

Report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation

Cabinet – 18 June 2015

FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULE 7 LOCAL TRANSPORT FUND GRANT 2015-2016

Purpose:	To confirm the bid for Local Transport Fund (LTF) Grant and seek approval for expenditure on the proposed schemes and projects in 2015/16.
Policy Framework:	Local Transport Plan 2015 – 2020
Reason for Decision:	To comply with Financial Procedure Rule No. 7 (Capital Programming and Appraisals): to commit and authorise schemes in the Capital Programme.
Consultation:	Legal & Democratic Services and Finance.
Recommendation(s):	That the LTF schemes, together with their financial implications, are approved.
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1.0 Introduction / Background

- 1.1 Following the demise of the South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortium (SWWITCH), the Welsh Government changed the management of the conventional capital grant for transport schemes, by moving the management and allocation of the grant back from a regional approach to individual Local Authorities.
- 1.2 A funding bid for the LTF was submitted to the Welsh Government on 16th March 2015 in accordance with guidance from the Welsh Government. The guidance stated that there was a total funding pot of £15.4m and this would be allocated to schemes across Wales; each scheme could not bid for more than £1.5m. Whilst match funding was not a requirement of the funding bids, it was made clear that those

schemes which benefited from match funding, would be more likely to receive an LTF allocation. Finally, the Welsh Government also asked Local Authorities to prioritise their bids for funding consideration.

- 1.3 This report seeks approval to commit the successful LTF bid projects to the capital programme of the City & County of Swansea, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules.

2.0 Submitted Bids

- 2.1 A total of £1.968m was bid for by the City & County of Swansea and the Welsh Government has subsequently allocated funding for the totality of the bid for 2015/16. The schemes and their allocations are shown in the table below:

Table One – Summary of LTF Allocation 2015/16

Scheme	Total LTF (£k)	Match funding (£k)	Total project cost (£k)
Morfa Distributor Road	1200	200	1400
Links to National Cycle Network Routes	410	455	865
Fabian Way	332	275	607
Active Travel Mapping (see 3.3)	26		26
Total	1968	930	2898

- 2.2 The match funding requirements for these schemes will be made from existing corporate funds and/or S106 Developer Contributions (as shown in the attached appendices).
- 2.3 In addition to the schemes for which the City & County of Swansea submitted a bid, the Welsh Government made a further allocation of £26k in support of the work required to conform to the statutory duties of the Active Travel (Wales) Act. All Welsh Local Authorities are required to prepare an Existing Route Map and Quality Audit for walking and cycling routes by 24th September 2015. These funds will be used to offset the cost of staff time and the preparation and printing costs of the maps.

3.0 Details of approved schemes

- 3.1 The projects approved in the bid are summarised below.
- 3.2 Morfa Distributor Road – A £1.2m bid was submitted to facilitate the ongoing delivery of this project. The latest substantive phase of new road building commenced in January 2015, having already completed improvement works at the existing junction of Morfa Road and New Cut Road. Match funding of £200k is required for 2015/16.

Cabinet approved a full Morfa Road programme of works on 11th February 2014. This LTF funding will allow for the continuation of the construction. A revised schedule of the Morfa Road works and funding is set out in Appendix A. The total value of the scheme has increased by £299k to £4,954k.

It is anticipated that a further £962k will be required in 2016/17 to complete the scheme, although the precise requirement will be better understood following completion of the 2015/16 programmed works.

3.3 Links to National Cycle Network Routes: This project represents the first phase of a long running project which aims to improve pedestrian and cycle connectivity into the National Cycle Network, Routes 4 & 43. The works planned for 2015/16 will deliver two distinct projects:

- Restoration of the Bascule Bridge at Landore to allow pedestrian and cycle access across it whilst also providing an improved section on NCN43, in an area which is currently constrained and does not conform to design standards. A toucan crossing and new link to the south of the Copper Quarter will also be provided.
- Construction of a shared use path between Pluck Pond and Jersey Road (1.8km), following the alignment of the former Swansea Vale Railway Line.

3.4 Fabian Way: This corridor has been targeted by a number of strategies and infrastructure investments in recent years in recognition of the high levels of development and growth that are being realised and forecasted over the coming years. The planned works for 2015/16 will deliver three distinct bodies of work:

1. The construction of a 3m wide shared use path on the north side of Fabian Way.
2. An options appraisal, preferred arrangement and outline design for Baldwin's Bridge in order to realise the required highway capacity in the coming years.
3. Upgrading of ten bus shelters and provision of electronic journey information in support of public transport use on the corridor, particularly in the light of the opening of the Bay Campus in September 2015 and the increase in public transport use that it will bring.
4. To upgrade the traffic management systems operating on the Port Tennant Road / Fabian Way junction and to improve its efficiency and reliability.

