

**Enabling Works to Celta Road to assist with the expansion of Woodston Primary School**

**Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development, in consultation with Councillor Ayres, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University**

**November 2017**

**Deadline date: November 2017**

Cabinet portfolio holders:	Cllr Hiller, Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development, in consultation with Cllr Ayres, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University
Responsible Director:	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Executive Director People and Communities Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Councils
Is this a Key Decision?	YES If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan: Yes Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan: KEY/24JULY17/04
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Cabinet Member, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Education Skills and University is recommended to :

1. Authorise the Executive Director People and Communities Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Councils to approve the enabling works to Celta Road and the remodelling of the car park associated with Belsize Community Centre up to the value of the budget sum of £1m, to be delivered by Skanska Construction UK Limited under the Council's highway services contract. This sum shall include the anticipated design and build costs and the submission of a planning application.
2. Authorise the Interim Director for Law and Governance or delegated legal officers to enter into any legal documentation on behalf of the Council in relation to these matters.

Cllr Ayres, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University, comments that:

**1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 This report seeks the Cabinet Member's approval to the recommendations to carry out enabling works to Celta Road reducing congestion and remodelling of the car park associated with Belsize Community Centre.

- 1.2 The project will allow the widening of the carriageway which will enable a two way flow of traffic along Celta Road. Sheltered parking areas will be constructed in certain areas along the highway.
- 1.3 The current car park at Belsize Community Centre will be expanded and lined to maximise the number of spaces. The hedgerows and bushes along the edge of the car park will be removed allowing clear site of the car park from the road and pathways. Additional lighting will be in place. This will assist with preventing anti-social behaviour in this area.
- 1.4 These works are required in order to ensure the local infrastructure is suitable for any future expansion of Woodston Primary School.
- 1.5 Permissions will be required from the Environment Agency to divert an existing culvert along Celta Road.
- 1.6 Permissions will be required to move existing BT equipment.
- 1.7 Programme: the key dates for delivery of the infrastructure works are as follows:
  - Mobilisation period 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018
  - Construction start on site 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018
  - Work completed 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018
- 1.8 Funding for the infrastructure works associated with the school projects has been allocated within the Medium Term Financial Plan.

**2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide background information and seek the Cabinet Member's approval in relation to the recommendations.
- 2.2 This decision is proposed in accordance with the delegations for the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3. and 3.4.8 (a) of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of his portfolio (a) and (g).

**3. TIMESCALE**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	<b>N/A</b>
---	-----------	---	------------

**4. DETAILS OF DECISION REQUIRED**

- 4.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain the Cabinet Member's approval in relation to early infrastructure works comprising of:
  - Enabling works to Celta Road reducing congestion and remodelling of the car park associated with Belsize Community Centre.
  - Widening of the carriageway which will enable a two way flow of traffic along Celta Road.
  - Sheltered parking areas will be constructed in certain areas along the highway.
  - Expansion of the existing car park and lining to maximise the number of spaces at Belsize Community Centre
  - Removal of the hedgerows and bushes along the edge of the car park to allow clear site of the car park from the road and pathways.
  - Additional lighting in the car park area to assist with preventing anti-social behaviour.

## **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Ward Councillors have been consulted regarding the road enabling works as part of the overall programme for the future school project.
- 5.2 Consultation relating to the school project will take place with local residents in due course.
- 5.4 Public consultation will take place prior to submission of the planning application for the school expansion and will be detailed in the relevant decision notices.
- 5.5 Key stakeholder departments within the Council are fully briefed on the proposals. These include Planning Department, Strategic Finance and Legal Services.

## **6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES**

- 6.1 Carriageway along Celta Road to be widened to enable two way flow of traffic with sheltered parking areas.
- 6.2 Permission to be received from Environment Agency in relation to any works required to culvert.
- 6.3 Permission to be received from BT in relation to moving equipment.
- 6.4 Existing car park at Belsize to be expanded.

## **7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 7.1 Cars parked along the existing carriageway along Celta Road cause congestion and stop the two way flow of traffic. This then gives rise to issues for cars accessing the car park at Woodston Primary, Belsize Community Centre and garages to the back of houses on Belsize Avenue. This is more prevalent during peak times due to the proximity to the industrial area along Morley Way and traffic from Nene and Fletton parkway when there is increased traffic.
- 7.2 Future plans to expand Woodston Primary School would mean access for construction traffic etc. along Celta Road. There are significant pressures on the city to provide school places in the areas most needed. A review of demographic data has shown an increase in numbers in the Fletton/Woodston area.
- 7.3 Expansion of the car park at Belsize Community Centre would allow residents along Celta Road to park their cars near to the houses and be visible. Improvements to the lighting in the car park would provide additional security for cars and users of the community centre.
- 7.4 As a result of the above, the proposed scheme will:
  - Allow for two way flow of traffic along Celta Road reducing the amount of congestion.
  - Allow for additional parking in the community centre car park.
  - Reduce the amount of anti-social behaviour in the community centre car park and surrounding area.
- 7.5 The highways work will ensure that subject to further approvals, Woodston Primary School could be expanded in the future.
- 7.6 The works will be sought under the Council's existing contract with Skanska relating to highway services and fall within the scope of the contract. Details of the contract award for the highway services are set out in the cabinet member decision notice (AUG13/CMDN/068).

## **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The following options were considered and rejected:

- 8.1 To do nothing. This option was rejected due to the Local Authority's statutory duty to provide sufficient school places and the need for the highways infrastructure to be in place before construction can commence.

## **9. IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The legal and financial implications of this Cabinet Member Decision Notice are set out in the main body of the report.
- 9.2 Legal – The Council has a power to commission the works under the Highways Act 1980. The Council's highway services contract was procured in compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2006.
- 9.3 Environmental – Permission required from Environment Agency regarding the potential diversion of the culvert.

## **10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

- 10.1 None.

## **11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985) and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

School Organisation Plan 2012-2017

Medium Term Financial Plan