

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 10 August 2017

Report of the Director of Corporate Commissioning

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected:
Burnley Central West;
Burnley South West;
Padiham and Burnley West;
and Pendle Central

National Productivity Investment Fund - Proposed Allocation of Direct Grant Payment

Contact for further information:

Janet Wilson, (01772) 538647, Commissioning Manager,

janet.wilson@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

In January 2017 the Department for Transport confirmed that Lancashire County Council would receive a direct grant award of £4.655 million in 2017/18 from a Department for Transport National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) allocation of £185 million to fund local highway and transport improvements. This report is requesting Cabinet approval for £0.200 million of this allocation to be allocated to fund detailed design of M65 key Growth Corridor improvements at Junctions 8, 9, 10 and 13 and North Valley Road/Vivary Way in Colne.

Recommendation

Cabinet is recommended to approve that £0.200 million of the National Productivity Investment Fund direct grant award of £4.655 million be allocated to fund detailed design of improvements to the M65 key Growth Corridor at Junctions 8, 9, 10 and 13 and North Valley Road/Vivary Way in Colne.

Background and Advice

In January 2017, the Department for Transport (DfT) confirmed that Lancashire County Council would receive £4.655 million in 2017/18 from a national allocation of £185 million to fund local highway and transport improvements which aim to reduce congestion at key locations, upgrade or improve the maintenance of local highway assets, improve access to employment and housing or develop economic and job creation opportunities. The funding is to be spent on schemes that ideally can start

in 2017/18 and was conditional on the county council providing information on its website by the end of March 2017 as to how the Council intends to spend the money. A form of words, as agreed by the then Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, has been posted on the county council's internet site;

'the county council intends to spend its 2017/18 NPIF allocation on improving traffic flows and reducing congestion in key corridors and at key locations in support of existing programmes of works aimed at delivering economic growth across Lancashire, including the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal area and the M65 Hyndburn-Burnley-Pendle Growth Corridor. The types of intervention under consideration include capacity enhancements at traffic signal-controlled junctions and measures to enhance urban traffic management control systems. Upgraded facilities for pedestrians and cyclists will also be provided'.

The Department for Transport also confirmed in January 2017 that a further £740 million of funding would be made available to local authorities through a competitive process, with details to be announced in due course. In his 2017 Spring Budget, the Chancellor confirmed the launch of a £690 million competition for local authority projects aimed at tackling congestion and getting transport networks moving again. Further to Cabinet approval on 15 June 2017, bids to this competitive process have been submitted for a £5 million contribution to the proposed M55 to St Annes Link Road and for £5 million towards a Preston City Centre Congestion Reduction scheme. The outcome of the submissions will influence recommendations on the apportionment of the £4.655 million direct grant award.

In the event that both NPIF submissions are successful, improvements to the M65 key Growth Corridor at Junctions 8, 9, 10 and 13 and North Valley Road/Vivary Way in Colne are considered to be the only improvements that meet the NPIF objectives and could be deliverable within the required timescales subject to additional design work estimated at £0.200 million being completed by late autumn. It is therefore requested that the estimated cost of this work at £0.200 million is funded from the £4.655 million allocation.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The above recommendations will ensure that the NPIF direct grant award is allocated in line with the objectives of the funding and within the expected timeframe. Although the funding is intended to be spent in 2017/18, the Department for Transport has confirmed that funding can be carried forward into 2018/19.

Financial

It is proposed that £0.200 million from the NPIF direct grant award of £4.655 million is used to fund detailed design of improvements to the M65 key Growth Corridor at Junctions 8, 9, 10 and 13 and North Valley Road/Vivary Way in Colne from August 2017.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
National Productivity Investment Fund – Approval to Appoint Consultants	30 May 2017	Dave Gorman/(01772) 534261
National Productivity Investment Fund – Approval to Submit a Funding Bid	15 June 2017	Dave Gorman/(01772) 534261

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A