

Report Author: Lewis Banks (Principal Sustainable Transport Planning Officer)
Tel: 01733 317465

CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS
COUNCILLOR HILLER, CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND COMMERCIAL STRATEGY AND INVESTMENTS
JULY 2020
Deadline date: ASAP

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Councillor Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments Director: Steve Cox, Executive director of place and economy
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/06JUL20/03
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?	YES, Project No. PR002603

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

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

1. Approve the award of a programme of work, up to the value of £625k to Skanska (Construction) UK Limited to deliver measures identified as a direct result of a second tranche of funding awarded by the Department for Transport, via the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, to support walking and cycling.
2. Approve the award of a second programme of work to Skanska (Construction) UK Limited up to the value of £501k to enhance areas of the Green Wheel.

1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 This report is for Councillor Peter Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy and Investments 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 (d).

2. TIMESCALES

2.1

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
---	-----------	----------------------------------	------------

3. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

3.1 Following unprecedented levels of walking and cycling across the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Department for Transport (DfT) announced a £2bn package of funding to promote alternative ways to travel, such as walking and cycling, to relieve the pressure on public transport. Subsequently, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) agreed at a meeting of its Board on the 3rd June 2020 to allocate funding to Peterborough City Council totalling £781,654 to be spent in two phases and in line with guidance issued by the DfT. As a result of this the Council will be undertaking a number of measures to change road layout throughout the city. Alongside this the Council has secured, through developer contributions, a budget of £501k to enhance areas of the Green Wheel.

3.2 The first phase of funding, anticipated to total £156,330.82, has been allocated to the following schemes in line with guidance received from the DfT:

Cowgate, Cross St and King St	A number of options are being discussed with local traders ranging from suspending parking bays to closing the roads to through traffic to allow more room for pedestrians and cyclists - not a dedicated cycle lane.
Broadway	The lower section near Westgate has had bays suspended to allow more room for pedestrians. Upper Broadway (Northminster junction to Burghley Square) will have parking bays suspended and pop up cycle lanes installed with cycle wands.
Cattle Market Road	Parking bays have been suspended to allow more room for pedestrians.
City Road	A pop-up cycle lane will be installed with cycle wands between St Johns and Northminster (westbound only) depending on available widths.
Crescent Bridge	Removal of an east bound lane to install a pop-up cycle lane.
Priestgate and Wentworth St	Will become one way with parking bays suspended to allow more room for pedestrians and cyclists – potentially a dedicated cycle lane or shared space.
School street closures	Closing roads outside schools in Peterborough to encourage walking and cycling

These schemes have been delivered through the Council's existing contract with Skanska and spend recorded in line with the 'Protocol for the approval of Covid-19 spending'.

3.3 The CPCA have awarded a second tranche of funding to the Council, totalling £625,323.26. The full details of how the DfT intend this to be spent have not yet been released other than to confirm that it "will be released later in the summer to enable authorities to install further, more permanent measures to cement cycling and walking habits. Where applicable, this will enable local authorities to implement schemes already planned in Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs)" (appendix A).

A full programme of works will be developed in line with existing processes and engagement with the relevant stakeholders. It is considered likely that the DfT will expect any schemes to be delivered without delay once more specific details have been released and therefore it is

recommended that the Council deliver this programme through Skanska, the Council's existing Highway partner. If however, when further details are available, this is not considered to be a suitable option officers will undertake procurement in line with the Council's policies.

3.4 In addition to the funding detailed above the Council has developed a programme of work to undertake capital enhancements to key areas across the Green Wheel. The Green Wheel is a 45 miles cycle route that runs around the perimeter of Peterborough with 'spokes' leading into the city centre. It uses a mixture of traffic-free paths, quiet roads and urban cycle lanes and is an essential part of the local highway network.

The programme of work will include, for example, measures such as resurfacing, installing/altering cycle friendly barriers, signage and dropped kerbs. The funding to undertake this work has been secured through the Planning Obligations Implementation [POIS] Scheme, Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 Developer Contributions as follows:

Contribution	Source
£32,069.33	POIS - Central & East
£219,518.04	POIS - North & West
£196,640.99	POIS - South
£41,777.56	Strategic CIL (Transport and Communications)
£11,000.00	S106 contribution (Roxhill)

The full programme of work is currently being developed following a report produced by Sustrans alongside specialist local knowledge and will be based on a number of factors including: Improving areas of high use first, promoting routes that can be both leisure and commuter routes, and improvements which have the greatest impact on safety.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The proposal has been discussed with a wide range of stakeholders including Councillors, residents and the local Cycle Forum. The specific proposals included here have been discussed and supported by Cllr Holdich, Leader of the Council and Cllr Hiller, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Commercial Strategy.

4.2 The council will liaise with key stakeholders such as the emergency services, disability groups and local transport providers to ascertain any specific areas of concern they may have and monitor, review and potentially amend interventions if they are perceived to be unacceptable.

4.3 In advance of any works taking place in the highway relevant and appropriate consultation will take place with the necessary stakeholders in line with standard highway procedures.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

5.1 It is anticipated that the council will award two packages of work to Skanska (UK) Construction Limited as outlined in this report.

6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 This recommendation has been made to ensure that the Council is able to effectively deliver grant funding awarded by the CPCA and able to undertake wider measures to support walking and cycling.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 The alternative option is to wait until further information is known about tranche two funding before seeking authority to award a contract to Skanska. This has been ruled out because it will unnecessarily delay work taking place. The contract however will not be awarded until further details are known and it is deemed to be a suitable mechanism for delivery of these works.

IMPLICATIONS

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 The DfT, via the CPCA, will award a grant of £781,654 to the Council. In addition the Council will allocate POIS and Developer Contribution funding, totalling £501k, to undertake works to improve the Green Wheel.

8.3 Legal Implications

- 8.4 There are no legal implications arising as a result of this decision.

8.5 Equalities Implications

It is not anticipated that any one identified group will be disproportionately affected by this proposal.

8.6 Carbon Impact Assessment

The project proposals will look to provide improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure, and in doing so encourage more residents to travel more sustainably. The improvements will look to have a positive impact and will reduce carbon emissions for example by shifting more journeys to sustainable modes, improving journey times, reducing congestion and improving air quality. Although there are factors, such as additional street lighting, embodied energy in the materials which will have a negative impact, we will look to limit the impact of these through planting trees which will provide a long-term benefit.

9. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

- 9.1 None.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 10.1 N/A

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix A - 200527 Combined Authorities - Active Travel Emergency Fund