

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Clarke, Cabinet Member for Transport	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 13th May 2017	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E2959
TITLE:	Somerdale Bridge – Full Budget Approval	
WARD:	Keynsham	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: None		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 As part of the redevelopment of the Somerdale site for housing, a number of highway and sustainable transport improvements are included as planning obligations in the Section 106 Agreement dated 14 February 2014 (s.106). This includes a financial contribution towards a new cycle and pedestrian path and bridge over the River Avon.
- 1.2 The first stage of the project will be a feasibility study which will inform the cost estimate and delivery plan. Once this has been agreed and funding is in place a further approval will be sought to progress the scheme.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member agrees that the £70,000 provision approval in the 2017/18 budget be given full approval in order to undertake the feasibility study.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 £70,000 has been provisionally approved in the 2017/18 Capital Budget which will be funded through the s.106.
- 3.2 The feasibility study will assess the resource implications including future revenue costs.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 The bridge is one of the sustainable transport improvements included in the s.106.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 As part of the redevelopment of the Somerdale site, for housing, a number of highway and sustainable transport improvements are included in the s.106. This includes a financial contribution towards a new cycle and pedestrian path and bridge over the River Avon. The bridge will be located in the northwest boundary of the Somerdale development

5.2 The proposed bridge will connect both the residents of the new development and Keynsham itself to the riverside and to Bristol. At one level these connections are a necessary part of the transport strategy, for giving access to this site, and will enable residents to cycle to work in most directions. It will also provide a strategic cycle route for Keynsham residents to cycle to and from Bristol. At the same time it will give local people access to the local resources of the riverside towpath, from Hanham to Conham, for leisure purposes.

5.3 The triggers for the s.106 financial contributions are as follows:

- (1) £100,000 on or before first occupation of the 50th dwelling (design fees etc)
- (2) £1,000,000 on or before first occupation of the 350th dwelling (construction).

5.4 The first payment has been received and the second payment of £1,000,000.00 is expected to be paid between 2018 and 2019.

5.5 The feasibility study will identify a clear delivery plan and cost estimate. This will reduce the risk to the Council and ensure adequate funding is available prior to seeking approval to progress to the next stage.

5.6 The Council Project Delivery Team has recent experience of bridge delivery over the River Avon and will be commissioned to deliver the scheme.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 The feasibility study will identify a clear delivery plan and cost estimate. This will reduce the risk to the Council and ensure adequate funding is available prior to seeking approval to progress to the next stage.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 The principle of constructing the bridge was determined as part of sustainable transport links for the development. The study will assess locations, design and materials for the bridge and the approaches.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer, Highways, and Section 151 Officer have had the opportunity to input to this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Contact person	Gary Peacock 01225 395307
Background papers	None
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