

To: Michael Payne, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

From Simon Jones, Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste

Subject: **Proposed Inland Border Facility at White Cliffs, Dover**

Decision No 21/00030

Classification: Unrestricted

Past pathway of paper: - N/A

Future pathway of paper – For Cabinet Member Decision

Summary:

This report provides details of a proposed central government funded Inland Border Facility at White Cliffs in Dover.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport is asked to approve the acceptance of the Section 31 Grant award from the Department for Transport (DfT) to procure and manage the Inland Border Facility and Border Control Post works at White Cliffs, Dover.

This approval includes agreement to:

- a) AGREE to accept the Grants under the terms and conditions required by Government;
- b) APPROVE the management and delivery of the necessary site works, including on site facilities as detailed in this report;
- c) CONFIRM that the projects will be delivered via KCC contractual arrangements that allow for the delivery of Highway Improvement Schemes in support of traffic management plans; and
- d) DELEGATE authority to the Corporate Director for Growth, Environment and Transport to, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and the Leader, take any necessary actions to implement this decision, including but not limited to entering into relevant legal agreements and authorising spend from Grant monies.

1. Background

- 1.1 KCC has been working closely with the Department for Transport (DfT), Kent Police and Highways England, amongst others, to implement plans to manage freight in Kent.

- 1.2 Since 2019, KCC has been supporting DfT with its search for sites to implement additional customs checking and freight holding areas. This support has included providing advice and information about various locations identified by DfT, construction methods, traffic management and local road impact, costs and timescales required.
- 1.3 Decision number 20/00074 details the work that is taking place at the Sevington site. A site at White Cliffs, Dover has been identified by DfT to construct a further Inland Border Facility (IBF) and associated Border Control Post (BCP).
- 1.4 DfT has asked KCC to procure and manage the works on their behalf in a manner similar to that previously undertaken at Sevington. DfT will fully fund the costs arising by means of Section 31 Grants
- 1.5 The overall anticipated cost is being collated and will be confirmed with DfT once suitable design, schedule and budgets have been established and agreed.

2. Content

- 2.1 DfT has identified White Cliffs as a potential site for an IBF to help facilitate the flow of trade to assist with freight movements across the Short Straits. The proposal includes the provision of security measures and facilities to enable the checking of vehicles and goods entering and exiting the site along with local road mitigations arising from the project.
- 2.2 The site will be used by both DEFRA and HMRC for a range of import checks.
- 2.2 The grants will allow KCC:
 - to commence works for the construction of an enclosed site
 - to prepare the site in readiness for construction
 - to undertake work to protect or relocate existing utilities
 - to create site entrance(s) and junction on the link road and associated highway works.

3. Finance

- 3.1 The overall cost of the project is being established but it is expected to be of similar magnitude to the Sevington facility.
- 3.2 DfT has confirmed that the grant can be used for both capital and revenue activities and that all costs incurred will be met.

4. Organisation

- 4.1 KCC will commission the scheme through the HTMC, the Technical and Professional Services Framework and/or the Highway Civils Framework.

4.2 KCC will provide a dedicated project organisation which will be fully funded by DfT and shall comprise:

- Senior Project Manager(s)
- Consultancy Project Managers responsible for consultancy, civils and building construction
- Site Supervision Officer(s)
- Administration, Contract and Finance support

5. Governance

5.1 The grant requires:

- that the planned work should be delivered by early 2022; and
- regular progress reports are to be provided to DfT.

5.2 Approval is sought for the Corporate Director Growth, Environment and Transport to receive full delegated authority to spend the grant monies defined within this report, subject always to prior consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport.

6. Progress to Date and Next Steps (correct as at date of this report)

6.1 A Special Development Order (SDO) is to be submitted to MHCLG for approval in April 2021. Construction on site is dependent on this approval.

6.2 Enabling works are planned prior to the construction works. This includes the site entrance and site compound ready for the construction.

6.4 WSP has been appointed the Principal Designer; commissioned by KCC through its Professional and Technical Services framework.

7. Recommendation

7.1 The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport is asked to approve the acceptance of the Section 31 Grant award from the Department for Transport (DfT) to procure and manage the Inland Border Facility and Border Control Post works at White Cliffs, Dover.

This approval includes agreement to:

- a) AGREE to accept the Grants under the terms and conditions required by Government;
- b) APPROVE the management and delivery of the necessary site works, including on site facilities as detailed in this report;
- c) CONFIRM that the projects will be delivered via KCC contractual arrangements that allow for the delivery of Highway Improvement Schemes in support of traffic management plans; and

d) DELEGATE authority to the Corporate Director for Growth, Environment and Transport to, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport and the Leader, take any necessary actions to implement this decision, including but not limited to entering into relevant legal agreements and authorising spend from Grant monies.

The decision is shown at Appendix A.

8. Appendices

- Proposed Record of Decision
- Equalities Impact Assessment -
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=14891>

9. Report Author

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