

## Record of Operational Decision

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| <b>Decision title:</b>                   | <b>Hereford Western Bypass. Phase 1 and 2 Consultancy Support</b>   |
| <b>Date of decision:</b>                 | 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2024  |
| <b>Decision maker:</b>                   | Corporate Director – Economy and Environment  |
| <b>Authority for delegated decision:</b> | <p>Cabinet’s decision to progress the Hereford Western Bypass including the allocation of budget was taken on 28 March 2024 and can be found here:</p> <p><a href="#">HC Global Template (herefordshire.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Cabinet’s decision delegated authority to take all operational decisions during the development of the schemes to the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure and the Section 151 Officer.</p> |
| <b>Ward:</b>                             | Countywide  |
| <b>Consultation:</b>                     | <p>The Hereford Western Bypass Steering Group is chaired by Cllr Price and comprises members of Cabinet and senior officers, including the s151 officer. The Steering Group has been consulted on the proposals for consultancy support and has confirmed its support for the decision in this RoOD.</p> <p>Consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Infrastructure and the Section 151 Officer.</p>  |

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| <p><b>Decision made:</b></p> | <p>To award to Aecom the provision of professional services via direct award under the Midlands Highways Alliance (MHA+) Professional Services Partnership 4 (PSP4).</p> <p>The professional services will progress three workstreams associated with the Hereford Western Bypass. These are;</p> <p><b>Phase 1 Development - £830,464.69</b></p> <p>Work package to include:</p> <p>Review and update scheme details – validation of design, planning, traffic, etc.<br/>         Prepare for construction – design and build procurement, contract award.<br/>         Develop a Business Case for the scheme as a stand-alone entity.</p> <p><b>Outline Business Case - £319,324.09</b></p> <p>Work package is to develop the Outline Business Case for the Hereford Western Bypass (both Phases 1 and 2).</p> <p><b>Phase 2 Review - £643,635.69</b></p> |
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|  | <p>Work package to include:</p> <p>Review of Phase 2 and next steps advice to inform the selection of consultants for the development of Phase 2.<br/>         Data/Information Mapping of existing and incomplete work. Ad hoc technical advice ahead of appointment of Phase 2 consultants.</p> <p>Total £1,793,423.84</p> <p>The approval of £1,000,000 contingency to cover the known risk within the project.</p> <p>There are risks identified within the scheme that have been costed that has the potential to increase this cost by up to £1,000,000 if high level risks were fully realised. The scope of the contract therefore will extend to include risks should they be realised and as such the total contract value could be £2,793,423.84.</p> |
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| <p><b>Reasons for decision:</b></p>   | <p>Plans for the bypass had been in preparation for many years until progress was stopped in 2019. At its meeting on 28 March 2024 Cabinet approved restarting the Hereford Western Bypass, comprising Phase 1 and Phase 2, to emphasise the intention to deliver the whole project from A49 in the north to the A49 south of the city.</p> <p>The delivery of Phase 1 will provide improved access to the key employment area within Hereford and support the council's proposals for growth in that area. The road will also reduce the level of traffic using the Belmont Road and Holme Lacy Road and therefore freeing up road capacity in south Hereford.</p> <p>The council does not have its own in-house skills or capacity to progress these proposals and therefore professional services support is required to deliver the commitments agreed by Cabinet.</p>   |
| <p><b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b></p> | <p>The MHA+ PSP4 framework is a compliant framework under the Public Contract Regulations 2015 to which the council, along with 30 other highway authorities, has access. This approach complies with the council's contract procedure rules.</p> <p>Funding has already been allocated and approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 28 March 2024.</p> <p>The cost of phase 1 development and outline business case, totaling £1,149,788.78 will be funded from the £10.3m capital budget and the cost of phase 2 review totaling £643,635.69 will be funded from £0.76m revenue budget that was approved by Cabinet at its meeting in March 2026.</p> <p>The cost of the contract and any subsequent realisation of any risks is therefore able to be accommodated within available budgets.</p> <p>A review of procurement options has indicated that the most appropriate route to procurement to offer value for money to the council and ensure the earliest start to delivery is through a direct award through the Midlands Highway Alliance Professional</p> |
|   | <p>Services Provision (PSP4) to Aecom.</p> <p>There has been significant changes to regulations, legislation and environmental considerations since the scheme was stopped in 2019. Any significant changes may require further work to be undertaken. The most likely risks have been costed at this stage and there is sufficient capacity within contingency budgets to accommodate the realisation of these risks.</p> <p>The workstreams have been established to deliver the schemes as effectively as possible.</p>   |
| <p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>           | <p>The council does not have the capacity, knowledge, skills or experience to be able to develop the schemes using in-house resources.</p>   |

**Details of any  
declarations of  
interest made:**

None.

Signed..... Date: 19 December 2024