

## Urgent Decision Taken on Behalf of Cabinet

### Report to the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

Report submitted by: Head of Policy, Information and Commissioning (Live Well)

#### Part I

Electoral Division affected:  
Preston City;

### Old Vicarage Preston - Urgent Repairs

Contact for further information:

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#### Executive Summary

This report requests approval to undertake emergency repairs to Old Vicarage, Preston in order to ensure that there is no delay to the redevelopment of Preston's bus station.

#### Reason for Urgency

This decision is urgent and cannot await the next meeting of Cabinet on (12 April 2018). The reason for this is that the current closure of Old Vicarage has implications for the timely redevelopment at the bus station. Works are needed at the corner of Tithebarn Street and Lord Street in order to facilitate the opening of the new coach station at the end of May 2018. These works cannot be completed while Old Vicarage remains closed, as this is the alternative routing for the buses.

This decision is therefore being taken on behalf of Cabinet by the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 34(1).

#### Recommendation

The Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport are requested to approve that emergency repairs are undertaken at a cost of £85,000 to be funded from the contingency in the Transport Block of the capital programme.

This decision should be implemented immediately for the purposes of Standing Order 35 as any delay could adversely affect the execution of the County Council's responsibilities. The reason for this is to ensure that the necessary works can be completed on time.

### Background and Advice

Old Vicarage has been a lightly used town centre road surfaced with a thin layer of bituminous macadam over cobbles. As the bus station redevelopment works have progressed Old Vicarage has been used as the bus route for all buses exiting the bus station (in excess of 3000 per day). The increased traffic loading has been a catalyst for the road construction to break up and a depression formed. Buses have subsequently been diverted down Lord Street and Old Vicarage has been closed.

An investigation has identified that a damaged redundant water main was creating a very wet area which exacerbated the failure of the road. This has been remedied and the areas back filled. In order to address the road construction it is proposed that the street is excavated down to the concrete foundation which supported the existing cobbled construction and replace this with bituminous material to a depth of approximately 200mm. Repairs will also be required to the concrete slab. The existing setts cannot be overlaid as a satisfactory flexible construction would not be able to be achieved as the levels are governed by the existing kerb height. The estimated cost of this work is £85,000

The closure of Old Vicarage has implications for the redevelopment at Preston's bus station. Works are needed at the corner of Tithebarn Street and Lord Street in order to facilitate the opening of the new coach station at the end of May 2018. These works cannot be completed while Old Vicarage remains closed as this is the alternative routing for the buses. Furthermore, once the bus station project is complete Old Vicarage will take in excess of 1500 buses per day which will require a standard of construction that can withstand this loading of traffic.

It is proposed that the works are undertaken as soon as possible.

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk management**

If emergency repairs are not undertaken as soon as possible then this will negatively impact on the timeliness of the redevelopment of the bus station.

An alternative solution would be to undertake remedial patching work at an estimated cost of £10,000 which would then need to be upgraded at a future point due to the future loading of traffic (in excess of 1500 buses per day) that will use Old Vicarage once the bus station project is complete. This option would result in town centre traffic being disrupted at a future date due to the need to divert buses whilst work is undertaken.

### **Financial**

It is proposed that the estimated cost of £85,000 to undertake emergency repairs is funded from the contingency in the Transport Block of the capital programme.

**List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

**Urgent Decision Taken on behalf of Cabinet: Declarations**

**Leader of the Council**

**Old Vicarage Preston - Urgent Repairs**

Original recommendation, as set out in the report, approved without amendment. Yes/No \*

Original recommendation amended and decision as follows: Yes/No \*

I have a pecuniary/non-pecuniary interest in this matter. Yes/No \*

If an interest is declared please give details below:

.....  
Leader of the Council

9 April 2018

**Chief Officer**

I certify that this is an appropriate and accurate record within the terms of Standing Order 36(2) and (3) of the decision taken by the Cabinet Member.

.....  
Democratic Services Manager

9 April 2018

\*Delete as appropriate

**This decision is to be taken by more than one Cabinet Member and all relevant Cabinet Members must be in agreement with the decision**

**Urgent Decision Taken on behalf of Cabinet: Declarations**

**Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

**Old Vicarage Preston - Urgent Repairs**

Original recommendation, as set out in the report, approved without amendment. Yes/No \*

Original recommendation amended and decision as follows: Yes/No \*

I have a pecuniary/non-pecuniary interest in this matter. Yes/No \*

If an interest is declared please give details below:

.....  
Cabinet Member for Highways and  
Transport

9 April 2018

**Chief Officer**

I certify that this is an appropriate and accurate record within the terms of Standing Order 36(2) and (3) of the decision taken by the Cabinet Member.

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9 April 2018

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