

LEP – Sub Committee

LEP - Growth Deal Management Board

Private and Confidential: No

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Broughton Bypass

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Executive Summary

Broughton Bypass is the first major new road build delivered as part of the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal. It will provide critical relief to the A6 corridor, Broughton village and other villages in the northern parishes of Preston.

This new road will support housing sites to create over 1,400 new homes, as well as enabling full development of new and future employment sites in East Preston creating over 5,000 new jobs.

The Broughton Bypass was opened by Jake Berry MP on 5th October 2017.

Recommendation

The Growth Deal Management Board is asked to note the report.

Background and Advice

Broughton Bypass has been an aspirational road scheme for the area for a number of years and planning permission was first granted in 2001, this was renewed in 2008. A further renewal was applied for in July 2013 and following objections to Compulsory Purchase Orders needed to construct the bypass, a public inquiry was held in Preston in April 2015 to consider the scheme. In July 2015 the Secretary of State confirmed the Orders finally giving Lancashire County Council the approval to purchase the land needed for the scheme.

The delivery of the scheme has been subject to a full tender process with Hochtieff (UK) Construction Ltd appointed in November 2015 as the contractor to build the bypass. Design, project management and supervision has been provided by Lancashire County Council.



Construction of the bypass started in January 2016 with practical completion achieved on 4th October 2017. The new road was officially opened by Jake Berry MP and Cllr Driver CBE, Leader of Lancashire County Council on 5th October 2017. The road has been named James Towers Way, after a local hero, Private James Towers VC who was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions on 6th October 1918.

During the construction of the road both Hochtieff UK and LCC have been in regular contact with the Parish Council, St John's Church and Broughton Primary School, all significant neighbours to the development. The development has included the provision of a much needed car park for the school and the church, being one of the first elements completed.

Hochtieff UK have worked with the school to enhance an existing pond within the school grounds building a viewing platform for the children. An ecologist has spent time with the children teaching them about the local habitat and encouraging them to take part in pond dipping, where the children have identified the many different creatures living in the pond. In addition the contractor has donated over 60 tree boxes to the school to help in the creation of an orchard for future generations to enjoy.

Hochtief have also worked with UCLAN and their 1st year Civil Engineering students arranging regular site visits and educational talks on the delivery aspects of the project. In addition the contractor has worked with Preston College to employ two full time construction apprentices who have developed through this experience.

The Growth Deal Management Board will be aware that this project has been subject to a number of issues over the last 18 months and it has been necessary to extend the length of the delivery programme and increase the funding allocation for the project. All increased funding has been agreed and provided through the City Deal Executive and Scrutiny Board, with no further implications for the GDMB.

It had been anticipated that the road would be opened by February 2018. This has now been brought forward to October 2017. This has been achieved due to Hochtieff (UK) maintaining a high level of resource on site, flexible programme management and a period of relatively stable weather.

Following the opening of the bypass, works will be started on the improvements along the A6 Garstang Road helping create a more village environment along this corridor. Work is underway to finalise this design, working with the Parish Council, St John's Church and other local groups and interested parties. The main works are expected to start in April 2018 subject to completing the necessary procurement exercise, with some earlier drainage works, weight and speed restrictions being put in place shortly after the opening of James Towers Way.