

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	31 March 2016
Title:	Project Appraisal Update: Petersfield to Queen Elizabeth Country Park Cycle Route
Reference:	7294
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport approves the revised Project Appraisal Update for Petersfield to Queen Elizabeth Country Park Cycle Route as outlined in the supporting report.
- 1.2. That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport gives approval to procure, spend and enter into the necessary contractual arrangements for the implementation of the improvements to the Petersfield to Queen Elizabeth Country Park Cycle Route, as set out in the supporting report at an estimated total cost of £1,565,523, representing an increase on the original estimate of £477,523, which can be funded from existing identified resources.
- 1.3. That authority to make minor variations to the design or contractual arrangements be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To seek approval for the additional spend associated with time constraints and ground conditions required to facilitate the completion of the Petersfield to Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QECP) cycle route
- 2.2. The route is broken down into 5 sections.
 - Section 1 is an off road shared use route from Bolinge Hill on the B2070 to the roundabout junction with the A3.

- Section 2 is on Highways England land and runs from the A3/B2070 roundabout along the B2070 and then along the old A3. This section is to be funded and delivered by Highways England.
- Section 3 is on Forestry Commission land and runs from the end of the old A3 eastwards towards the QECP until it joins into Highways England owned land near to the vehicular layby on the live A3.
- Section 4 runs adjacent to the live A3 behind the vehicular layby until it links into the QECP
- Section 5 runs through Forestry Commission land and takes the route down into the QECP toward the access road.

2.3. Sections 1 and 3 have been completed and section 4 is substantially complete. Section 2 is to be delivered and funded by Highways England leaving section 5 to be completed, where site clearance has already taken place.

2.4. Funding has been obtained from the Department for Transport through its Linking Communities Grant, from the Enterprise M3 LEP through its Sustainable Transport Fund grant, from East Hampshire District Council and South Downs National Park Section 106 contributions and has delivered the sections detailed in 2.2.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Stopping the scheme: this was rejected as to stop the scheme now would mean that the route would be incomplete and Sections 2 to 4 could not be utilised; there is no exit from Section 4 into the QECP except along the yet to be constructed Section 5. This would mean that the terms of both the Department for Transport and Enterprise M3 LEP grants would be broken as both rely on the delivery of a complete route from Petersfield to the Country Park and the County Council runs the risk of having to return the funding and covering the cost of a partially constructed cycle route.

3.2. Scaling back the scheme: the designs have been value engineered already and there is no further slack in them to deliver any further financial savings. Partial delivery of the scheme is not an option as the terms of the grants are for the delivery of a 'route'. Failure to complete any one of the sections of the project means that even the completed sections of the route would not be able to be opened and used as it is an end to end specific route.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. **Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**
6. **Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**
7. **Statement from the Decision Maker:**

I thank Cllr Simpson for his contribution to this item.

Approved by: ----- Executive Member for Environment and Transport Councillor Rob Humby	Date: 31 March 2016
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