

Better Places – Plymouth: Briefing Report (Part I)

Following the recent publication of the [City Centre Masterplan](#) and the [Joint Local Plan](#) which set out the vision for Plymouth City Centre, Plymouth City Council has committed £27m over the next five years to transform public realm in the city centre under its Better Places - Plymouth programme. The City Council expects this commitment to be supplemented by grants and private sector contributions through Section 106 and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

The objectives of the programme are to address years of underinvestment in city centre streets and spaces; to transform the look and feel of the city centre; to support and lever in further inward investment in retail, leisure, employment and housing; to bolster local pride in the city centre and to enhance the overall experience and perceptions of the city centre.

A tender exercise has recently been undertaken in which a preferred design-led consultant team has been identified to work with Plymouth City Council to deliver significant public realm improvements in the city centre.

This Executive Decision requests approval to:

- Approve the Business Case
- Allocate £525,626 for the project within the Capital Programme to be funded by corporate borrowing
- Delegate the award of the consultant team's contract to the Strategic Director for Place

This proposal is for an initial request for funding to cover the cost of the following stages of work by the consultant team:

Phase 1 – production of City Centre Public Realm Design Framework

Phase 2 – outline design of selected City Centre schemes

The total cost of these phases of work is £525,626 including all fees and contingencies.

Carrying out of the above work will enable an updated cost estimate of the schemes to be produced and for the schemes to be prioritised. A further business case to cover the detailed design and construction costs for selected schemes is expected to be submitted in November or December 2017.