

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE			
PORTFOLIO AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE			
Date of Meeting:	17 DECEMBER 2001		
Public			
Key Decision:	Yes	Recorded in Forward Plan:	Yes
Outside Budget Framework			

Title: LIFTS AT IRISH GATE BRIDGE

Report of: CITY SOLICITOR AND SECRETARY AND
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Report reference: TC. 244/01

Summary:

The report recommends the Executive to request the Council to provide a supplementary estimate of £35,150 to undertake improvement works to the Irish Gate Bridge lifts and the steps.

Recommendations:

That the Executive requests the Council to provide a supplementary estimate of £35,150 in order to fund the improvement works to the Irish Gate Bridge lifts and steps more particularly set out in paragraph 1.2 and that this be financed from the Capital Projects Fund as advised by the City Treasurer.

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

1.1 Members will recall that at the Executive meetings on 5 and 26 November they considered and agreed on the necessity of carrying out improvement works to the lifts at Irish Gate Bridge to bring them back into commission and increase their protection against repeated vandalism. They also considered and agreed improvements to the steps by way of anti-slip treatment.

1.2 By way of reminder, the improvements works and their anticipated costs were:

WORKS	COSTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of ventilation to the lift shafts, temperature control to the plant rooms and improved door sensor systems 	£5,150
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved specification to lift doors to increase resistance to vandalism 	£10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of shutters to the lifts for use at night 	£10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-slip treatment to steps 	£5,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contingency 	£5,000
T O T A L	£35,150

1.3 The Carlisle Access Group and the Millennium Commission have indicated that they have no objections to the proposals. English Heritage have supported the proposals in principle, subject to resolving detailed design issues with the Director which he is currently pursuing. Cost certainty can not be provided until these design issues are resolved. The Director has also received authority previously from the Executive to submit a planning application for the proposed works.

1.4 Officers indicated that they would endeavour to look at whether there

were other sources of funding available within the Gateway City budget to carry out the works and it was hoped that there may have been funds available from the budget allocated to pursuing claims in respect of the Bridge.

1.5 At the time of writing, however, there are no surplus uncommitted funds available to undertake the works and, if they are to be put in hand at an early date to bring the lifts back into commission, the only available funding route is to request the Council to approve a supplementary estimate for the cost of the works.

2. CONSULTATION

1. Consultation has taken place with the Carlisle Access Group, the Millennium Commission and English Heritage.

3. STAFFING/RESOURCES COMMENTS

None.

4. CITY TREASURER'S COMMENTS

Officers have not been able to identify the scope for virement and so a supplementary estimate will be required in the sum of £35,150. This can be met in the first instance from the Capital Projects Fund, but will reduce the "free balance" on the fund to £515,000..

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

These are included in the report.

6. CORPORATE COMMENTS

The Director of Environment and Development has included his comments in the report.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

If improvements to the strength and vandal resistance of the doors is to be made then the proposed works are believed to be the most appropriate way forward to achieve this.

8. EQUALITY ISSUES

Undertaking the works will ensure that use of the Bridge is available for all persons.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

It is expected that the installation of a higher specification of lifts, particularly the strengthening works to the doors and the installation of shutters at night, will reduce crime which has been experienced at this particular location.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive requests the Council to provide a supplementary estimate of £35,150 in order to fund the improvement works to the Irish Gate Bridge lifts and steps more particularly set out in paragraph 1.2.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To bring the lifts back into operation as soon as possible and give them greater security against vandalism, as well as improving access on the steps to the lifts.

JOHN EGAN

CITY SOLICITOR AND SECRETARY

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