

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Hereford & South Wye Transport Review – Transport Strategy Assessment April 2020 – July 2020
Date of decision:	16 June 2020
Decision maker:	Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport
Authority for delegated decision:	The 24 January 2020 decision taken by Cabinet Member Infrastructure and Transport for the Hereford Transport & South Wye Packages review approved: the Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport be authorised to take all operational decisions to complete the review within a budget of £451,000 as set out in paragraphs 27 and 28. http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50032842&Opt=0
Ward:	(All Wards); with particular reference to Stoney Street, Wormside, Belmont Rural, Credenhill, Kings Acre, Queenswood, Holmer and Whitecross
Consultation:	Residents, landowners and stakeholders have been consulted about the scheme. In progressing the review, the council will engage in further public consultation which will enable local stakeholders, ward and parish councils, interest groups and statutory bodies to comment on transport issues and solutions. Consultation will help to inform final recommendations to assist the cabinet member in considering next steps
Decision made:	<p>To commission professional services through the Public Realm contract, for the remaining works from 1 April 2020 up to the end July 2020 to undertake the following elements of work outlined in the 24 January 2020 Cabinet Member decision report, up to a value of £222,500.00. This cost will be funded from financial resilience reserves as set out in the January cabinet member report.</p> <p>6b. Element 2: An assessment of the overall transport strategy for Hereford and consideration of alternative options in the context of the declared climate emergency. This assessment will consider the current and future transport issues, refresh transport strategy objectives, appraisal and development of alternative transport options for Hereford. It is separate from a review of the local plan core strategy or local transport plan but findings could inform any such review. This would be the subject of a separate decision report. Alternative options will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An eastern link / river crossing Electric bus fleet Improved school bus services Improved cycle and pedestrian provision including safer routes to school Traffic signal removal and emergency recovery on A49 Traffic signal removal Demand management and behavioural change Ultra-light rail system Current major road schemes <p>6c. Element 3: Public and stakeholder engagement and consultation to inform the assessment of transport strategy and alternative options.</p>

<p>Reasons for decision:</p>	<p>A decision was taken 9 August 2019 by Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Highways to pause all work on the South Wye Transport Package and Hereford bypass and a review of the projects be undertaken to determine next steps. This decision was called in and a General Scrutiny meeting was held 9th September in which recommendations were made.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member took a further decision 22 October 2019 which took into consideration the recommendations made by General Scrutiny Committee and confirmed a review of the South Wye Transport Package and the bypass project to determine next steps.</p> <p>On 24 January 2020 the Cabinet Member took a decision to approve the scope, outline programme and timescale for undertaking the review of the Hereford and South Wye Transport Packages, within a budget of £360,000. The report outlined that the review is essential to ensure that the council's decision making is fully informed by the latest information and best practice.</p> <p>The Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport approved on 10 March 2020 to commission professional services up to a value of £145k through the Public Realm contract, for works to the end March 2020 to undertake a transport strategy assessment as outlined in the 24 January 2020 Cabinet Member decision report.</p> <p>This decision will enable the commissioning of the remainder of works as outlined from April 2020 to the end of July 2020. This aligns with the timeline of work set out in the 24 January 2020 Cabinet Member decision report.</p>
<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>Costs incurred on the transport strategy assessment to the end of March 2020 are £125,778.15. Costs to complete the work outlined in this decision for the period of April 2020 to the end of July 2020 is estimated to be £222,500.00. This gives a forecast spend of £348,278.15 against an approved budget of £360,000. This cost will be funded from financial resilience reserves as set out in the January cabinet member report.</p> <p>Spend against budget will be monitored using the council's project management system Verto and will be reported regularly to the Major Infrastructure Delivery Board.</p>
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

Signed

Date: 16 June 2020

Mairead Lane
Acting Assistant Director Highways & Transport /
Head of Infrastructure Delivery