

**Item** 



**To:** West/Central Area Committee 20/06/2013 **Report by:** Simon Payne – Director of Environment

Wards affected: Castle, Market and Newnham

## CITY CENTRE CYCLE PARKING PROJECT

## 1.0 **Executive summary**

- 1.1. This report sets out the progress to date on the City Centre Cycle Parking Project and provides more detail on the on-street element of the project for review prior to public consultation.
- 1.2. The report also presents the planned approach to the consultation, the activities that will take place and the opportunities for the public and key stakeholders to provide input and comment on the preliminary proposals.

#### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The West/Central Area Committee is recommended:
  - To support the proposed on-street measures contained within this report for further consultation with the public and key stakeholders.
  - To provide any specific comments on the proposed locations.
  - To support the planned consultation activities detailed within this report.

## 3.0 **Background**

- 2.1 In October 2012 a capital budget of £500,000 was approved to fund a project that aims to create up to 1000 additional cycle parking spaces in Cambridge city centre.
- 2.2 The project aims to create significant additional on-street capacity, but also look into the feasibility of providing a third undercover cycle park, similar to the existing Grand Arcade and Park Street Cycle Parks.

- 2.3 In March 2013 a report was presented to Environment Scrutiny Committee, which detailed how the project would be delivered, the programme for completion of the on-street measures and presented the preliminary designs that are also included within this report.
- 2.4 The Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change, Councillor Tim Ward, subsequently gave approval for the project to enter the public consultation phase.
- 2.5 The detailed programme for this project can be found in appendix A of this report.
- 2.6 The project is being directed by a project board, which consists of senior officers and councillors from the City and County Council, a representative from the Cambridge Cycling Campaign and the chair of West/Central Area Committee.
- 2.7 This project board meets on a bimonthly basis to review progress and provide a forum for directing the management of the project.
- 2.8 All significant decisions will continue to be made by the Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change at Environment Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.9 The project is also being delivered in conjunction with Cambridgeshire County Council, as the highway authority.
- 2.10 Any decisions that relate to the highway may also have to be decided by the respective County Council Cabinet Member, such as statutory objections to proposed amendments to traffic regulation orders.

## 4.0 On-street Preliminary Proposals

- 4.1 In order to achieve a significant increase in cycle parking provision in the city centre, a 'blue sky' approach to identifying locations had to be adopted throughout the design process.
- 4.2 There have been numerous locations that have subsequently been discounted for various reasons, such as the lack of agreement from private landowners, but a significant number of sites remain.

- 4.3 Many of the proposed locations also require accommodation works in order to make cycle parking provision feasible. Such works include the extension and or widening of footways areas or the demarcation of parking areas from the rest of the carriageway.
- 4.4 Some locations also impact on car parking provision, through the reduction in capacity of both on-street pay and display and disabled bays, which are issues that will require further consideration.
- 4.5 Table 1.0 below, lists the current potential locations.

ON-STREET LOCATION	PROPOSED No. CYCLE STANDS	ADDITIONAL No. SPACES
Bene't Street	10	20
Burleigh Place	9	18
Castle Street	4	8
Drummer Street/Christ's Lane	6	12
Drummer Street/Christ's Pieces	4	8
Eden Street	4	8
Fitzroy Lane	5	10
Free School Lane	18	36
Granta Place	7	14
Guildhall Street	34	68
Jesus Lane	7	14
King's Parade	17	34
Lion Yard	3	6
Market Square	24	48
Norfolk Street	8	16
Park Terrace	8	16
Peas Hill	38	76
Quayside	10	20
Regent Street	12	24
Regent Terrace	35	70
Round Church Street	4	8
Senate House Passage	4	8
Sidney Street	24	48
St Andrew's Street	13	26
St John's Street	18	36
Sussex Street	7	14
Tennis Court Road	8	16
Trinity Lane	11	22
Trinity Street	9	18
Trumpington Street	72	144
TOTAL	433	866

Table 1.0; Proposed cycle parking locations and numbers at each site.

4.1 Detailed layout drawings for each of the above locations can be found in appendix B of this report and will also be on display in larger format at the Committee meeting.

