

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member



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

Executive Decision Reference Number – L59 17/18

Decision	
1	<p>Title of decision: Better Places - Plymouth</p>
2	<p>Decision maker (Cabinet Member): Councillor Ian Bowyer, Leader of the Council</p>
3	<p>Report author and contact details: Stuart Wingfield, Strategic Growth Manager, Plymouth City Council Tel. 01752 398931 Email. stuart.wingfield@plymouth.gov.uk</p>
4	<p>Decision to be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To approve the Business Case• To allocate £13.633m for the project within the Capital Programme funded by £10.313m corporate borrowing, £2.02m Local Enterprise Partnership, £0.4m Interreg, £0.9m CIL• To authorise the procurement process(es)• To delegate the award of the contract(s) to Anthony Payne, Strategic Director for Place
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>Plymouth's Better Places programme has been developed to address years of underinvestment in city centre streets and spaces and to transform the look and feel of the city centre befitting of one of "Europe's finest waterfront cities". It will attempt to support and lever in further inward investment in retail, leisure, employment and housing and bolster local pride in the city centre. Overall the programme will enhance the overall experience and perceptions of the city centre.</p> <p>Old Town Street and New George Street East. Ask: funding for detailed design and construction costs. Working in close collaboration with British Land the proposed investment in Old Town Street and New George Street East public realm will unlock investment from British Land and have major impacts for the profile and retail position of the city centre.</p> <p>Armada Way. Ask: funding for detailed design and construction costs for south section. Armada Way is a major civic space connecting planned investment in the north, east, west and south of the city centre and to the waterfront. A vision has been developed for the route but a detailed phasing strategy needs to be established commencing on Armada Way south.</p> <p>West End. Ask: funding for detailed design. Working in close collaboration with West End Traders the emerging designs have sought to address issues with the existing arrangement of the spaces, support a coherent brand, provide more on-street parking spaces and enable redevelopment of Colin Campbell Court. Further work and engagement is required to take forward.</p>

Tavistock Place, The Box. Ask: funding for construction costs. Tavistock Place will be transformed to mark the entrance to the Box, create an exciting events space and make a connection to the City Centre via an upgraded pedestrian crossing (Charles Cross project).

6 Alternative options considered and rejected:

Do Nothing. Significant inward investment from British Land would be jeopardised and the aim of increasing Plymouth's retail status would be threatened. The development costs of the project to end March 18 (up to £525,626) would be returned to revenue, creating additional pressure on the Strategic Planning & Infrastructure budgets. Existing matched funding from the Local Enterprise Partnership and Interreg would be threatened and an improved public realm befitting of the Mayflower 400 celebrations will not have been achieved.

Proceed to detailed design only. Detailed design on the schemes commences but further approval would be sought in order to proceed to procurement and construction. This option risks delaying start on site of the Old Town St / New George St East priority scheme and would put increased pressure on achieving the already-tight completion date of November 2019. This would jeopardise the success of the planned Mayflower 400 celebrations and could undermine British Land's willingness to invest in their retail interest in the east of the city centre, as well as having a negative impact on the planned opening of the Drakes Leisure complex in 2020.

7 Financial implications:

Corporate borrowing £10.313m from Approved Priority list for Public Realm ; CIL £0.9m, LEP Grant £2.020m & Interreg Grant £0.400m to be underwritten by corporate borrowing in the event of the grants not being awarded or the terms & conditions not being able to be met by this/these projects.

**8 Is the decision a Key Decision?
(Contact Ross Jago, Democratic Support, 304469 for further advice)**

Yes	No	
	x	results in the Council spending or raising annual income by more than £500,000 (or more than £2,000,000 if that is the total cost of a contract award)?
	x	results in the Council saving more than £1,000,000?
	x	results in the Council saving less than £1,000,000 and the saving will have a material impact upon service provision such as a significant change or a cessation of service delivery and associated staff redundancies or a significant impact on customers?
	x	has a significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards?

If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan

9

Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan 2016 - 19 and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:

The project will look at the entirety of the public realm (streets and spaces) in the city and will pioneer new ways for these to function, attract social/ cultural and commercial activity, reduce maintenance liabilities and explore opportunities for income generation. The project will pioneer new ways to deal with surface water through Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems in the city centre which is a critical drainage area.

The project will promote confidence in Plymouth by improving the attractiveness and usability of the city's street and spaces for residents and visitors, enhancing community pride and supporting Plymouth as a destination of choice.

The project will seek to enhance the ease of pedestrian and cycle movement throughout the city centre for people of all abilities by removing clutter and obstacles to movement. The specific needs of children, the elderly and mobility impaired will be carefully considered through the design process to enhance accessibility and enjoyment of the spaces by all.

The project will also explore ways to protect the city centres most vulnerable streets and spaces from terrorist attack through Hostile Vehicle Mitigation and other security measures.

The outcomes of this project will help support a growing city by encouraging inward investment in the retail, leisure and cultural offer of Plymouth city centre and supporting the diversification of uses including residential and office.

Providing aesthetically attractive and inviting city centre streets and spaces that function better through day and into evening will attract increased visitors to the city centre for prolonged periods of time resulting in higher spend, more viable businesses and a more competitive city centre further establishing Plymouth's position as a premier retail and shopping destination for the South West.

The project will support the creation of positive spaces for residents from across the city, supporting the achievement of health and wellbeing outcomes and promoting social inclusion. This project will directly support the growth of the city by encouraging visitors and enabling increased investment from the community and private sector.

Urgent decisions

10	Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?	Yes	(If yes, the Lead Scrutiny Officer must be consulted before approaching the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Ensure that the Chair signs the report at section 11a and that section 11b is completed <u>after</u> the sign off codes in Section 17 are completed)
		No	x (If no, go to section 12)

11a	Signature	Date
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Print Name

11b	Reason for urgency:		
Consultation			
12	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes	X (If yes, go to sections 13 and 14)
		No	
13	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Patrick Nicholson, Deputy Leader of the Council	
14	Please confirm that you have consulted this Cabinet member	Yes	(No is not an option)
15	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest?	Yes	Need a note of dispensation granted by the Council's Monitoring Officer
		No	X
16	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name and title	Anthony Payne, Strategic Director for Place
17	Please include the sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS0108 17/18
		Finance (mandatory)	PL1718.236
		Legal (mandatory)	SC/30138
		Human Resources	n/a
		Assets	n/a
		IT	n/a
		Procurement	n/a
Other Information			
18	An Equalities Impact Assessment should be attached to the report	X	(Please attach the EIA to this report)
Briefing report			
19	Is the briefing report attached?	Yes	X (No is not an option)
	List (and include a hyper link to) <u>published</u> work/information used to prepare the report.		
	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	If yes, prepare a second, Part II, 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.	

(Remember to keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)

	Exemption Paragraph Number						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Confidential/exempt briefing report title							

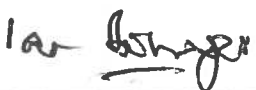
Background Papers

20 Please list all background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.
 Background papers are unpublished 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. A folder or a file should not be cited as a background paper, though individual items within the folder or file may be. 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	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Better Places – Plymouth business case (v11)		X		X					

Cabinet Member Signature

21 I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget.

Signature		Date of decision	19 March 2018
Print Name	IAN BOWYER		

