

Report to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
Report submitted by: Head of Service Policy, Information and Commissioning
(Live Well)
Date: 24 March 2016

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
Preston Rural East

Approval for Highway Works at A6 Garstang Road, Broughton, Preston
(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

Approval is sought to deliver the proposed improvement works to the existing highway in Broughton village as shown on the plans at Appendix 'A'.

Improvements to the centre of Broughton village are identified as an early activity under the Infrastructure Delivery Plan for the Preston, South Ribble and Central Lancashire City Deal and are also a condition of the planning permission for Broughton Bypass. Once the proposals are approved, the county council as highway authority will be in a position to submit the plans to the County Council's development control committee and, subject to its approval, deliver the improvement works in mid-2017.

The improvements to Broughton village have been identified as part of a network of public transport priority corridors in the published Central Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan. Highway works in these corridors and at local centres along their length will see improvements to public transport, cycling and walking provision over the ten year City Deal period.

Public consultation events were held in the local community in March 2015 and December 2015. Opportunities to comment on the proposals were made available through the City Deal website and social media.

A Consultation Report, presented at Appendix 'B', compiles and summarises the comments received and responds to these. None of the issues identified through the consultation cause any fundamental re-consideration of the proposed improvement works, although a number of comments have prompted changes to the original design which improve the overall attractiveness and effectiveness of these works in encouraging other forms of travel to the private car.

Recommendation

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport is requested to approve:

- (i) The proposed improvement works in Broughton village (north of M55) as set out in the plans attached at Appendix 'A' being works within existing highway extent at an estimated cost of £1,000,000 to be funded from the City Deal Infrastructure Delivery Fund;
- (ii) That it is submitted to the county planning authority for the purpose of discharge of condition 8 of the planning permission for Broughton Bypass, and
- (iii) That subject to (ii) above the works be carried out.

Background and Advice

The Central Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan (CLTM) was published in March 2013 and provides the basis for determining future transport investment priorities across Preston, South Ribble and Chorley. As part of the CLTM, eight key bus corridors and local centres were identified for improvements to public transport and measures to promote walking and cycling. Broughton is one of the local centres identified and is the location of additional works required by the planning conditions imposed on the Broughton Bypass.

Renewal of Planning Permission 06/06/0589 for the construction of Broughton Bypass and improvements to existing highways at Broughton has as condition 8 the following requirement, that:

Within six months of the commencement of development, a scheme of environmental enhancement and traffic calming measures for the A6 through Broughton village shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority for approval in writing. The scheme shall include details of the following:

a) details of the landscaping works and environmental enhancement works to be carried out including tree and shrub planting, replacement of street furniture and other public realm improvements.

b) details of the measures to be implemented to discourage through traffic.

c) details of the measures to be implemented to enhance pedestrian and cyclist movements on the A6 including as part of the Guild Wheel.

The works contained in the approved scheme shall be implemented in full within one year of the bypass being opened to traffic.

Reason: In order to secure an enhanced environment and improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities in Broughton village following the opening of the bypass and to conform with policies 3 and 18 of the Central Lancashire Core Strategy.

Broughton village consists of a mix of commercial and residential uses and is a primary transport gateway into Preston City Centre. Currently the route is characterised by dense traffic volumes, severing the community, poor air quality and little local identity. It is recognised that on construction of Broughton bypass, traffic volumes will decrease by up to 90% and there is a clear opportunity to improve the village centre and provide better facilities for residents and remaining highway users in the village.

The aim of the local centre improvements is to prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users over motorists where possible and improve connectivity and ease of movement. The intention is to give over more dedicated road space to buses, cyclists and pedestrians and develop a sustainable transport network that will support economic development in the local area. The proposals aim to give a sense of place to meet the needs of its community and fulfil local transport requirements. In particular, the local centre proposals presented at Appendix 'A' will:

- Create a more attractive public realm within the village centre, including landscaping and cycle stands.
- Provide a segregated cycle route between M55 roundabout and Broughton village (forming part of the Preston Guild Wheel), and improved cycle provision north of the crossroads.
- New tree planting and lighting along the scheme corridor.
- Provide junction improvements at the currently signalised crossroads and its approaches.
- Improve existing bus stops/shelters.
- Reduce/remove street clutter such as signs, barriers etc. where possible.
- Introduction of 20mph speed limit.
- Introduction of 7.5T environmental weight limit.

Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal

The Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal was signed in September 2013 and provides a financial structure to deliver the proposed highway improvement scheme.

In May 2015 a programme for delivery, presented in the City Deal Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) for 2015/18 was approved by the City Deal Executive. The IDP timetable programmes the development and approval of the Broughton A6 corridor improvement works during the 2015/16 financial year.

Consultations

A public consultation "drop in" event took place during March 2015 outlining the initial concept. A subsequent "drop in" event in December 2015 provided a more detailed design based on the initial comments received. Broughton Parish Council

were engaged as part of the same process. The consultation was published on the City Deal website.

Cycling improvements and facilities have been considered in detail at the design stages and include input from relevant cycle officers and forums. The improvements to cycle facilities have been generally supported however concerns over crossing movements at either end of the new bypass and linkages further north and south continue to be raised.

A number of concerns were received in relation to existing issues of parking on footways and querying how the existing problems would be managed.

The consultation comments and officers' responses are set out in Appendix 'B'.

It is considered that taking all the responses to consultations into account the proposal is the most appropriate to achieve the aims set out above following the change to traffic on the A6 on construction of the Broughton Bypass.

Subject to the necessary approvals, the works presented at Appendix 'A' will start on the opening of the Bypass, scheduled for Spring 2017. This provides ample opportunity for officers to continue to explore and confirm these arrangements as the most effective means of ensuring safe and convenient crossing points and interaction of opposing traffic flows at the Broughton crossroads. This aspect will constitute works in the highway and will be reported to the Cabinet Member before these improvement works begin.

Subject to approval, these proposals will be submitted to the County Planning Authority which has authority to discharge condition 8 to the planning permission for Broughton Bypass.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

If the proposal is not approved, this will mean that the delivery deadlines identified within the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal Infrastructure Delivery Plan will not be achieved. The existing Broughton bypass planning condition would not be discharged. A further draft proposal would need to be considered.

Financial

The total costs of the scheme is estimated at £1,000,000. Funding for the whole scheme has been secured through the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal Infrastructure Delivery Fund, Transport corridor schemes budget and as part of the financial provision for Broughton Bypass.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2015/18, Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal	September 2015	Jane Johnson/ 01772 534374
Report to Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport Broughton Bypass – Planning Condition Public Consultation on the Proposed A6 Improvement Works	March 2015	

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A.