## 5.0 Cycle Rack Design

- 5.1 There are currently various different types of cycle rack in existence across the city and their specification is very much dependent on the location of the cycle parking.
- 5.2 Due to the requirement for a significant increase in cycle parking provision in the city centre and the distinct lack of space available, high capacity cycle racks are currently specified for many of the proposed locations.
- 5.3 Figure 1.1 below shows the style of high capacity cycle rack being proposed, examples of which are currently located at the junction of Downing Street and St Andrew's St.



Figure 1.1. Existing high capacity cycle racks on Downing St.

5.4 This cycle rack design provides a higher capacity than the standard Sheffield style rack, through the defined method and location of attaching cycles to it.

- 5.5 This not only enables the racks to be installed closer together, but also guarantees the location of parked cycles within the pavement area, a significant benefit to footway users.
- 5.6 One of the negative aspects of this style of cycle rack is the potential increase in visual impact within the streetscape, a factor that must be closely considered within what is a very confined streetscape environment in the city centre.
- 5.7 Whilst planning permission will not be required for providing onstreet cycle racks, as it is regarded as permitted development, the City Council's Urban Design and Conservation team will be consulted on the proposals and their input incorporated into the detailed design phase.
- 5.8 There are also many locations, mainly those located within the highway, that have the standard Sheffield cycle rack specified.
- 5.9 Figure 1.2 below shows this style of rack, the most commonly used rack across the city.



Figure 1.2; Standard Sheffield cycle rack on St Andrews St.

- 5.10 This style of rack, whilst being less visually intrusive, provides considerably less control over the location of the cycles attached to it.
- 5.11 As can be seen from the above image, cycles often protrude out randomly on either side of the rack. This significantly increases the overall width of the parking facility and causes a hazard for footway users, particularly disability users.
- 5.12 The more detailed drawings in appendix B of this report highlight which style of rack is proposed at each location.

## 6.0 **Proposed Consultation Activity**

- 6.1 The public consultation phase for the on-street proposals is planned to take place over a six week period between 16<sup>th</sup> July and 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013.
- 6.2 There will be three distinct aspects to the consultation.
  - i. General public consultation on the City Council website.
  - ii. Targeted consultation through letter dropping directly affected premises.
  - iii. Direct consultation with key and statutory stakeholders, such as the emergency services.
- 6.3 All of the details for this project will be available on the City Council website, in fact the project already has its own webpage, which can be found at; <a href="https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/city-centre-cycle-parking">https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/city-centre-cycle-parking</a>.
- 6.4 A questionnaire designed for the general public will be available to complete electronically online, requesting general comment about the project and proposed locations.
- 6.5 A separate leaflet and questionnaire with a freepost envelope will be distributed to directly affected premises that are located adjacent to, or in sight of a proposed cycle parking location.

- 6.6 Exhibition material will be made available in the main reception of the Guildhall and at the Customer Service Centre at Mandela House on St Andrews St.
- 6.7 Paper copies of the generic questionnaire will also be available to complete and post into a drop box or return at a later date by post.
- 6.8 Officers will be in attendance at the Guildhall exhibition on two dates during the consultation period, to give members of the public the opportunity to ask any specific questions or clarify any of the proposals. These are currently planned for:

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July between 17:00 and 20:00

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August between 10:00 and 14:00

- 6.8 The public consultation will be promoted through news releases, facebook and twitter and other media channels in the lead up to and during the consultation period.
- 6.9 We are also requesting specific feedback on the high capacity style of cycle rack. We are planning to install a row of this rack style, with a minor amendment to the design, at the rear of the small square adjacent to the bus station on Christ's Lane.
- 6.10 A display board giving details of this project and highlighting the request for feedback on the cycle racks will also be erected at this location for the period of the consultation. It will also have a link to the main project webpage and electronic questionnaire using a QR code.
- 6.11 The existence of these racks will also be highlighted in the main consultation information.
- 6.12 The results of this consultation will be taken into account when completing the detailed design and will be included in the report that will be presented to Environment Scrutiny Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013, where the Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change will decide whether to implement the project in its final proposed form.

#### 7.0 Off-street Cycle Park

- 7.1 A feasibility study is currently underway to establish the options available for the provision of a third undercover cycle park in the core of the city centre.
- 7.2 This report will be presented to Environment Scrutiny Committee in October, in order to agree a preferred option and the mechanism for delivering it.

