

From: **Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member - Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste**

To: **Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee – 21 September 2017**

Decision No: N/A

Subject: **Cabinet Member – Written Updates**

Classification: **Unrestricted - For Information**

Past Pathway of Paper: N/A

Future Pathway of Paper: N/A

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This paper provides an update to Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on the Cross rail to Ebbsfleet project, major roads programme, refresh of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Low Emissions Strategy development.

Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet Committee is asked to note the report.

1. Introduction

1.1 This paper provides an provides an update to Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on the Cross rail to Ebbsfleet project, major roads programme and refresh of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

2. Cross rail to Ebbsfleet Project

2.1 KCC officers have been involved in the Crossrail to Ebbsfleet (C2E) working group since October 2015. An Executives' Group was also established in 2016 and is attend by the Corporate Director for GET, and a Leaders' Group which is attended by the Leader. The project is led by Transport for London (TfL) / Greater London Authority (GLA) with partnership support from London Borough of Bexley, Dartford BC, Gravesham BC, Ebbsfleet DC, Thames Gateway Kent Partnership (TGKP) and KCC.

2.2 A Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) is being developed jointly by the project partners. This is planned for submission to Government for consideration in the Autumn 2018 budget, when a bid for Government funding of a full Business Case to support the delivery of the project will be made. The Secretary of State for Transport and the Mayor of London have jointly expressed their support in principle for the project to be developed, without at this stage committing any funding to its delivery.

3. Road Improvement Schemes Update

Current KCC Major Capital Programme

- 3.1 Good progress has been made on the Major Capital Programme. Highlights include:
- Maidstone Gyratory and associated towpath improvements scheme and the M20 J4 scheme are now complete
 - Rathmore Road, Gravesend is on track to finish on site in October 2017
 - Hermitage Lane improvement scheme, Maidstone, is currently under construction
 - Procurement of the A226 London Road/St. Clements Way scheme, Dartford, is well underway with work due to start in January 2018
 - The design of the A28 Chart Rd, Ashford, widening scheme is also well underway and Jackson Civil Engineering has been procured to deliver the scheme. Currently awaiting a date for the Public Inquiry (as a result of the CPO)
 - The Public Consultation for A28 Sturry Link Road, Canterbury is now closed. The results are being analysed and will be reported to November 2017 Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee. It is intended to submit a Planning Application in December 2017.
 - Design of A2500 Lower Rd/Barton Hill roundabout, Swale is nearing completion and procurement will start in October 2017.

Bids for new Transport Schemes

- 3.2 Two bids were submitted to the **DfT's National Productivity Investment Fund** in June for:
- Upgrade of 2 roundabouts on A249 at Kent Medical Campus, Maidstone
 - A2500 Lower Rd widening, Swale

Funding announcements are due September 2017.

- 3.3 Two bids have been submitted to **Highways England's Growth and Housing Fund** on 8th September 2017 for:
- Upgrade of 2 roundabouts on A249 at Kent Medical Campus plus the signalisation on M20 J7
 - A2500 Lower Rd widening, Swale
- 3.4 Bids will be made by the District Councils for transport schemes to the **DCLG's Housing Infrastructure Fund (Marginal Viability Schemes)** on 28th September 2017. Details are still being developed and can be provided in a later update.

3.5 Two Expressions of Interest will be made by KCC to the **DCLG's Housing Infrastructure Fund (Forward Funding Schemes)** on the 28th September 2017:

- Physical Infrastructure for Otterpool Park, Shepway e.g. roads and rail improvements
- M2 J5a plus new relief roads, Swale

Other Transport Schemes

3.6 Highways England is due to start construction of M20 J10a early 2018.

4. Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

4.1 KCC has commenced a consultation on a new Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, which sets out the strategy for managing Local Flood Risk, flooding from surface water groundwater and ordinary watercourses, in Kent. It is a multi-agency document that sets out the objectives and actions for KCC and our partners. The new Local Strategy will replace the one adopted in 2013 and will build on the lessons learned by delivering that local strategy.

4.2 The consultation is open until 8 October and the final draft of the Local Strategy will be presented to this committee on 30 November.

5. Low Emissions Strategy

5.1 KCC is working with the Kent and Medway Air Quality Partnership and Public Health to understand the Health impacts from poor air quality across Kent. The purpose is to develop a Low Emissions Strategy which will include targeted measures to improve air quality in the most affected areas.

5.2 It is intended to report back to Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee in Spring 2018.

6. Recommendation(s)

Recommendation(s):

6.1 The Cabinet Committee is asked to note the report.

7. Contact details

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