

11 NOVEMBER 2019

REPORT TITLE	TRANSPORT PLAN FOR GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME AMENDMENTS
REPORT OF	MARK SMITH, INTERIM DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS & STREETSCENE

REPORT SUMMARY

On the 1st February 2019, the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority awarded £1,150,000 of Integrated Transport Block funding to Wirral Council, to support the delivery of the Liverpool City Region Transport Plan for Growth (TPfG) during 2019/20. This report seeks Cabinet Member approval to modify the TPfG Programme.

Wirral's Transport Plan for Growth supports the Wirral Plan 2020 pledge to provide Transport and Technology Infrastructure fit for the future by ensuring that Wirral has safe, affordable, well maintained and efficient transport networks for residents to access community services, leisure facilities and commute to work.

This is a not a Key Decision and affects all Wards within the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Cabinet Member for Environment & Climate Change is requested to:

- (1) Note the cancelled schemes identified in Appendix 1; and
- (2) Approve the replacement schemes as outlined in Appendix 2 as new priorities for the 2019/20 TPfG Programme.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure that the modified transport capital programme (Integrated Transport Block) reflects the Wirral Plan and the Transport Plan For Growth short term implementation priorities, and has the flexibility to ensure delivery of the most effective schemes within the financial year.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The list of schemes identified in Appendix 1 had been prepared with initial estimates; however following further investigations and detailed design, some schemes can no longer be delivered within the allocated budget due to engineering and cost reasons. This list also contains schemes previously selected and agreed as part of the Integrated Transport Block programmes from 2017 and 2018 which have slipped into this year's TPfG including legacy constituency committee schemes.
- 2.2 The TPfG Programme Board have identified other schemes that could replace the cancelled schemes which will deliver equivalent outcomes. A full list of replacement schemes proposed is outlined in Appendix 2. Scheme development work will be needed to properly quantify outcomes before preliminary design starts.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 On 25th March 2019 Cabinet approved the acceptance of £1,150,000 of Integrated Transport Block funding allocated to Wirral Council by Liverpool City Region Combined Authority to support the delivery of the Transport Plan for Growth (TPfG) Programme.
- 3.2 As part of this approval, delegated authority was passed onto the Interim Director Highways and Streetscene, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, to make necessary adjustments to the priorities within the programme should the need arise due to financial or other factors.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is proposed that the funding of £327,238 from the cancelled schemes listed in Appendix 1 is reallocated towards project planning and delivery of new prioritised schemes listed in Appendix 2 costing £247,654. The remaining balance of £79,584 will be required for risk allowance to cover any cost variations associated with the outstanding schemes approved as part of the 2019/20 TPfG programme.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council has statutory duties as defined by the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 All replacement schemes identified will be funded from the Combined Authority allocation for Integrated Transport Block (ITB) funding for 2019/20 and will be added to the Council's Capital Programme for 2019/20. Existing staff resources will be used for the detailed investigation, design and supervision of these schemes, supplemented by external support where required. Future revenue maintenance costs will be met from the Highway Maintenance Revenue Budget.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 Failure to undertake the identified replacement schemes could result in the Council not meeting its Statutory Duties as set out in the Highways Act 1980, Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1988, Local Government Act 2000 and the Traffic Management Act 2004.
- 7.2 Failure to undertake the identified programme of works would also result in a failure to support the delivery of the priorities of the Liverpool City Region Transport Plan for Growth and the Council's pledge to ensure that Wirral has Transport and Technology Infrastructure Fit for the Future.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Detailed scheme proposals will be subject to further Public and Ward Councillor consultation as appropriate and engagement with other interested bodies (Merseytravel, Active Travel Forum etc.).

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 As part of the development of LTP3, a comprehensive Integrated Assessment (IA) was carried out in accordance with Government LTP Guidance. The IA included a number of assessments, including an Equality Impact Assessment that can demonstrate that there are no negative implications associated with the implementation of these activities on the 'protected characteristics'. The proposed programme of works that supports the Transport Plan for Growth strategy includes measures to assist the transport needs of all sections of the community.