#### 8.0 **Implications**

## 8.1 Financial Implications

- 8.1.1 The financial implications for the project will be reviewed for the onstreet cycle parking proposals following detailed design, when implementation costs will become more certain. Current estimates indicate that the cost of the current on-street proposals will be no more than £300,000.
- 8.1.2 There are potential revenue implications associated with the onstreet proposals that will be fully assessed as proposals are finalised.
- 8.1.3 A certain number of existing car parking bays have been identified for removal and conversion into cycle parking. As this would affect Cambridgeshire County Council's revenue income generated by such parking bays, discussions have been initiated regarding these proposals.

## 8.2 Staffing Implications

8.2.1 The Project Delivery Team, within the Streets and Open Spaces Service, are delivering this project. However, other resources may be required for specialist services and advice, such as the council web team on an adhoc basis. Officers from various council departments may also be requested to attend officer working group and project board meetings as and when required. There are currently no resource concerns having taken these issues into account.

#### 8.3 Equal Opportunities Implications

8.3.1 An equality impact assessment was completed for this project and has already been presented to Environment Scrutiny Committee. No negative impact was identified, but a further review of this assessment will take place once the proposals have been finalised.

#### 8.4 Environmental Implications

8.4.1 An environmental impact assessment has been carried out for the project. The assessment rated the project as +M (medium positive environmental impact).

#### 8.5 Procurement

- 8.5.1 All highways works associated with the project will be procured through Cambridge City Council's forthcoming Civils Framework Agreement.
- 8.5.2 Procurement for all other works/items associated with the project, which are not covered by this framework, will be undertaken in accordance with Cambridge City Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

#### 8.6 Consultation and communication

8.6.1 Project events, outcomes and engagements with stakeholders will be undertaken through: a dedicated project-related website (<a href="https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/city-centre-cycle-parking">https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/city-centre-cycle-parking</a>); press releases and tweets.

Please refer to Section 6.0 'Proposal Consultation Activity' below for further details.

## 8.7 Community Safety

The expected benefits of this project are:

- Improving community safety by increasing secured cycle parking; this would deter would-be criminals, therefore reducing cycle theft within the city.
- Improving pedestrian safety by allowing cyclists to utilise dedicated cycle parking spaces rather than parking their cycles along railings, sides of buildings and footways. The latter often looks unsightly and provides a trip hazard to pedestrians, especially those who are visually and/or mobility impaired.

#### 9.0 **Background papers**

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Cambridge City Council, Environment Scrutiny Committee (ESC)
Report – Cambridge City Centre Cycle Parking Project (Agenda Item 9, pp. 109-213):

http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/g715/Public%20reports%20pack%2012th-Mar-

