

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**23rd MARCH 2017**

**TELFORD CENTRAL FOOTBRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

**REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: CUSTOMER & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

**LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR ANGELA McCLEMENTS**

**PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

**1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

This report is seeking to gain the required formal authorisations and delegations to the relevant Cabinet Member and Assistant Directors involved to enable successful delivery of the new station bridge project within the challenging timescales for this complex project, including arrangements for the necessary land transfer and agreements with Network Rail / London Midland and to seek authorisation to award contracts and implement all other arrangements necessary to deliver the scheme by Summer 2018

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**a) that the Council should take any required procedural steps, enter into any required legal agreements, deeds and land transfers and to take any required actions to reconstruct the bridge, implement station changes, install facilities and alter the public highway and other approaches to provide connectivity with the new bridge and the station to deliver the Project as described in this report**

**b) that the Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement and Commissioning and the Assistant Director Customer & Neighbourhood Services be authorised to take any required procedural steps, enter into any necessary legal agreements, deeds and land transfers and to take any required actions to reconstruct the bridge, implement station changes, install facilities and alter the public highway and other approaches to provide connectivity with the new bridge and the station to deliver the Project as described in this report**

**c) that the Assistant Director: Customer & Neighbourhood Services and the Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement and Commissioning, in consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for Transport, Customer & Neighbourhood Services, be authorised to award the construction and other necessary contracts to reconstruct the bridge, implement station**

changes, install facilities and alter the public highway and other approaches to provide connectivity with the new bridge and the station.

d) that the Assistant Director, Customer & Neighbourhood Services and the Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement and Commissioning, in consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for Transport, Customer & Neighbourhood Services be authorised to vary the Project where required and exercise the Council's powers to implement the Project (as varied) in accordance with a) to c) above

## **SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes/No	Contributes to all by improving access within the Borough but specifically "ensure that neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained".
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes/No	Short term (approx 12 months) disruption to pedestrians, cyclists, train users and the local highway network during the construction works. Upon completion pedestrians, cyclists and train users will benefit from the new construction which includes the installation of lifts on the platform.
<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	Vegetation clearance work – January/February 2017 Mobilisation – April/May 2017 Construction main bridge – June-December 2017 Bridge lift – December 2017 - January 2018 Final completion and finishes – Summer 2018	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes/No	The replacement footbridge is one of a number of projects included as part of a Telford Town Centre Connectivity Package, which also includes the dualling of Rampart Way and Hall Park Way. The package has an approved budget of £12.3m, funded £10.3m through the Department for Transport's Highways Challenge Fund and £2.0m through Section 106/local contributions. Full finance

		support will be provided as the project progresses. (DR – 27.01.17)
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	Yes/No	<p>The Council has powers under Sections 91 and 92 Highways Act 1980 to construct and reconstruct bridges which are highways maintainable at the public expense. Section 92 enables the Council to reconstruct a bridge either on the same site or on a new site within 200 yards of the old one. The new bridge at Telford Central Station is going to be within 200 yards of the current one.</p> <p>The Council has powers under the Town &amp; Country Planning Act 1990 to divert and extinguish rights of way if that is necessary to enable development to be carried out. The bridge project is the subject of planning permission and the necessary alterations to reflect the adjustment in the line of the way carried by the bridge and the changes to the ramps, stairs and the connecting rights of way can be processed as required. In addition, if appropriate, the Council can make extinguishment orders, diversion orders, creation orders and enter into agreements with third party landowners under the Highways Act 1980 to address these highways/ rights of way matters.</p> <p>The arrangements with the station owners, particularly regarding the public access, are being discussed and legal advice will be provided on this as well as on the other matters relating to the implementation of this project. (IR – 26.01.17)</p>
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes/No	<p>There are many project risks, the key ones being around budget constraints and third party involvement. An Early Contractor Involvement approach has been adopted and regular meetings are held with the design team to maximise design and buildability</p>

		efficiencies. A Project Board has been convened to strategically steer the project which includes the Cabinet Member for Transport, customer and Neighbourhood Services. The completed scheme will benefit the local residents and businesses and visitors to the area in the long term in providing improved connectivity between the train station and town centre.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	Yes/No	The site area lies within Ketley and Overdale ward. However, the traffic diversion works necessary to deliver the project will also impact the immediately surrounding wards.

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **3. INFORMATION**

Telford continues to face the need for continuing investment into infrastructure to support our residents and communities and to make the Borough attractive for securing inward investment, helping to create new jobs. The footbridge replacement project is part of a Telford Town Centre Connectivity Package and one of the principal highway and transport infrastructure improvement schemes. This project has secured £10.3m of funding through the Department for Transport's Highways Maintenance Challenge Funding.

The existing footbridge links the existing footpath cycleway networks either side of the A442 dual carriageway and provides the footbridge link between the platforms at Telford Central train station. The existing footbridge is over 30yrs old, is expensive to maintain and is a poor gateway for the Borough, particularly for those arriving at Telford Central Station.

This is a complex project and the bridge spans two dual carriageways and the Shrewsbury to Wolverhampton rail line. Detailed designs are now being progressed and will be overseen by the Governance Board chaired by the Assistant Director Neighbourhood & Customer Services and attended by the Cabinet Member for Transport, Customer & Neighbourhood Services and attended by all key stakeholders including network rail and London Midland representatives.

### **4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### **5.1 Community Impact**

The construction phase of the project will inevitably have impacts on footbridge users and the surrounding transport network. The works will be managed in a way which looks to eliminate and minimise the impacts. The design has been prepared on a separate alignment to the existing bridge to allow the current bridge to remain open until the new one is constructed.

The preferred contractor will operate within the industries “Considerate Contractors” scheme and have a designated public liaison officer to specifically coordinate with local stakeholders throughout the project. As one of the Midlands Highway Alliance framework contractors, there is also a requirement on the preferred contractor to support local employment and apprentice schemes.

## **5.2 Equalities Impact**

The new design will improve access including new lifts to Telford Central train station platforms. In doing so, the scheme will support the Council’s Local Transport Plan objective of improving accessibility.

## **5. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

N/A

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

N/A

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