

## COUNCIL

15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013

### CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	COUNCILLOR HARRY SMITH
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
CO-ORINDATING CHIEF OFFICER	MARK SMITH

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his/her portfolio.

#### 1. DELIVERY OF HIGHWAY SERVICES BEYOND 2014

The decision taken in March 2013 to proceed to tender for the new Highways Services Contract to deliver highway works and services is progressing well. The Council is to utilise a new form of contract which takes a well established construction industry form intended for term contracts which has been specifically adapted, as part of a Department for Transport initiative, for local authority use [Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme (HMEP)].

A number of articles have appeared in the technical media relating to Wirral's proposals.

The first stage of tendering, pre-Qualification, is near completion, and over 30 firms had shown some interest in the documents published by the Council. Officers in the Environment and Regulation Department are working with colleagues in HR, Finance, Legal Services and Corporate Procurement in development of the full tender documents.

I have been invited to present Wirral's experience in selecting and developing the HMEP form of contract, at a joint Local Government Association (LGA) and HMEP conference on 10 July 2013.

#### 2. DELIVERY OF THE STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

The highway maintenance part of the Council's Capital Programme – the Structural Maintenance Programme 2013/14, was approved in January 2013.

Activities to carry out maintenance treatments and resurfacing schemes on both roads and footways across the Borough are progressing well, with over £1.1 Million worth of work already carried out, representing approximately 33% of the

work planned to date. By the end of July, subject to the weather, a further £0.7 Million worth of work will have been completed.

### **3. LOCAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUND 2014/15 PROGRAMME**

Towards the end of 2013/14 the Council will seek approval from Cabinet to allocate funding awarded to Wirral through the 2014/15 Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) programme.

Merseyside has been successful with two bids to the LSTF:

- a. A Key Component Bid was awarded £4.877 million of grant funding from the Department for Transport. Wirral was awarded £810,000 over a four year period.
- b. A further Major Scheme Bid was awarded £19.99 million of funding. Wirral was awarded £3.2 million over this four year project.

The 2014/15 programme for the Key Component Bid has been allocated £100,000 of LSTF capital funding and £130,000 of LSTF revenue funding on 3 identified programmes:

- Working with Employers
- Travel Solutions
- Sustainable Transport.

The 2014/15 programme for the Major Scheme Bid was awarded £368,030 of LSTF revenue and £674,830 of LSTF capital funding. This will be allocated to the following programmes:

- Walking and cycling, Visitor Economy
- Business Travel Support
- Community Travel Hub, Maxi taxi; and Network Improvements