

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 12 October 2017

Report of the Director of Corporate Commissioning

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected:
Lancaster East and Skerton

Greyhound Bridge - Proposed Major Maintenance Repairs

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

David Griffiths, (01772) 530228, Senior Engineer, Bridges

david.griffiths@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

Lancashire County Council has been successful in its bid for £3.711million from the Department for Transport's (DfT) Challenge Fund Tranche 2A in 2017/18, to support the refurbishment of Greyhound Bridge in Lancaster.

The award represents 80% of the estimated cost of the project, the balance will be funded from the previously approved 2017/18 Bridges Capital allocation.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order No. 25 have been complied with.

Recommendation

The Cabinet is recommended to approve the addition of the £3.711million Department for Transport Challenge Fund award to the 2017/18 Bridges Capital Programme.

Background and Advice

Greyhound Bridge is located in the centre of the City of Lancaster, and carries the westbound A589 (Greyhound Bridge Road) over the River Lune. It forms an important part of Lancaster's gyratory system providing the only westbound crossing of the river in Lancaster.

The bridge has been the subject of General Inspections on a 2 yearly basis since 1995. Based on the current rate of deterioration the following restrictions will be required unless refurbishment works are undertaken:-

- 2018 – Closure to abnormal loads.

- 2020 – Closure to all HGVs, implement a 3 tonnes weight restriction, permits for Fire Engines.
- 2029 – Bridge closed to all vehicles.

The scheme proposed is a complete refurbishment of Greyhound Bridge, safeguarding its future, improving resilience, and supporting local economic growth by preventing the need to implement weight restrictions in 2018. Restrictions on this key River Lune crossing will impact sub-regional economic performance, place pressure on local businesses, increase severance between communities and, require significant diversions for HGVs, buses and emergency services.

The proposed works comprise concrete repairs, installation of cathodic protection, replacement of various joints and parapet system, waterproofing the bridge deck, repainting the piers and superstructure, resurfacing footway and carriageway. In addition maintenance repairs will be undertaken to 2 No. adjacent bridges and sign gantry.

The concrete repair element of the works will require the closure of Greyhound Bridge for approximately 6 months during which time road layout changes will be introduced to allow 2 way running on Skerton Bridge.

The exact dates are yet to be finalised but the current estimate is the road will be closed from the end of January 2018 until July 2018.

The overall construction programme will be from October 2017 - December 2018.

Consultations

Consultations were carried out prior to the DfT bid being submitted. Support for the project was received from the following:

Cat Smith MP – Lancaster and Fleetwood
 David Morris MP – Morecambe and Lunesdale
 Lancaster City Council
 County Councillor Collinge - Lancaster East
 Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) – the scheme is included in the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan

The following have been consulted during the development of the road remodelling to enable the closure of Greyhound Bridge:

- Lancaster Chamber of Commerce (representing Lancaster businesses and shops)
- Morecambe Bid (representing Morecambe businesses and shops)
- Stagecoach (Bus)
- Police

As part of the project a communication strategy will be developed to ensure that all those affected are aware of the works and the alternative traffic management arrangements being implemented.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The implications of not progressing the project are that structural deficiencies will require the implementation of a restriction to abnormal loads in 2018 and to all HGVs and buses in 2020. Therefore it is important that the scheme is completed as soon as possible to maintain access for all vehicles and prevent HGVs and buses from using a significantly longer diversion route via the Heysham-M6-Link.

Financial

The project will be funded as follows:

- DfT Challenge Fund award - £3.711m to be added to the 2017/18 Bridges Capital programme and phased in line with the table below
- County Council funding totalling £0.914m will be provided from the previously approved Bridges Highway Maintenance Capital Programme and phased in line with the table below.

The County Council's contribution totalling £914,000 equates to approximately 20% of the total scheme cost.

The spend profile of the scheme is as follows:

| £000s | Total | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|--------------------------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| Total | 4,625 | 6 | 160 | 1237 | 2962 | 44 | 216 (Retention) |
| DfT Funding Sought (80%) | 3,711 | | | 707 | 2962 | 42 | |
| LCC Contribution (20%) | 914 | 6 | 160 | 530 | | 2 | 216 |

Note: Spend re-profiled from DfT submission due to DfT delaying the decision date

List of Background Papers

| Paper | Date | Contact/Tel |
|---|------------|--------------------------------|
| Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund Application Form | 29/03/2017 | David Griffiths/(01772) 530228 |
| Proposed 2017/18 Highway Maintenance, Road Safety and Public Rights of Way New Starts Capital Programme | 13/03/2017 | Janet Wilson/(01772) 538647 |

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A