

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Council	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	11 September 2014	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	Kelston Road Landslip Repairs – updated position	
WARD:	Bathavon North	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: None		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 Kelston Road was closed due to a major landslip in February 2014. This busy A-road has subsequently remained closed to all vehicular traffic, causing an impact on the local community, businesses and the wider highway network. Following emergency repairs, further investigation work has been completed by the appointed contractor and the Authority now needs to undertake more comprehensive works to prevent a collapse, stabilise the road and reopen it to all traffic.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That a virement of £0.66m from the Bath Transport Package capital budget to the Kelston Road Capital budget be approved taking the total approved budget for this project to £2.66m.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The Department for Transport has confirmed that it will not fund the repairs to Kelston although we continue to lobby directly and via our local MPs.
- 3.2 The current approved capital budget is £2m funded by Council borrowing. The additional budget of £0.66m is available through release of borrowing from the

Bath Transport Package (BTP) project as a result of using available section 106 balances to fund BTP.

3.3 As part of the considerations for the Capital Programme 2015/2016 Budget, all existing scheme programmes will be reviewed to establish if there are any further potential underspends or reprioritisation that could be undertaken to reduce the need for Corporately Supported Borrowing for this project.

3.4 A detailed capital budget review for the project will also be undertaken to ensure appropriate cost management measures are in place.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 The Council is responsible for ensuring the safety and availability of highways.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The Council has made a commitment to repair the road as quickly as possible. Any delays in implementing the work would increase the risk of further landslips (and thus increase cost), incur weather related delay (of up to six months) and damage to the Council's reputation.

5.2 The closure has impacted on neighbouring South Gloucestershire who have incurred additional maintenance costs as a result.

5.3 Further to the urgent decision taken on the 14th July 2014, the contractor selected to carry out the work, Skanska, has, after further detailed design and technical appraisal, returned an increased cost estimate, largely due to increased piling costs. Their proposals have been reviewed and verified by a third party (Atkins) and are considered to represent the optimum balance of risk, speed and cost.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 The rationale is due to the continued impact on local communities and the travelling public, the cost of the continuing impact on the wider network and the increased risk of further landslips. The latter generates both public safety and additional cost risks.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 None

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Council's Section 151 officer, Monitoring Officer and Chief Executive have been consulted on the contents of this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person	Matthew Smith (Divisional Director, Environmental Services. Tel 01225 396888)
Background papers	Officer Delegated Decision Kelston Road – Landslip repairs 14/7/2014
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	