

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by Leader of the Council



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


Executive Decision Reference Number – L36 24/25

Decision	
1	Title of decision: Mill Bridge Safety Scheme
2	Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title): Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)
3	Report author and contact details: Mike Jones (Senior Traffic Engineer)
4	<p>Decision to be taken: It is recommended that the Leader of the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the business case • Accepts the external funding offer as referred to in the Business Case and allocates £300,000 of external funding to the capital programme provided by Sustrans via the National Cycle Network tranche 7 funding award; • Authorises the procurement process; • Delegates the authority to award the contract(s) and enter into any agreements in relation to the funding (including the funding agreement itself) to the Service Director for Street Services where they do not already have authority to do so.
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>Proposals for a safe crossing point and reduced vehicle speeds down Eldad Hill, with its narrow footway, were developed following feedback from local ward councillors that residents are concerned about the speed of traffic and difficulty crossing the road.</p> <p>The proposed 20mph zone will bring in surrounding residential streets, as well as the existing 20mph zone around High Street Primary Academy. It will be enforced by average speed cameras similar to those used on Old Laira Road, which has seen a reduction in collisions since a 20mph limit was introduced – and none recorded in over two years. It is expected that the proposals will significantly reduce the number of collisions in the area and help people feel safer.</p>
6	<p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p> <p>1. Do nothing.</p> <p>This option was discounted on the basis that the changes are required to enhance road safety and help enable people to use more sustainable travel choices.</p> <p>2. Construct the crossing scheme without lowering the speed limit & using Traffic calming instead</p> <p>This was discounted on the basis that implementing this alternative scheme will introduce a further delay of at least one month whilst the scheme is consulted upon which would put the program at risk. This option would also not provide the safety benefits of the reduced speed limit in the wider area.</p>

	<p>3. Construct the crossing scheme without lowering the speed limit but install the Average Speed camera system to operate at 30mph and implement local physical traffic calming.</p> <p>This was discounted as the preferred option is to reduce the speed limit to 20mph to allow for a safe crossing point and maximise the safety benefits without the need for further physical traffic calming measures.</p> <p>4. Construct the crossing scheme with a more local 20mph speed limit only on Eldad Hill and Millbridge and install an Average Speed Camera System to enforce.</p> <p>This was discounted as the issues/risks described above and because the Ward Councillors have strongly recommended they would like to see a larger area made 20mph for wider safety benefits.</p>																				
7	<p>Financial implications and risks:</p> <p>The allocation of £300,000 of external funding brings the value of the approved capital funding up to £450,000, which is the full value required for this scheme.</p> <p>If the scheme is not approved, the capital funding received from Sustrans will need to be returned, and funding for the scheme will need to be secured from another source at a later date. As the scheme is needed to improve road safety in the area, lack of approval at this point could potentially put pressure on Council resources in the future.</p>																				
8	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="236 846 751 943">Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact <u>Democratic Support</u> for further advice)</th> <th data-bbox="751 846 847 943">Yes</th> <th data-bbox="847 846 954 943">No</th> <th data-bbox="954 846 1506 943">Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="236 943 751 1106"></td> <td data-bbox="751 943 847 1106"></td> <td data-bbox="847 943 954 1106" style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td data-bbox="954 943 1506 1106">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</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="236 1106 751 1256"></td> <td data-bbox="751 1106 847 1256"></td> <td data-bbox="847 1106 954 1256" style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td data-bbox="954 1106 1506 1256">in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million annually</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="236 1256 751 1406"></td> <td data-bbox="751 1256 847 1406"></td> <td data-bbox="847 1256 954 1406" style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td data-bbox="954 1256 1506 1406">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.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="236 1406 751 1525"> <p>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <u>Forward Plan of Key Decisions</u></p> </td> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="751 1406 1506 1525" style="text-align: center;">N/A</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact <u>Democratic Support</u> for further advice)	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 annually			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 <u>Forward Plan of Key Decisions</u></p>	N/A		
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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>Supports the policies of the Joint Local Plan (JLP), specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy SPT9, Strategic principles for transport planning and strategy We will deliver an integrated approach to transport and planning, delivering a strategic approach to transport based upon the following key principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suitable growth as a key driver behind the transport strategy within Plymouth, whilst making sure that transport is delivered in the most health promoting and environmentally responsible manner; 4, Seeking to reduce the impact of severance caused by transport networks, enabling more journeys by walking, 																				

		<p>cycling and public transport and providing genuine alternative ways to travel from home to work and other facilities;</p> <p>5. Providing realistic sustainable transport choices and increasing the integration of transport modes so that people have genuine alternative ways to travel.</p> <p>8. Adopting a hierarchy of transport modes and routes based upon different spatial settings (regional, city, market town and neighbourhood / village).</p>		
10	Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)	<p>All construction schemes inevitably produce carbon emissions. However, transport represents approximately 30% of the city's carbon emissions, a proportion that is increasing, and the emissions from construction are expected to be more than offset by the contribution that the scheme will make towards enabling more people to travel sustainably in the area.</p>		
Urgent decisions				
11	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 13a)
12a	Reason for urgency:			
12b	Scrutiny Chair Signature:		Date	
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
Consultation				
13a	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 14)
13b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Mark Coker (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport)		
13c	Date Cabinet member consulted	17 December 2024		

14	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					
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Karime Hassan					
		Job title	Interim Strategic Director for Growth					
		Date consulted	9 January 2025					
Sign-off								
16	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	JS87 24/25					
		Finance (mandatory)	OW.24.25.003					
		Legal (mandatory)	LS/2960(32)/JP/231224					
		Procurement (if applicable)	SN/PS/765/ED/1224					
		Corporate property (decisions involving Council owned land or facilities) (if applicable)	N/A					
		Human Resources (if applicable)	N/A					
Appendices								
17	Ref.	Title of appendix						
	A	Briefing Report Mill Bridge Safety Scheme						
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment Mill Bridge Safety Scheme						
	C	Climate Impact Assessment Mill Bridge Safety Scheme						
	D	Business Case Mill Bridge Safety 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 1 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	<p>Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.</p> <p>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.</p>							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature								
20	<p>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.</p>							
Signature		Date of decision	9 January 2025					
Print Name	Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council)							