rural Affairs



How we will support you

We are investing **£100,000** so we can provide you with:

- Free training
- Free Kit – PPE
- Tools – where necessary
- Technical support on how to tackle projects
- PR and promotion of scheme



The four options

Four main options for self-delivery by town and parish councils:

1. Buying services from contractors
2. Using trained employees to undertake work
3. Using volunteers to undertake work
4. Buying services from Suffolk Highways

What types of work could this include?

For Options 1-3, communities could do:

- Sign cleaning
- Fingerpost cleaning/painting/repair
- Tree pruning/branch removal
- Weed killing/weed removal
- Cleaning grass/weed growth round gullies
- Removal of debris/vegetation around water channels and grips
- Repairing roadside passing places
- Wildlife verge management
- Grass verge cutting
- Hedge cutting/pruning
- Siding out of footways

Types of work not included

- Work that **will not** be considered for delivery by local communities includes any work:
 - within the carriageway
 - that would require excavation (e.g. relaying of slabs/footway repairs)
- Work alongside dual carriageways where the speed limit is 50mph or more – this would require supplementary traffic management skills and capabilities

1. Buying services from contractors

Suitable for use by communities that:

Wish to buy in the services from a contractor*

Do not wish to use volunteers

Wish to undertake work within locations with speed limits of 30mph or above

- Enables town and parish councils to buy services from a private contractor.
- Town/parish council will be responsible for employing the contractor

2. Using trained employees to undertake work

Suitable for use by communities that:

Currently (or have the capacity to) employ individuals that could undertake work on the highway

Do not wish to use volunteers

Wish to undertake work within locations with speed limits of 30mph or below

- Enables town and parish councils to use employees to undertake work
- Town/parish councils responsible for employing individuals
- Employees will need the relevant training and/or qualifications
- SCC will provide consent for “Highways Rangers” to undertake work

3. Using volunteers to undertake work

Suitable for use by communities that:

Do not have the resources to engage sub-contractors or directly employ

Have willing volunteers that could undertake the work

Wish to only undertake work within 30mph zones

Have a volunteer willing to undertake training to enable them to lead and oversee other volunteers

- Enables town/parish councils to use “Community Volunteers”
- Town/parish councils responsible for ensuring someone is trained
- SCC will provide training for “Community Volunteer Supervisors”

4. Buying services from Suffolk Highways

Suitable for use by communities that:

Have resources available to pay for additional work

Want to undertake larger scale work, or work that is not permitted under the other options

Do not wish to use volunteers

Do not wish/have the capacity to engage volunteers, direct employees or sub-contractors

Wish to be undertaken work within locations with speed limits of 40mph or above

Wish to undertake work that is not permissible under options 1 to 3 (e.g. work in the carriageway or that requires excavation)

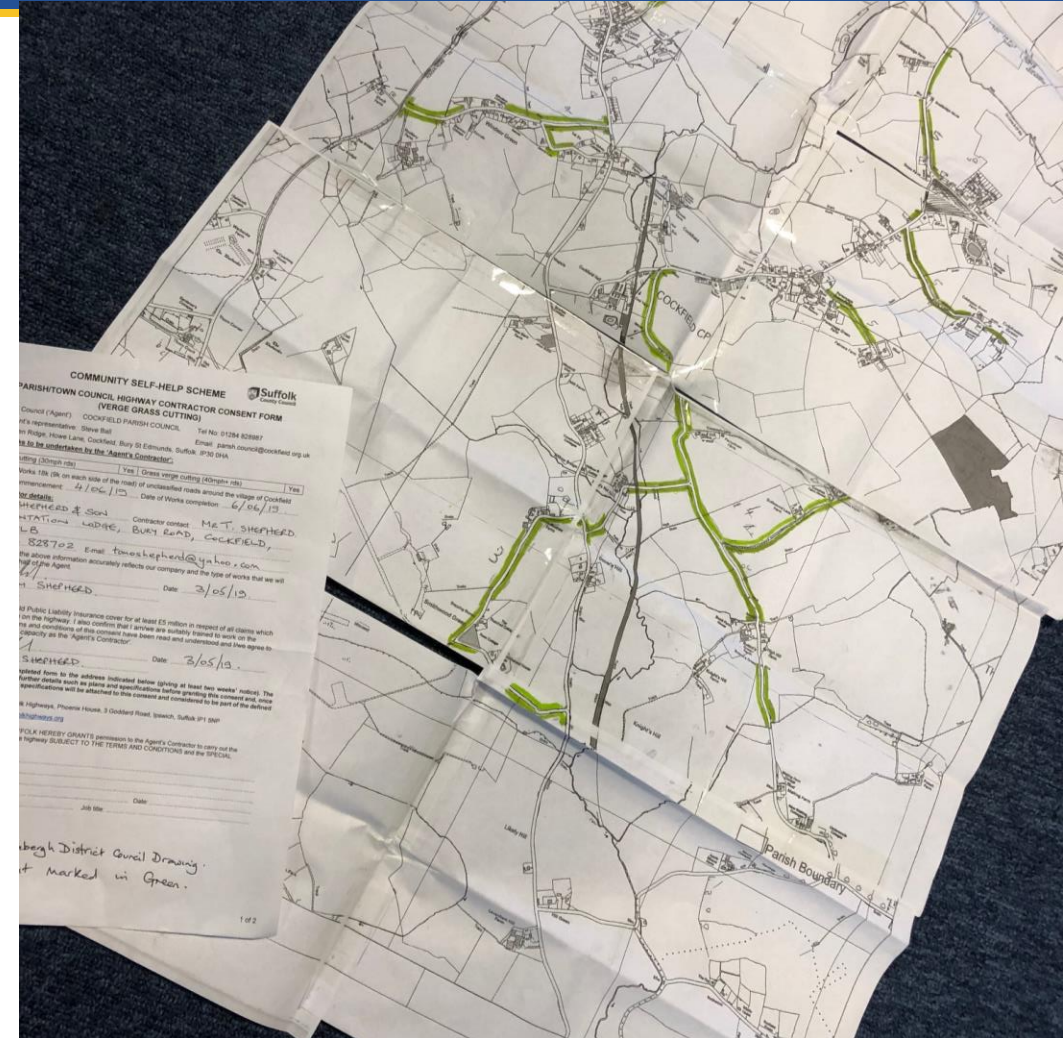
- Minimum works duration of 1 week
- Local Highways Budget and Bury St Edmunds

