

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Commissioning of works to progress the business case and associated activities, including appraisal of options, for the South Wye Transport Package funded through a virement from LTP grant
Date of decision:	4 June 2019
Decision maker:	Acting Director for Economy and Place
Authority for delegated decision:	<p>Cabinet Member decision 8th March 2019 “South Wye Transport Package – Active Travel Measures” authorised completion of the business case for the package and confirmed that the development of the scheme would be funded from LTP grant pending approval DfT sign off.</p> <p>The virement of this value within a directorate is permitted under the councils financial procedure rules to be made by the budget holder</p>
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	Chief Finance Officer as required in the financial procedure rules
Decision made:	That work to continue to develop the business case and progress the South Wye Transport Package, including appraisal of options, up to the value of £283,370 be commissioned through the Public Realm Contract during May and June 2019 to enable progress to programme pending further decisions by Cabinet. This to be funded through a virement from LTP grant funding in accordance with financial procedure rules.
Reasons for decision:	<p>On the 14 May 2019 the decision was taken by the Acting Director for Economy and Place to fund the delivery of the South Wye Transport Package (SWTP) during April through a virement of £160,000 of the LTP grant.</p> <p>If the delivery of the SWTP is to be progressed to programme and key milestones upon which the full final business case (FBC), and the associated Department for Transport (DfT) funding depends, then work will have to be progressed by Balfour Beatty Living Places(BBLP) in advance of the FBC approval. As such, this work will need to be funded from the council’s own budgets. A further virement of funds from the LTP to SWTP of £283,370 is necessary to enable works on the package to progress to the end of June 2019 pending decisions by Cabinet regarding the way forward for the project. This decision will bring the funding from the LTP allocated to the SWTP so far in the current year to £443,370.</p> <p>The cabinet member decision of 8 March 2019 confirms that in 2019/2020 spend in advance of the FBC being signed off by DfT will be funded from the Local Transport Plan (LTP) budget.</p> <p>An additional £603,370 of LTP funding has been received from the pothole and flood resilience funding that was announced by government since the approval of the 2019/20 Public Realm Annual Plan and is available to be allocated. As a result of this additional funding, it is not anticipated that there would be any reduction in planned service levels in the Annual Plan as a result of this decision.</p>

	It is anticipated that Cabinet / Cabinet Member will need to consider taking appropriate decisions before the end of June 2019 regarding the scheme and funding for further development of the SWTP during the current financial year. A report is in preparation to enable this to take place.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	The additional funding of £603,370 in LTP grant funding is sufficient to allow contribution to the SWTP for work to the end of June without impact upon other planned capital expenditure on highways during the current year. However, a financial risk remains regarding the allocation of funding to progress the SWTP beyond June 2019. This risk will have to be addressed as part of a further decision in regard to the funding and progress of the SWTP.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do nothing; this is not recommended as, pending further decisions by cabinet, funding is required to maintain the current programme for the SWTP in accordance with previous cabinet decisions and the capital programme. A further report will be prepared to enable the new cabinet to consider the way forward for the SWTP and further funding.
Financial Implication	This decision will bring the funding from the LTP allocated to the SWTP so far in the current year to £443,370. This is within the available uncommitted LTP grant funding.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed

Date: 4 June 2019

Name: Richard Ball