



REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

PORTFOLIO AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT

Date of Meeting: 22 OCTOBER 2007

Public

Key Decision: Yes

Recorded in Forward Plan:

Yes

Inside Policy Framework

Title: CURROCK - KINGMOOR CYCLE ROUTE

Report of: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Report reference: CS 77/07

Summary:

The development of cycle and pedestrian routes through river and green corridors is a key outcome of the Carlisle Renaissance Movement Strategy adopted by all partners.

This report presents the outcome of a feasibility study commissioned to develop a cycle route between Currock and Kingmoor, together with some indicative cost estimates. This report outlines the main north/south route together with key links too residential and employment areas. Contributions which have been integrated into other major infrastructure projects are also identified.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:-

1. The Executive approves in principle the cycle route network as set out and refers this to the Highways Working Group/Carlisle Local Committee
2. This report be referred to the Infrastructure O/S Committee on 25 October
3. Officers explore potential funding options and presents a further report on these to the Executive once the outcome of the Connect 2 Lottery bid is known

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Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: CS 23/07

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

- 1.1 At its meeting on 23 April the Executive considered report CS 23/07 regarding the proposals for a major north/south cycle route between Currock and Kingmoor. The outcome was to agree a feasibility study to develop the route and cost estimates.
- 1.2 This feasibility study has now been completed and a full copy is available in each of the Group Offices. A plan showing the proposed route and some preliminary cost estimates are included as Appendix A.

- 1.3 The indicative costs are broken down into 3 components:-

Main route - £1.782m. The major element of this cost relates to a new cycle/footbridge at an indicative cost of £1.265m.

Link routes - £380,000. These are desirable links from major residential/employment to the main route.

Partner contributions £1.29m - Are works which are being undertaken by the Environment Agency (two new bridges over the Caldew at Bousteads Grassing and by the County Council on the Carlisle Northern Development Route). These works are already funded.

- 1.4 As identified in the earlier report the key design issues relate to river and railway crossings and initially it was felt that use of existing structures might be possible. In the timescale available it has been difficult to obtain conclusive answers from Network Rail. As a result, particularly in respect of the Etterby Railway bridge over the River Eden, it has been necessary to re-route the alignment of the cycleway. This now includes for a new foot/cycle bridge over the Eden from the Sheepmount to the Etterby Terrace area.
- 1.5 Should the Executive support the indicative route and the associated links these need to be forwarded to the County Council Local Committee for consideration.
- 1.6 To progress the project, subject to approval, funding is clearly a major issue as the City Council has limited financial capacity. Funding sources would include:-
- This project has been included in the Sustrans Connect 2 Lottery bid. The outcome of this bid will be decided by a televised vote around Christmas. If the bid is successful the Carlisle scheme could receive between £0.9 – 1m. There

will be a range of conditions linked to this which would need to be assessed at the time but it is likely the delivery period would be 5 years.

- Once the route is approved there is the potential for contributions from appropriate developments in the vicinity through Section 106 Agreements.
- The development of transport options and the utilisation of river and green corridors for pedestrian and cycle access is a key outcome from the Carlisle Renaissance Movement Strategy. This proposal links into further studies being commissioned by the County Council. Subject to funding priorities funding could be available through the County Council's capital programme.
- The North West Development Agency are very supportive of Carlisle Renaissance and this project provides the potential to seek funding contributions from them. The proposed new bridge over the Eden should be an appropriate iconic design which makes a statement about what the quality partners are striving to achieve for Carlisle Renaissance

- 1.7 The Executive are asked to consider the proposed route for the Currock – Kingmoor cycle route. Should this be supported in principle funding streams would need to be explored in more detail. Whilst the river crossing over the Eden is the key aspect it would be possible to adopt a phased approach and progress could be made on discrete elements.

2. CONSULTATION

- 2.1 Consultation to Date - Network Rail, Environment Agency, County Council, Sustrans, Various local cycle groups.
- 2.2 Consultation proposed - As above. Wider public consultation would be undertaken should the construction project proceed further.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

1. The Executive approves in principle the cycle route network as set out and refers this to the Highways Working Group/Carlisle Local Committee
2. This report be referred to the Infrastructure O/S Committee on 25 October
3. Officers explore potential funding options and presents a further report on these to the Executive once the outcome of the Connect 2 Lottery bid is known

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

This project has the potential to make a major contribution to the Carlisle Renaissance Movement Strategy and provides a network for cleaner and greener movement choices from the community.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- Staffing/Resources – Existing in-house resources at this stage
- Financial – As mentioned above more detail regarding the financial implications will be provided in a future report after the potential funding options have been explored.

The indicative costs of £2.162m (excluding the Partnership funded element) could be partially met by the potentially £900k Lottery Bid if successful. As mentioned it will be important to ensure that the conditions of the potential grant can be fulfilled within the timescales which apply. The remaining £1.262m could be partially met by Section 106 Agreements, potential County Council contributions and grants from the North West Development Agency. Any balance falling to the City Council's Capital Programme would need to be shown to be delivering the priorities of the Authority. Any revenue implications would need to be clearly presented.

The City Council should seek assurances as to the accuracy of the future costings provided for the work which also take account of the planned start and end dates and any inflationary factors therein. The VAT position of the Council should not be affected as the activity is classified as 'Non Business' and therefore Standard Rated

- Legal –
- Corporate –
- Risk Management – The support of the County Council is required for the adoption of the cycle/pedestrian network as set out. It would not be possible to complete and maintain key sections of the route without that. Funding is a key issue and further work is required to ascertain tangible support from partners

- Equality and Disability – The design proposed includes all requirements to comply with disability standards. The network provides direct access from residential areas in Carlisle South to the main employment areas in the north of the City and areas between.
- Environmental – The provision of an ‘off-road’ cycle and pedestrian network provides the opportunity to reduce vehicle usage and emissions.
- Crime and Disorder – The final design would incorporate current best practice and the Police Architectural Liaison Officer will be asked to contribute to the design process.
- Impact on Customers – The increased transport choices and safer, more direct routes would have a positive impact. Residents living in the immediate vicinity of the route may have some concerns.

SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATES**1. Carlisle City Council Works****Main 'Spinal' Route****£****Section**

1	Currock to Bousteads Grassing	135,400
2	Caldew Cycleway – Denton St – Caldew Cycleway	12,500
3	Charlotte Street Estate – Caldewgate	6,000
4	Willowholme to Sheepmount	34,500
5	River Eden Crossing	1,265,000
6	Eden Crossing – Kingmoor Road	34,700
7	Kingmoor Road to Kingmoor Park	<u>294,210</u>

Sub Total**1,782,310****Links**

8	Viaduct Estate Road Link (Environment Agency)	0
9	Eden Crossing to Willowholme Rd/Port Rd Business Park Link	177,000
9A	Port Road to Burgh Road Extension	146,800
10	Sheepmount to Mayors Drive Link	1,600
11	Lowry Hill North Link	19,990
12	Asda Link	26,500
13	Kingmoor Park Access Road Link	<u>8,000</u>

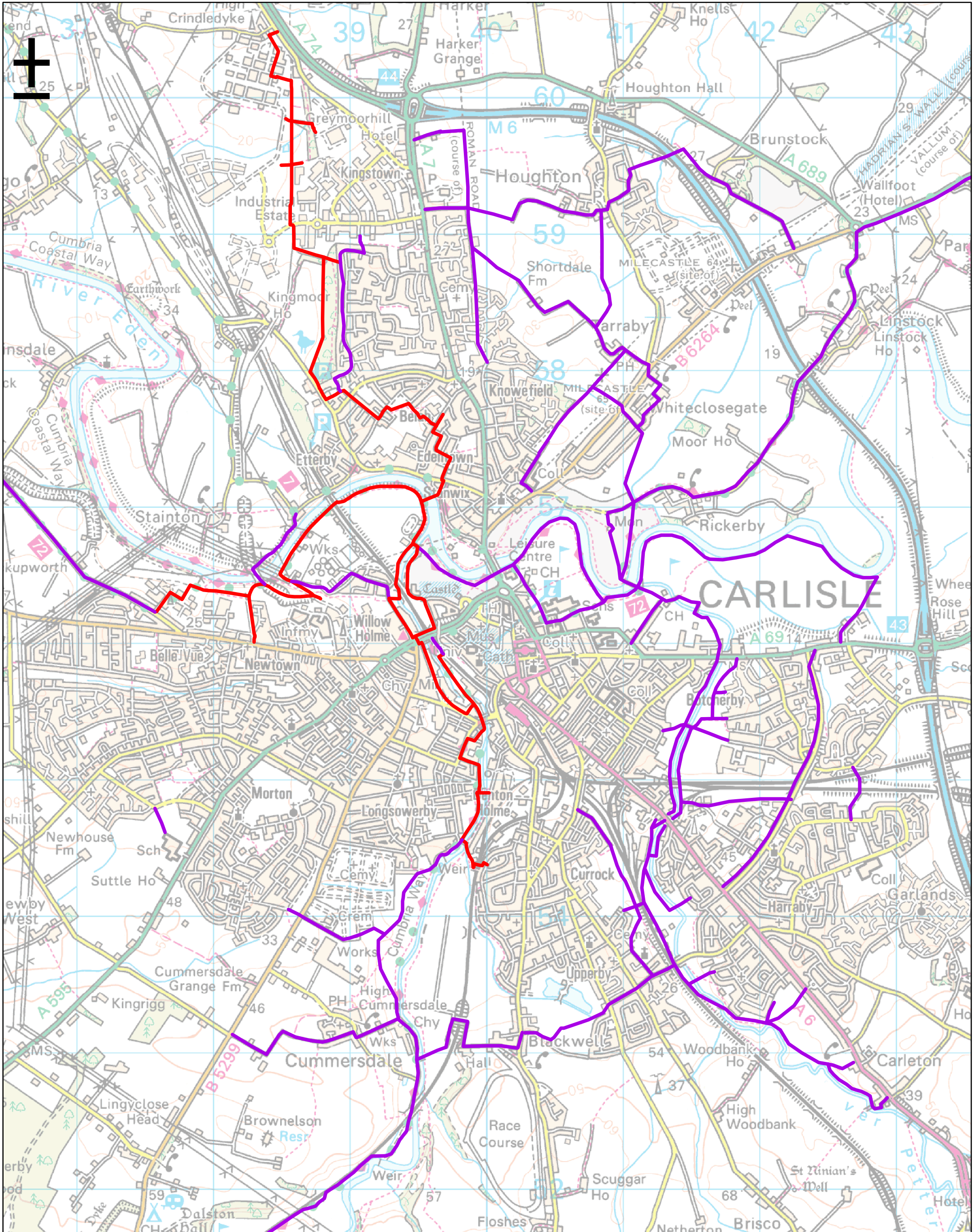
Sub Total 379,890**TOTAL 2,162,200****2. Environment Agency Works**

The cost of the associated bridge replacement and
Cycleway renewal by the Environment Agency

1,110,000**3. Cumbria County Council Works**

The cost of the new Cycleway Underpass on CNDR

175,000**TOTAL COST OF WHOLE PROJECT & ASSOCIATED WORKS****£3,447,200**



KINGMOOR & CALDEW CYCLEWAY (OVERVIEW) SEPTEMBER 2007

Scale: 1:25,000

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- Proposed Route & Links
- Other Adjoining Routes & Links (Existing & Proposed)

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