

BRIEFING REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: MILLBAY BOULEVARD & ASSOCIATED WORKS



“This innovative urban streetscape just keeps giving to its people, providing not just a wonderful environment, but provides future answers to some of the toughest climate change challenges the world faces.

The reimagined street which connects Plymouth’s city centre to the sea has transformed what was a dark and narrow back-street into one of the city’s best addresses. In achieving this the city has put planning at the fore and trusted its policies to deliver a holistic set of sustainable and low carbon technologies into a scheme which is a living example of how we should approach tomorrow.”

1.0 SCHEME SUMMARY

Millbay Boulevard and its Associated Works as reported in recent press releases is complete and the city now has a working example of how within an inner city environment this Council along with its partners can deliver a response to the current climate emergency we find ourselves within.

This project is an important example of how we might respond to climate change and it will attract attention from all those interested in dealing with such matters and learning from our experiences and we will be able to explain how:

1. It deliver multiple holistic benefits to the city in one hit,
2. it supports growth attracting further future investment,
3. it has protected this locality from flooding,
4. it uses water wisely,
5. it accommodates the first phase of the city’s ground source district heating system,
6. it uses rain gardens and distinctive planting to best effect,
7. its robust surfaces and objects will reduce our maintenance costs,
8. it is so beautiful and compelling to use,
9. it will simply get better with time.
10. we have done all this with major external investment at a time when money is in short supply.

2.0 FINANCIAL RE-ALIGNMENT:

The project as now reached its final account stage and the Project Team sees an opportunity to bring additional funding into the project to address some of the cost challenges faced with the Covid 19 Pandemic, costs associated with delivering for the first time in this city a ground source district heating system and a comprehensive sustainable urban drainage system.

Additionally this action also seeks to resolve cost pressures associated with adapting the structure of the Plymouth Pavilions building to accommodate the new Boulevard and its programme and the impact this had on running contracts simultaneously.

The additional sums involved total £460,623, with the majority of the cash coming from infrastructure monies collected through Developers Contributions administered by Plymouth’s Local Planning Authority. In addition the Project Team has also secured a further £32,413 of European Regional Funding from its involvement with the Water Resilient Cities Interreg Programme which it ran on the Council’s behalf and those of member European States and which the Project Team would like to bring into the scheme.