Network Assurance

- Network management duty
- Lots of organisations carrying out work on the highway
- These have to be coordinated to avoid clashes
- Road space has to be “booked”
- Important step in the overall process – we can provide support with this

Cockfield Parish - Grass Cutting

- Completed form
- Extent of works clearly marked
- Network Assurance to assess road space



Health and Safety

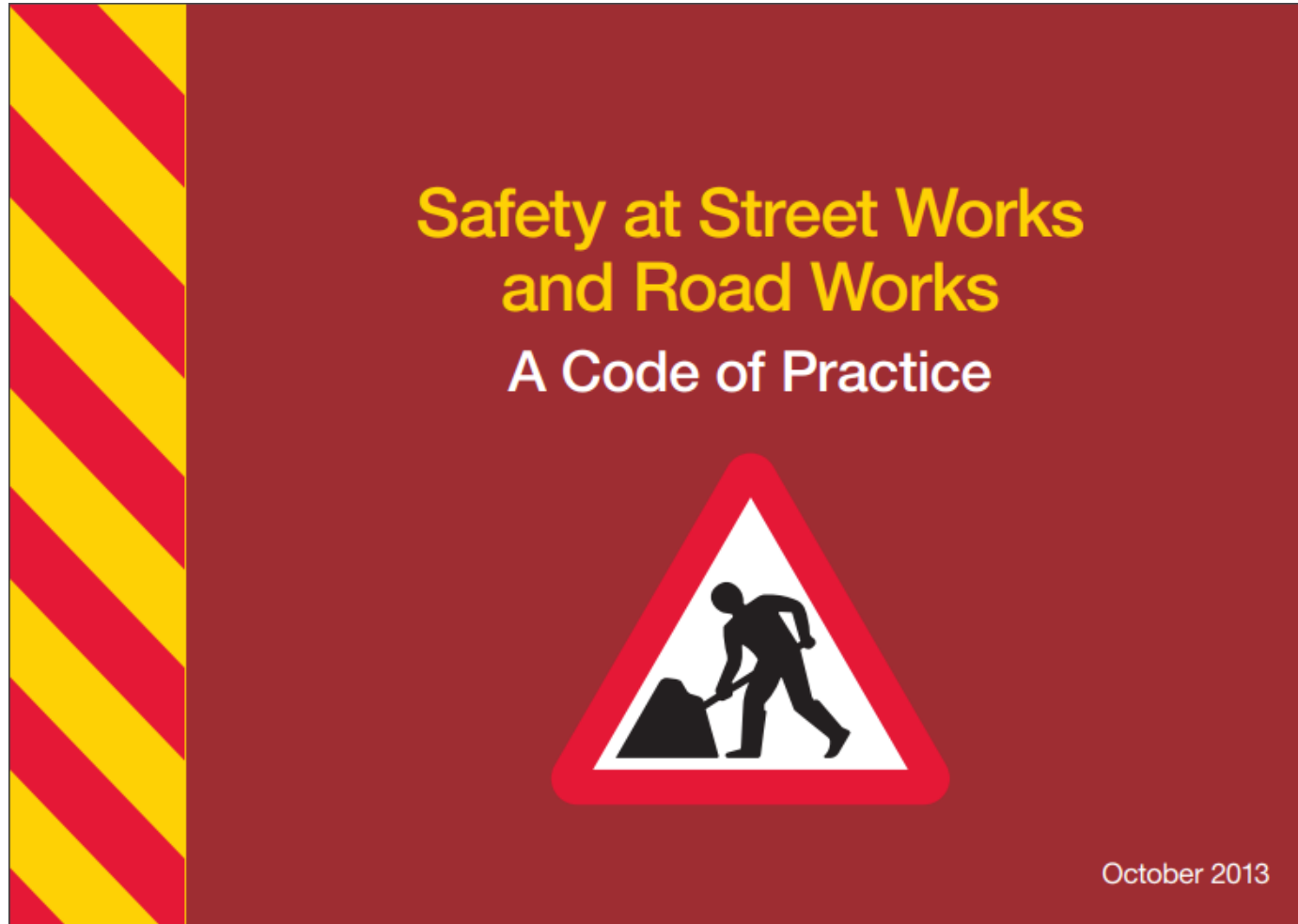


Health and Safety: The Challenges

- Ensuring the safety of anyone working on the highway and all highway users
- Protecting the interests of SCC and individuals
- Ensuring that town and parish councils understand their responsibilities
- Balancing safety issues with the desire for Highways Community Self Help scheme to work



Our legal requirements



How we will work together

- Engage with us at the earliest opportunity
- Provide as much detail as possible to ensure a quick sign off
- Work with us to ensure the best outcome for the works you'd like to carry out
- Keep records of what you are doing – promotion of the schemes and safeguarding against any claims



How to get involved

- Visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/communityselfhelp
- Email communityselfhelp@suffolkhighways.org
 - Name, parish/town and contact details
 - Description of works and plans / photos
 - Timescales
- Acknowledgment – proposed way forward / request for more information
- Sign off and works to commence ...

