

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member



REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER


Executive Decision Reference Number – L11 24/25

Decision	
1	Title of decision: Plymouth Major Road Network (MRN) Scheme – Allocation of funding following Outline Business Case approval
2	Decision maker: Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)
3	Report author and contact details: Neil Honey (Transport Planning Officer) neil.honey@plymouth.gov.uk
4	Decision to be taken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the updated business case (original from 05 December 2019); 2. Allocates £6,355,752 for the project within the Capital Programme funded from through DfT s31 Grant (£5,055,752) Environment Agency grant (£800,000) and Strategic Transport s106 (£500,000).
5	Reasons for decision: <p>The Plymouth MRN Scheme will improve the east and west sections of city's only designated MRN route at Marsh Mills and along the A374 Embankment and along the A3086 St Budeaux Bypass. The scheme includes targeted road capacity, cycling, walking and public transport improvements as well as a further phase of the flood defence works protecting Embankment Road and the removal of the low rail bridge that limits the use of the A374 because of the height restriction.</p> <p>The Council's Outline Business Case (OBC) for the scheme was approved by the Department for Transport (DfT) which releases funding from the DfT to progress the scheme to the next and final stage of the DfT Business Case process.</p> <p>The increase in budget will enable the design to be developed in detail and the Final Business Case (FBC) prepared and submitted to the DfT, which if successful, will secure the funding for the construction of the works.</p>
6	Alternative options considered and rejected: <p>To not allocate the funding and increase the budget. This has been rejected as without the allocation of funding and the increase in budget the design cannot be progressed to the level required for the Final Business Case.</p>
7	Financial implications and risks: <p>The allocation of the budget of £6,355,752 is funded through DfT s31 Grant (£5,055,752) Environment Agency grant (£800,000) and Strategic Transport s106 (£500,000).</p> <p>There is no Corporate Borrowing.</p> <p>Failure to progress the scheme design could put at risk the funding identified for the scheme from the Department for Transport (DfT) and the Environment Agency (EA) and could result in reputational damage to the Council with both parties affecting future funding requests.</p>

8	<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice) Please type an X into the relevant boxes</p>	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:
			X	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			X	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million
		X	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.	
	<p>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions</p>	Not applicable		
9	<p>Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:</p>	<p>Fewer potholes, cleaner, greener streets and transport The Scheme will improve journey times and reduce congestion while improving the resilience of the transport network in the east and west of the city and will include new and improved cyclist, pedestrian and bus infrastructure.</p> <p>Build more homes – for social rent and affordable ownership The Scheme will improve the operation of the city's Major Road Network route which will support the delivery of the significant number of new homes as detailed within the Plymouth and South Hams Joint Local Plan.</p> <p>Green investment, jobs, skills and better education The Scheme will provide a comprehensive landscape plan and environmental management and enhancement plan which not only mitigates the Scheme's impact but will provide a net gain in biodiversity.</p> <p>The Plymouth Plan The Scheme specifically supports: Strategic Objective 1: Delivering a Healthy City "Providing a safe, efficient, accessible and health-enabling transport network which supports freedom of movement and active travel and promotes low carbon lifestyles Policy HEA6: Delivering a safe, efficient, accessible, sustainable and health-enabling transport system. Policy GR04: Using transport investment to drive growth</p>		
10	<p>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</p>	<p>There are no direct environmental implications for this decision, as it is solely a budgetary increase. A climate impact assessment is attached.</p>		

Urgent decisions			
I1	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes	(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No	X (If no, go to section I3a)
I2a	Reason for urgency:		
I2b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date
	Scrutiny Committee name:		
	Print Name:		
Consultation			
I3a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes	X
		No	(If no go to section I4)
I3b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Mark Coker (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport) Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	
I3c	Date Cabinet member consulted	30 July 2024	
I4	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box	Yes	If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	X
I5	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Anthony Payne
		Job title	Strategic Director for Place
		Date consulted	07 August 2024
Sign-off			
I6	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS29 24/25
		Finance (mandatory)	DJN.24.25.058

		Legal (mandatory)	LS/00001312/1/AC/ 31/7/24						
		Human Resources (if applicable)	N/A						
		Corporate property (if applicable)	N/A						
		Procurement (if applicable)	N/A						
Appendices									
17	Ref.	Title of appendix							
	A	MRN Business Case Update							
	B	Plymouth MRN Scheme – Allocation of Funding following OBC Approval – Briefing Report							
	C	Equalities Impact Assessment							
	D	Climate Impact Assessment – Plymouth MRN Scheme							
Confidential/exempt information									
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information? Please type an X into the relevant box		Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		No	X						
			Exemption Paragraph Number						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:								
Background Papers									
19	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.								
Title of background paper(s)			Exemption Paragraph Number						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Plymouth MRN Scheme Business Case 5 th December 2019									

Cabinet Member Signature							
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010) and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.						
Signature				Date of decision	15.08.2024		
Print Name	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)						