
A2500 Lower Road / Barton Hill Road

To: **Swale Joint Transportation Board - 26 June 2017**

Main Portfolio Area: **Growth, Environment & Transport**

By: **Roger Wilkin, Director of Highways & Transportation**

Classification: **For Information**

Ward: **Sheppey Central**

Division: **Sheppey**

Summary: Update on proposals for a Junction Improvement at Lower Road / Barton Hill Road - Minster

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Members will be aware of the scheme to improve the junction of the A2500, Lower Road and Barton Hill Drive from previous reports and attendance by officers at meetings of this Board - most recently December 2016.

1.2 This report gives a further update on the SELEP funding and the programme to deliver the junction improvements.

2.0 Current Situation

2.1 Initial design work has been undertaken a copy of the current proposals detailed on drawing no. 4300505/000/05 rev 0 are shown in Appendix A

2.2 A bid had been submitted to the South East LEP for part funding of the proposals from the Local Growth Fund (LGF3). The bid was successful and funds allocated subject to acceptance of a Business Case.

2.3 A full Major Scheme Business Case is being prepared for submission to the SELEP Independent Technical Evaluator on 23rd June 2017. A decision will be made at SELEP Accountability Board on 8th September 2017

3.0 Programme

3.1 The current programme is;

- submission of a business case - June 2017
- public engagement and consultation - Summer 2017
- approval to SELEP funding - September 2017

- finalise detailed design - October 2017
- procure a works contractor - Spring 2018
- complete acquisition of land and s106 contributions - Spring 2018

3.2 The earliest start date on site would be summer 2018 but if the above approvals or land acquisition are delayed there is a risk that this may be delayed to spring 2019.

3.3 Consideration will be given to ensure that construction works have minimal impact during the main tourist season. The proposed roundabout is mainly within land adjacent to the highway so would allow much of the works to be constructed with minimal impact on the existing traffic flows.

4.0 Communications

4.1 The current proposals shown in appendix A were reported to the Minster Parish Council on 20 October 2016.

4.2 A Communications Plan is being developed. This will involve consultation with residents, road users and key organisations.

5.0 Financial

5.1 The latest cost estimate of the junction stands at £1.8m and assumes a land contribution from the relevant landowner as part of any condition for developing the adjacent land. Contributions of £540,000 are being sought from the proposed developments at Plover Road and Harps Farm, with the balance of £1,260,000 being sought via the current round of LGF3.

5.2 If the contribution of the land is not forthcoming then a CPO will be required and the cost of the scheme will rise. Further match funding would need to be found.

5.3 It will be necessary to prepare a Business Case for submission to SELEP for approval before the funding is confirmed.

5.4 The current cost estimate is a robust estimate, based on outline proposals, that has been reviewed by external cost consultants and includes;

- construction costs
- budget estimates from the Utilities
- an allowance for preparation of a business case in support of the SELEP funding.
- project management costs
- contingencies and risk allowance

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 This Report is for information only and hence there are no legal implications for the Board.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 Confirmation of LGF funding, land acquisition and match funding from s106 agreements are required to enable this project to progress.

8.0 Recommendations

For Information

Future Meeting if applicable: As necessary but none planned at present	Date: TBA
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Appendices

Appendix A	Scheme Plan – Drawing no. 4300505/000/05 rev 0
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