<https://www.merseytravel.gov.uk/about-us/local-transport-delivery/Documents/LTP3/Annexe%2014%20-%20Integrated%20Assessment.pdf>

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The original Transport Plan for Growth Programme aims to demonstrate how transport can support a low carbon environment. The replacement schemes and projects identified within the programme directly support the priority of a 'Low Carbon' Environment', in particular through the investment of infrastructure and improvement of facilities for cyclists and pedestrians. Other schemes and projects may include the implementation of the 'next generation' technology to improve information systems and help maintain free-flowing networks, increase journey opportunities and integrate a wide range of transport uses. In order to continue to support sustainable travel, funding has also been allocated to implement measures to encourage active travel and reduce single occupancy car trips.

10.2 These amendments have no significant measurable change in carbon emissions compared to the original programme.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - ITB & LEGACY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE – TRANSPORT PLAN FOR GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME – EXISTING PROJECTS

APPENDIX 2 - ITB & LEGACY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE – TRANSPORT PLAN FOR GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME – REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

ITB & LEGACY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE – TRANSPORT PLAN FOR GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME – EXISTING PROJECTS – APPENDIX 1

LOCATION	OUTCOMES	CONNECTING WIRRAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY PRIORITIES	SUPPORTING PRIORITIES	£	REASON
SUD (Sustainable Urban Development) Bidston Golf Club Bridges	Two new bridges over River Birkett overflow plus path linking Leasowe/ Moreton to Wirral Waters Enterprise Zone	Encourage healthy active travel	Linkages to growth sites; Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon	£100,000	Not possible to introduce scheme within budget available
Local Safety Schemes (Greasby Road/Arrowe Road, Greasby)	Junction improvement (Traffic Signals)	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£91,696	Diversion of statutory apparatus prevents necessary kerb realignment
Local Safety Schemes (Stanton Road, Bebington)	Off road vehicle access, safeguarding footways	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£60,000	Feasibility study required. Safety concerns regarding shared used facilities and increase in inappropriate parking
Wallasey Constituency Committee - Wallasey Village/Green Lane/Groveland Road, Wallasey	Pedestrian dropped kerbs	Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£4,142	Local Member request to reprioritise funding for alternative scheme
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Saltburn Road	Traffic calming	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£58,000	Not possible to introduce scheme within budget available. Technical constraints involved.

Wirral South Constituency Committee - Old Clatterbridge Road, Clatterbridge	Traffic calming (humps) Part length next to M53 old service road	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£11,000	Not possible to develop scheme to DfT design criteria within budget available. On-going liaison with adjacent landowners
Wirral West Constituency Committee - Gills Lane, Pensby	Proposed parking restrictions	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£2,400	No evidence of obstructive parking to warrant introduction of parking restrictions
			Total	£327,238	

ITB & LEGACY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE – TRANSPORT PLAN FOR GROWTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME – REPLACEMENT PROJECTS – APPENDIX 2

LOCATION	OUTCOMES	CONNECTING WIRRAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY PRIORITIES	SUPPORTING PRIORITIES	£	REASONS
Various Roads	Upgrade, replacement and introduction of electronic vehicle activated signs (VAS)	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Improve road safety	£150,000	Aging /defective VAS infrastructure
Longfellow Drive, New Ferry	Buildouts / pedestrian route improvements	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£24,654	Additional budget required to deliver two safer crossing points adjacent to recreation ground, community centre and school. Due to new contract rates
Beaufort Road/Wallasey Bridge Road, Birkenhead	Pedestrian route improvements	Encourage healthy active travel / supporting growth	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon;	£40,000	Improve pedestrian linkages from Beaufort Road to Bidston Moss Nature Reserve
Sandcliffe Road, Wallasey	Speed reduction measures	Keep traffic moving safely and efficiently; Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon; Improve road safety	£30,000	Local member request to reallocate funding
Marine Promenade, New Brighton	Pedestrian/cycle route improvements	Encourage healthy active travel	Promote cycling/walking; Accessibility/ connectivity; Reduce pollution/carbon;	£3,000	Improve safety of existing pedestrian/cycle route
			Total	£247,654	