



Cambridge City Council

To: Cllr Tim Ward, Executive Councillor for Planning and Sustainable Transport
Report by: Simon Payne, Director of Environment
Relevant scrutiny committee: Environment, 26th June 2012
Wards affected: Kings Hedges/West Chesterton

Project Appraisal and Scrutiny Committee Recommendation

Project Name: Downham's Lane Cycle link improvement

Recommendation/s

Financial recommendations –

- The Executive Councillor is asked to approve the commencement of this scheme, which is already included in the Council's Capital & Revenue Project Plan.
- The total cost of the project is £80,000 funded from the Capital Joint Cycleways Programme (PR007).
- Implementation is subject to the adoption of the route as public highway by Cambridgeshire County Council.
- There are no ongoing revenue implications arising from the project due to its proposed adoption by Cambridgeshire County Council as Highway Authority.

Procurement recommendations:

- This scheme will be procured direct from the County Councillor's compliantly procured contractor. If the project estimate exceeds the estimated contract value by more than 15%, the permission of the Executive Councillor and the Director of Resources will be sought before proceeding.

1 Summary

The project is to improve the surfacing and lighting of Downham's Lane to adoptable standards. The route is seen as an important cycle/pedestrian link between Milton Road, Campkin Road and the Manor School. The link will become a public right through the completion of a public path creation agreement between Cambridgeshire County Council and the three current landowners.

1.1 The project

Target Dates: <i>(subject to timely signing of agreement)</i>	
Estimated date for signed public right of way agreement	October 2012
Production of Construction Information	November 2012
Start Construction	January 2013
Completion of project	March 2013

1.2 The Cost

Total Project Cost	£ 80,000
--------------------	-----------------

Cost Funded from:

Funding:	Amount:	Details:
Reserves	£80,000	Cycleways Capital Programme (PR007)
Repairs & Renewals	£	NA
Developer Contributions	£	NA
Other	£	NA

Ongoing Revenue Cost

Year 1	£0	Maintenance responsibility of County Council
--------	-----------	--

Ongoing	£	
---------	---	--

1.3 The Procurement

If approved, the works will be undertaken by the County Council's contractor. This contractor was appointed by the County Council following a competitive tender process in accordance with its contract regulations. The contract will comply with the requirements of the City Council's Contract Procedure Rules by virtue of Rule 6.2 as the County Council is a Central Purchasing Body for the purposes of the City Council's Rules.

2 Project Appraisal & Procurement Report

2.1 The Project

The project is to improve Downham's Lane in order for it to be adopted as public highway. This is currently an important and well used cycle/pedestrian link between Milton Road, Campkin Road and the Manor School.

On 11th January 2011 the Environment Scrutiny Committee approved the carry forward of funding from the Joint Cycleways Capital Programme for the implementation of the Downham's Lane scheme.

This scheme will give the path formal status as a Right of Way, maintainable by the County Council.

The Downham's Lane link is mainly on land owned by the University of Cambridge and was formerly the vehicular access for the Rees Thomas School. A short section of the land is owned by the City Council. Since the school's closure and the construction of a residential care home, vehicular access is no longer required and is now only used by cyclists and pedestrians. The link has no formal status and is currently used on an informal, permissive basis by cyclists and pedestrians. The link is in a poor state of repair with a narrow footway and poor quality surfacing.

The project proposes to re-surface and, where necessary, fully re-construct the pedestrian and cycle paths. The standard of lighting will also be improved with the addition of five new lighting columns. The new link will be constructed to an adoptable standard and the Highway Authority has agreed, subject to satisfactory completion, that it will maintain it as public highway.

2.2 Aims & objectives

The aim of the project is to create a high quality cycling and walking link, which is adopted as public highway and therefore maintained by Cambridgeshire County Council.

The scheme is in line with the City and County Councils' commitment to encourage cycling and walking and to cater for the growth of these modes of transport related to the growth agenda.

The project aims to promote the City Council Vision of 'A city where getting around is primarily by public transport, bike and on foot.' It contributes to achieving this aim by improving safety for cyclists and pedestrians and securing the future of this important cycle and pedestrian link.

2.3 Major issues for stakeholders & other departments

The main issue is completion of the Public Path Creation Agreement, which is currently being undertaken by Cambridgeshire County Council.

All parties have indicated their willingness to sign the agreement, but work cannot be undertaken until the process is fully complete.

Consultation with Ward Councillors and Residents Associations has indicated support for the project.

2.4 Summarise key risks associated with the project

The key risks involved in the delivery of the project are:

- Problems securing the necessary signatures from the University and RANC Care Homes in order to complete the Public Path Creation Agreement.
- The key risk in not delivering this project is that one of the private landowners could at some point close the path to members of the public.
- The other risk is that the poor state of the path could deter some people from using it, which could either result in a switch to them using a car or a less safe route.

2.5 Financial implications

- a. Appraisal prepared on the following price base: 2012/13
- b. Specific grant funding conditions are: None
- c. Other comments

2.6 Capital & Revenue costs

(see also Appendix A for spread across financial years)

(a) Capital	£	Comments
Building contractor / works	80,000	Joint Cycleways Capital Programme (PR007)
Purchase of vehicles, plant & equipment		
Professional / Consultants fees		
IT Hardware/Software		
Other capital expenditure		
Total Capital Cost	80,000	

(b) Revenue	£	Comments
Maintenance	0	County Council responsibility to maintain
R&R Contribution		
Total Revenue Cost	0	

2.7 VAT implications

There are no adverse VAT implications to this project.

2.8 Environmental Implications

Climate Change impact	
-----------------------	--

+L Reduced number of cars and CO2 emissions (Air Quality and traffic): The completion of the project will result in an improved walking and cycling link, hence encouraging people to use it and reducing the number of people who would otherwise use their cars.

2.9 Other implications

Improved Safety: The new improved lighting will improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists as well as create improvements for community safety as a whole.

2.10 Staff required to deliver the project

The project can be delivered within existing staff resources.

Project Officer	60 hours
Cycle Officer (City/County)	8 hours

2.11 Dependency on other work or projects

None

2.12 Background Papers

Environment Scrutiny Committee Report 11th January 2012.

2.13 Inspection of papers

Author's Name	Andrew Preston
Author's phone No.	01223 457271
Author's e-mail:	andrew.preston@cambridge.gov.uk
Date prepared:	31 st May 2012

Capital Project Appraisal - Capital costs & funding - Profiling

Appendix A

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	
Capital Costs						
Building contractor / works	80,000					
Purchase of vehicles, plant & equipment						
Professional / Consultants fees						
Other capital expenditure:						
<i>insert rows as needed</i>						
Total Capital cost	80,000	0	0	0	0	
Capital Income / Funding						
Government Grant						
Developer Contributions						
R&R funding						
Earmarked Funds						
Existing capital programme funding	80,000					PR007
Revenue contributions						
Total Income	80,000	0	0	0	0	
Net Capital Bid	0	0	0	0	0	