



REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

PORTFOLIO AREA: ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING

Date of Meeting: 5 April 2012

Public

Key Decision: Yes

Recorded in Forward Plan: Yes

Inside Policy Framework

Title: CASTLE WAY CYCLE RAMP

Report of: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

Report reference: RD01/12

Summary:

This report seeks approval from the Executive, for the release of part Sainsbury S106 monies, in the sum of £370,000, for the Castle Way Cycle Ramp scheme and its inclusion as a project in the Capital Programme for 2012/13.

Recommendations:

The Executive is asked to approve the release of Sainsbury S106 monies, for the Castle Way Cycle Ramp and to include the project in the Capital Programme for 2012/13.

Contact Officer: M T Swindlehurst

Ext: 8292

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: None

CITY OF CARLISLE

To: The Executive
5 April 2012

RD01/12

CASTLE WAY CYCLE RAMP

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

- 1.1 The Castle Way Cycle Ramp (also known as "Caldew Cycle Plan" in the Sainsbury S106 document) is an integral part of the Carlisle Cycle scheme. It was identified as a priority and formed part of the Connect2 - Kingmoor to Currock cycleway (element C10), with funding provision identified as provided by Developer S106 contributions.
- 1.2 Cyclists and pedestrians currently access Castle Way by using the pavement of Viaduct Estate Road. This road is one way only, and the only pavement available reduces to nothing, at its junction with Castle Way, creating a risk to users, by traffic turning in.
- 1.3 The cycleway extension and Castle Way Ramp, provides safer access to the Castle Way.
- 1.4 The Sainsbury S106 funding was placed with Carlisle City Council, in 2011, via a separately identifiable cost code.
- 1.5 Draw down of this S106 funding was subject to a successful Planning application, by Sainsbury, and the commencement of the foundations for the new store, off Bridge Street, Carlisle. Both have now been achieved and the sum identified for the Castle Way ramp and associated works, can be utilised.

2. CURRENT POSITION ON CYCLEWAY SCHEMES

- 2.1 The construction of this element of the City cycle way scheme would be the conclusion of some 2000m of new cycle route, built during the past 3 years, from the new River Caldew bridge crossing at the southern end of Denton Street/Bousteads Grassing - north to Bridge Street (Castleway).

This cycleway route follows the west bank of the River Caldew, through Denton Home, under Nelson Bridge before crossing the River Caldew and running against the Lower Viaduct Estate. Passing under Castle Way, the new ramp provides easier access to the north side and thereafter the existing cycleways in Bitts Park and beyond.

Unfortunately the new railway crossing bridge at Bousteads, providing a much improved access to Currock and south, could not be progressed due to withdrawal of Sustrans funding.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 Consultation to Date.

Initial consultations/discussions with:

- i) Ward Councillors
- ii) Cumbria County Council
- iii) Environmental Agency
- iv) City Tenant
- v) Property Services/Legal

3.2 Consultation proposed.

- i) Natural England
- ii) Network Rail
- iii) Tree Officer
- iv) Cumbria CC Cycling Development Officer
- v) Conservation Officer/Urban Designer/Planning

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is asked to approve the release of Sainsbury S106 monies, for the Castle Way Cycle Ramp and to include the Project in the Capital Programme for 2012/13.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To discharge the City Council's obligations under the section 106 agreement.
- 5.2 To provide a safer passage to Castle Way for Cyclist and pedestrians alike.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- Staffing/Resources – no impact, as this Project will be managed by existing Resource team.
- Financial – The total funding received through the S106 agreement, S106-687 agreement dated 18th February 2011, is held separately within the Council's records with the agreement stating that 50% of the receipt i.e. £370,000 is a contribution towards the development of Caldew Cycleway. Once approved for release, the scheme will be monitored as part of the usual budget monitoring procedures. If funds are not spent in line with the timescales set out in the agreement, the funds will have to be repaid along with any accrued interest.
- Legal – The funds are available to the City Council for the identified purposes by virtue of the Section 106 Agreement. Any works carried out on behalf of the Council must be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and any consents (possibly highway, planning, land owner/tenant) required should be obtained before commencement of the works (and catered for in the project plan).
- Corporate – Embraces Healthy City status ambitions
- Risk Management – Capital Projects are managed by in-house resource team, using Prince2 methods.
- Environmental – improvements to Healthy City provision via extensions to off Street cycle/pedestrian routes.
- Crime and Disorder – Route will have lighting provision designed in.
- Impact on Customers – Positive – safer access for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Equality and Diversity – Neutral. All new facilities are designed to be accessible.

Impact assessments

Does the change have an impact on the following?

Equality Impact Screening	Impact Yes/No?	Is the impact positive or negative?
Does the policy/service impact on the following?		
Age	Yes	Positive - providing cycle way access for all ages
Disability	yes	Access for all abilities
Race	no	
Gender/ Transgender	no	
Sexual Orientation	no	
Religion or belief	no	
Human Rights	no	
Health inequalities	yes	Positive – provides opportunities for healthy activity
Rurality	no	

If you consider there is either no impact or no negative impact, please give reasons:

This Project has effectively no negative impact as it supports the City goal of healthy environment and facilities, for all. The route lies within City owned land, either tenant occupied or brown field site and hugs the existing bridge, as it rises to Castle Way, to minimise visual impact.

If an equality Impact is necessary, please contact the P&P team.