

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	11 th July 2012	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2436
TITLE:	Bath Transportation Package. Approval of budget subject to Full Approval status being granted by Department for Transport.	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 Full Council 14/02/2012. Extract of the Medium Term Service & Resource Plan 2012/13-2016-17 (Appendix 1 Annexe 3. 5 year Capital Programme.)		
Appendix 2 Extract of Application for Full Approval to DfT.		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The full approval of the Bath Transportation Package (BTP) by the Department for Transport (DfT) is anticipated in summer 2012. Cabinet approval of the budget for the BTP main scheme, within the threshold of the 14th July 2011 Full Council decision, & within the Full Council provisional budget which was set in February 2012 is therefore sought subject to DfT approval, to allow implementation of the scheme on DfT approval.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet agrees that:

2.1 The provisional budget for the BTP main scheme, in line with the budget set in February 2012 is now formally approved, subject to DfT scheme approval, at a level of grant consistent with the principles of the bid submission in May 2012 & with a Council contribution to the project no higher than that previously approved.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 On 14th February 2012 Full Council approved the Medium Term Service & Resource Plan 2012/13- 2014/15. Appendix 1 Annex 3 to the Full Council report contained the 5 year capital programme. See attached extract of this as **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 The financial implications of the BTP were considered at Full Council on the 14th February 2012 along with the 5 year capital programme referred to above. See **Appendix 1**.
- 3.3 Moving the provisional budget for the BTP main scheme to approved status, subject to DfT scheme approval, is in line with the Full Council decision of 14th February & the capital programme; therefore there are no financial implications over & above those already covered.
- 3.4 The bid has been submitted with a total scheme cost lower than that previously reported, due in the main to competitive tender returns. **Appendix 2** is an extract of the Application for Full Approval to DfT which shows the scheme is currently estimated to be delivered for £26.9m, £1.7m below Best & Final Bid Estimate. This therefore gives a lower level of DfT grant requirement & a lower level of Council contribution; the percentage contribution by DfT remains the same as previously reported.
- 3.5 The Council's funding requirement will be reviewed as we receive a final offer from the DfT, recognising financial risks associated with the project. Any potential underspend will be reviewed and reported to Cabinet as variances through the normal Outturn Budget monitoring processes.

4 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- *Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone*
- *Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live*
- *Building a stronger economy*

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Best & Final Bid submission for the BTP to the DfT was approved by Council decision 14/07/11. The provisional budget was approved by the Full Council on the 14th February 2012. Full approval status of the budget is now required to enable the scheme to be implemented subject to full approval status being granted by the DfT, at a level of grant consistent with the principles of the bid submission in May 2012 and with a Council contribution to the project no higher than that previously approved.

RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.2 The report author & Lead Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue & recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 The overall approach taken on the budget setting process in February 2012 demonstrated that financial decisions are being taken in a fair, transparent & accountable way, considering the needs & the rights of different members of our community.

7 RATIONALE

7.1 This report reflects information already presented to Cabinet & Full Council as contained in the decisions made previously during July 2011 & February 2012.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 *Cabinet member.151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer.*

9.2 Through early discussion on the issue & by circulation of report.

10 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

10.1 These include the legal requirement that the Council set a budget & enables the project to adhere to the programme subject to full approval status being granted by the DfT.

11 ADVICE SOUGHT

11.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	<i>Joy Jefferys Contact telephone number 01225 394446</i>
Sponsoring Cabinet Member	<i>Councillor Roger Symonds</i>
Background papers	<i>Appendix 1 Full Council 14/02/2012 .Extract of the Medium Term Service & Resource Plan 2012/13-2016-17 (Appendix 1 Annexe 3. 5 year Capital Programme).</i> <i>Appendix 2 Extract from Application for Full Approval to DfT.</i>
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