

## **BRIEFING NOTE - URGENT DECISION - STOURBRIDGE RIVERBANK**

02/04/14 Environment - Streets & Open Spaces

### **DECISION**

The Executive Councillor for Public Places is recommended to approve £25,000 additional revenue spend to extend the 2013/14 Capital riverbank restoration works on Stourbridge Common from 260 metres to 330 metres.

### **BACKGROUND**

On the 8th October 2013, the Executive Councillor for Public Places approved the capital spend on Stourbridge Common Riverbank Restoration, which was recorded as:

*“Decision of Executive Councillor for Public Places*

- i. Approved the tendering and letting of a contract for a design and build of a river bank restoration programme at Stourbridge Common.*
- ii. Approved the spending of £100k in year 2013/14.*
- iii. Approved the preparation of future capital bids for future works along the Stourbridge Common river bank.”*

As a consequence officers have implemented 260 metres of bank, which has been completed on time and budget (£100,000 by the 31st March 2014).

The approved design required consent by the Environment Agency and Cam Conservators, these consents were for a total of 330 metres of bank.

Officers are very satisfied with the works to date, which have attracted positive comments from both site users and neighbours. The unit rates within the contract are low and with an additional £25,000 the remainder of the consented bank could be completed. An extension to the existing works is permissible using the current contract and this would reduce the

scheme costs in that contractors would not need to revisit this section of bank at a later date. Future disruption to the Common in the form of access tracks, site compounds and temporary fencing would also be reduced.

Funding from existing repairs and renewals has been identified that could pay for the remainder of the works.

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