

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE SAFETY FENCING PROGRAMME OF WORKS FOR 2019/20 – 2020/21
COUNCILLOR PETER HILLER, CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND COMMERCIAL STRATEGY AND INVESTMENTS
MAY 2019
Deadline date: MAY 2019

Cabinet portfolio holder:	Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments
Responsible Director:	Dave Anderson, Interim Development Director
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/15APR19/03
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	The project has been registered on Verto

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

1) Authorise the issue of the following work package to Skanska Construction UK Limited under the Council's existing Peterborough Highway Services Contract;

- Safety fencing works in 2019/20 – 2020/21 - KEY/15APR19/03. Total work package value is £2.8m (£1.4m per year from 2019/20 – 2020/21).

2) Authorise the Interim Development Director to vary the work order value when required subject to;

- (i) available budget being in place;
- (ii) the total sum of each variation not exceeding £100,000.
- (iii) the combined value of any authorised variation(s) do not exceed the total sum of £500,000.

Any variations are to be made in prior consultation with internal audit, finance and legal services.

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks approval from the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development to issue a work package to Skanska Construction UK Limited for Safety Fencing works throughout the 2019/20 – 2020/21 financial years following confirmation of available budget in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Growth, Planning, Housing and Economic Development to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (b).

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	N/A
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4. DETAILS OF DECISION REQUIRED

- 4.1 Following a series of safety inspections it was determined that the safety fencing on the Nene Parkway was defective and in need of replacement. This resulted in the need to temporarily reduce the speed limit from 70mph to 50mph. Some of the safety fencing has now been replaced and the remaining works will be completed in 2019/20.
- 4.2 Further inspections have been undertaken on Orton, Longthorpe, Fletton and Frank Perkins Parkways with further planned on Werrington Parkway. The results have shown that the safety fences on these Parkways also need replacing which is why funding has been allocated by the Council in the MTFS. The funding allocation is £1.4m per year from 2019/20 – 2020/21 which should allow all of the defective safety fencing to be replaced. In 2019/20, works will be undertaken on Werrington, Fletton and Frank Perkins Parkway. Future surveys will be undertaken across the network to determine where further replacements are needed and where work should be prioritised.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Consultation was undertaken as part of the budget setting process. Appropriate consultation will be undertaken on individual schemes in the programme as required.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1 Approval is given for all of the defective safety fencing to be replaced ensuring that our roads remain safe and that no further reductions in the speed limit are required due to the condition of the safety fencing.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS & ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 7.1 Condition surveys and investigations have been completed on the highway network that have identified the need for widespread replacement of the safety fencing. If these are not fixed then it would have a road safety implication and would have a negative effect on the economy as the speed limits would need to be lowered.
- 7.2 The Council has an adopted Highway Asset Management Policy and Strategy and a draft Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan which have been developed with key stakeholders and detail how the Council proactively manages the highway network and deals with defects.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 Not to deliver a programme of works: There would be significant road safety implications by not replacing the safety fencing. In addition, this would result in further speed reductions being implemented which would have a negative effect on the local economy.
- 8.2 Agree an alternative works programme: There are no alternative engineering solutions to this problem.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Highways Act 1980 provides that the highway authority is under a duty to maintain the highway at public expense. This requires that the highway has to be maintained so that it is reasonably passable by the ordinary traffic of the area. Failure to replace the safety fencing could result in a risk that the authority may not meet its legal duty to maintain the highway.
- 9.2 In addition, the legal implications of not approving the finance and spend outlined in this document may mean that the Council cannot meet its strategic transport and highway priorities for Peterborough following a substantial period of consultation with stakeholders and partners.
- 9.3 The legal and financial implications of approving the safety fence funding is that the highway network can be maintained thereby meeting the statutory duty to maintain the highway and the Council's transport objectives.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The recommended programme will ensure that the planned expenditure is consistent with the capital programme of works via the performance measurement and efficiency mechanisms built into the Highway Services Agreement.

11. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no procurement implications.

12. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and there are no detrimental effects associated with the schemes.

13. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

- 13.1 None

14. 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

- Highway Asset Management Policy and Strategy
<http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/highwayassetmanagement>
- Draft Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan

15. APPENDICES

15.1 None