

## **Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee**

**14 November 2018**

### **Littlehampton to Bognor Regis Cycle Path (NCN2)**

**Report by Director of Highways and Transport and Head of Highway Engineering**

#### **Summary**

The Committee requested a review to be undertaken on how the NCN2 scheme was conceived, funding sought and delivered and what lessons can be learned for planning and delivery of similar schemes in future.

A workshop including officers, design consultants and contractors was held to review what went well regarding the scheme, what could have been improved and to draw key lessons to feed into future schemes.

#### **The focus for scrutiny**

#### **Recommendation**

- (1) The Committee is asked to support the findings of this review and their implementation for future highway schemes.

#### **Proposal**

##### **1. Background and Context**

- 1.1 The Committee has requested a 'lessons learned' report to be presented following the completion of the NCN2 (Littlehampton to Bognor Regis cycle path) scheme.
- 1.2 The findings of the report will be used to inform future bids for funding of similar schemes and others which may have similar delivery constraints.
- 1.3 A report prepared by the previous consultant in December 2014 indicated that £865k was sufficient to design and construct this 4.5km long scheme, and it could be delivered in one year.
- 1.4 An application seeking £865k of local growth fund was submitted in early 2015 to Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership (C2C LEP), and was subsequently approved in March 2015 for delivery in the 2015/16 financial year. This was part of a combined funding agreement with C2C LEP awarding £1.2m Local Growth Fund for Downs Link and NCN2 scheme.

1.5 After an initial design period it became clear that additional funding for NCN2 would be required due to the additional work needed that had not been identified at the time of the C2C LEP bid. A further business case was submitted to C2C LEP requesting the additional funding, but was rejected. Therefore corporate funding of £1,231k was provided instead to ensure the scheme can be delivered. The scheme took two years and three months to complete including nine months of construction.

## 2. Proposal

2.1 It was agreed with the Committee that the following areas are reviewed:

- Scheme demand
- Scheme costs
- Scheme benefits
- Key lessons learned

2.2 A review is reported in detail in a separate note appended to this report (see **Appendix A**).

2.3 The lessons learned, already in use, will continue to be applied for future highway schemes which may/ may not have similar delivery constraints being placed on them.

## 3. Resources

3.1 The review concluded that changes have already been made to the way we bid for external funding for highway schemes and the highway and transport framework contract that has been put in place to assist with contractor procurement and scheme delivery has helped and will continue to help with future scheme delivery.

3.2 The table below shows expenditure and funding sources per year for NCN2.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Total
	£ ,000	£ ,000	£ ,000	£ ,000	£ ,000
WSCC	0	0	973	258	1,231
Local Growth Fund	63	227	544	0	834(see Note)
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>2,065</b>

Note: £31k of LGF was subsequently allocated to Downs Link scheme

## Factors taken into account

### 4. Issues for consideration by the Select Committee

4.1 The Cabinet Member would welcome the views of the members on how the scheme has been received by the users and the community and the lessons learnt from the project.

### 5. Consultation

5.1 Views from officers, design consultants and contractors who were involved with delivery of the scheme have been sought.

5.2 Feedback from the Sustrans local coordinator and the community were also fed into this lesson learned process.

## **6. Risk Management Implications**

6.1 Not applicable.

## **7. Other Options Considered**

7.1 Not applicable.

## **8. Equality Duty**

8.1 An Equality Impact Report is not required because this report deals with internal matters only.

## **9. Social Value**

9.1 Not applicable.

## **10. Crime and Disorder Implications**

10.1 Not applicable.

## **11. Human Rights Implications**

11.1 Not applicable.

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## **Appendices:**

A – Review of NCN2 Scheme Delivery

## **Background Papers (documents which are referred to in the report)**

None