2013%2017.00%20Environment%20Scrutiny%20Committee.pdf?T =10

## 10.0 **Appendices**

**Appendix A:** Project Programme

**Appendix B:** A3 layout drawings for individual locations.

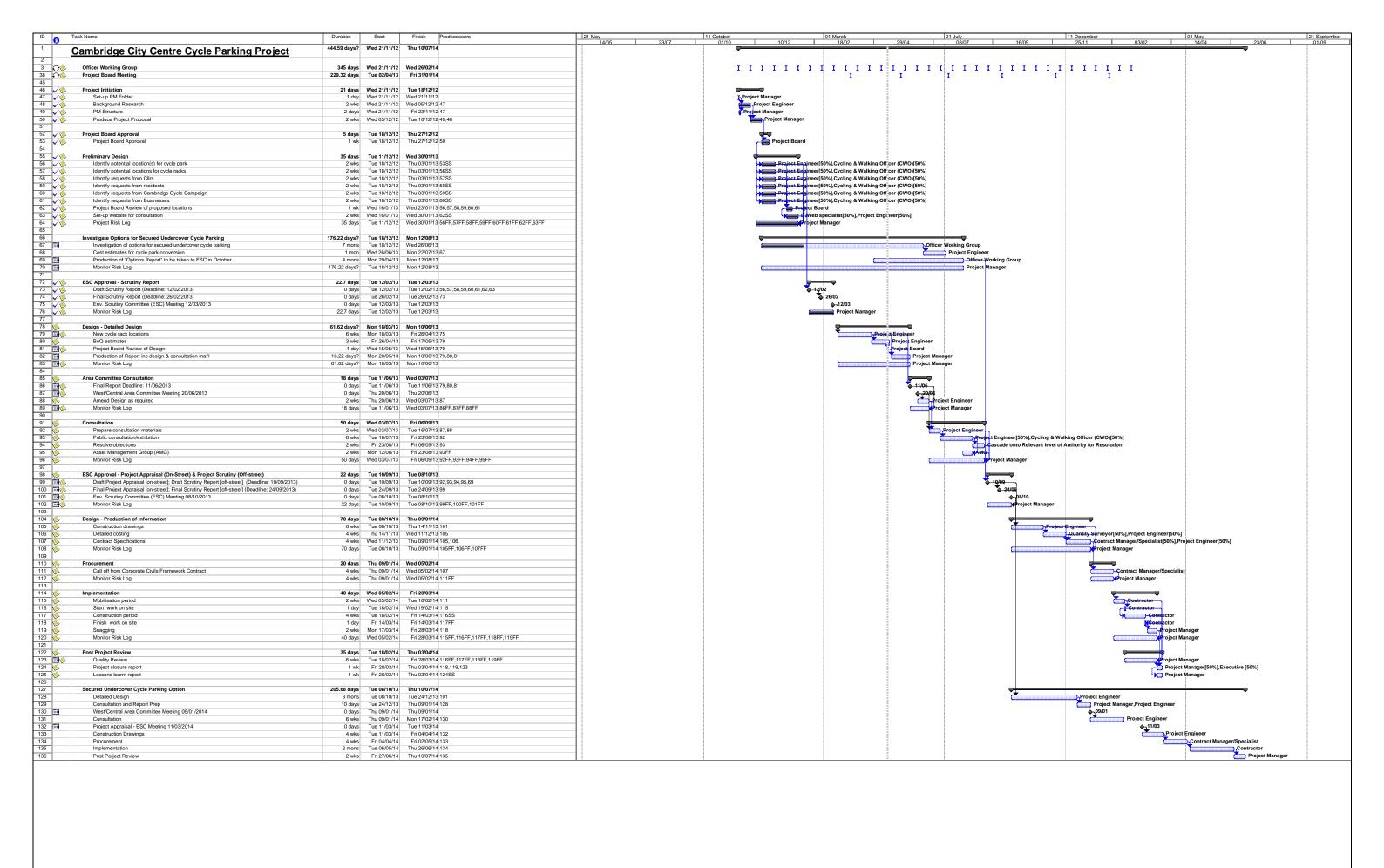
## 11.0 **Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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Project Summary External Tasks External MileTask ♦

Progress

# CAMBRIDGE CITY CENTRE CYCLE PARKING PROJECT

## **ON-STREET PROPOSALS**

STREET NAME:	DRAWING NUMBER:
Bene't Street	014-018/000/004
Burleigh Place	014-018/000/024
Castle Street	014-018/000/019
Christ's Lane/Drummer Street	014-018/000/012
Christ's Pieces/Drummer Street	014-018/000/012
Eden Street	014-018/000/022
Fitzroy Lane	014-018/000/023
Free School Lane	014-018/000/014
Granta Place	014-018/000/016
Guildhall Street	014-018/000/003
Jesus Lane	014-018/000/008
Kings Parade	014-018/000/004
Lion Yard	014-018/000/011
Market Square	014-018/000/002
Norfolk Street	014-018/000/024
Park Terrace	014-018/000/005
Peas Hill	014-018/000/003
Quayside	014-018/000/007
Regent Street	014-018/000/021
Regent Terrace	014-018/000/006 / 014-018/000/021
Round Church Street	014-018/000/018
Senate House Passage	014-018/000/017
Sidney Street	014-018/000/010 / 014-018/000/011
St Andrew's Street	014-018/000/011 / 014-018/000/020
St John's Street	014-018/000/009
Sussex Street	014-018/000/010
Tennis Court Road	014-018/000/013
Trinity Lane	014-018/000/017
Trinity Street	014-018/000/009
Trumpington Street	014-018/000/004 / 014-018/000/015