4.0 Equality and Engagement Implications

4.1 Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken in line with the Council's Legislative duties.

4.2 All schemes will be designed in accordance with the national design guidance and will be fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 Morfa Distributor Road (see Appendix A)

Stages 2 and 5 will be progressed in 2015/16. Stage 2 is to be completed in September 2015 enabling preliminary works for Stage 5 to begin. The total cost of these works will be £1400k. The works will be funded by LTF grant of £1200k and a further £200k from Corporate match funding.

5.2 Links to National Cycle Network Routes (see Appendix B)

The scheme is comprised of two distinct schemes.

- **Bascule Bridge:** This is estimated to cost £750k. £200k will be funded from LTF with a further £550k coming from existing corporate funds. A provision of £550k was added to the Capital Programme for the Bascule Bridge on 14th February 2013. This report will therefore allocate this fund to the restoration and refurbishment of the bridge.
- **Cycle Links:** Construction of a new shared path from Pluck Pond, Nantong Way to Jersey Road (1.8km). This will be funded from £210k LTF and £65k Corporate Funds. The £65k will be funded from the Bus Station Retail Units Capital Receipt which is currently attributed to Morfa Distributor Road.

5.3 Fabian Way (see Appendix C)

The scheme will deliver four elements.

- **Fabian Way Cycle Route:** £275k
- **Baldwins Bridge Options Appraisal:** £100k
- **Bus Stop Enhancements:** £192k
- **Port Tennant Road MOVA Upgrade:** £40k

A S106 Developer Contribution of £275k will be used to match fund the elements listed above. The funding is being provided by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council from a developer contribution secured from the Swansea University Bay Campus development.

5.4 Active Travel Mapping (see Appendix D)

£26k has been allocated to meeting the mapping requirements of the Active Travel Act.

5.5 Claims are to be made to the Welsh Government on a quarterly basis. The grant must be claimed in full by 31 March 2016 otherwise it will be lost.

5.6 Any revenue costs arising from capital schemes will be met by existing revenue budgets.

6.0 Staffing / IT Implications

There are none.

7.0 Legal / Procurement Implications

A number of the elements outlined above will be subject to planning consent and all works will be procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and EU Procurement Rules as appropriate. In respect of the Fabian Way s106 contribution, the Council are not a party to the section 106 agreement relating to Swansea University. It therefore has no direct legal claim to the funding secured by that agreement. The Council must rely on Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to provide the funding.

Background Papers: Local Transport Fund Bid Documents

Appendices:

Appendix A – Morfa Distributor Road Financial Summary

Appendix B – Links to National Cycle Network Routes

Appendix C – Fabian Way

Appendix D – Active Travel Mapping

APPENDIX A – MORFA DISTRIBUTOR ROAD FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Portfolio: PLACE

Service: HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Scheme : MORFA DISTRIBUTOR ROAD

1. CAPITAL COSTS	Actual 2011/13 £'000	Actual 2013/14 £'000	Budget 2014/15 £'000	Budget 2015/16 £'000	Budget 2016/17 £'000	Budget 2017/18 £'000	TOTAL £'000
Stage 1							
Design	34	36					70
Works	35	420					455
Stage 2							
Design	110	200		15			325
Works		40	1040	500			1580
Stage3							
Design	15	15	70				100
Works					120	420	540
Stage 4							
Design	15		48				63
Works				100	820		920
Stage 5							
Design	15		80	25			120
Works				760	21		781
Contingency							
EXPENDITURE	224	711	1,238	1400	961	420	4954
Financing							
<i>Funding acquired</i>							
WG grant RTP approved	224	580	1,100	1200			3104
Addition WG Grant		131	138	200	132		600
Bus Station capital receipts					15	420	435
S106 Developer Contribution					220		220
<i>Funding not acquired</i>							
WG grant RTP required					514		515
Developer Contribution required					80		80
FINANCING	224	711	1,238	1400	961	420	4,954

**APPENDIX B – LINKS TO NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK
FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

Portfolio: PLACE

Service : HIGHWAYS

Scheme : LTF - LINKS TO NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK

<u>1. CAPITAL COSTS</u>	2015/16 £'000	2016/17 £'000			TOTAL £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Links to NCN Routes	865	160			1025
EXPENDITURE	865	160	0	0	1025
<u>Financing</u>					
LTF grant	410				410
Bascule Bridge Funding	390	160			550
Bus Station Capital Receipt	65				65
FINANCING	865	160	0	0	1025

<u>2. REVENUE COSTS</u>	2013/14 £'000	2014/15 £'000			FULL YEAR £'000
<u>Service Controlled - Expenditure</u>					
Employees	)	)			0
	)	)	To be met from existing budgets		0
Maintenance	)	)			0
Equipment	)	)			0
Administration	)	)			0
NET EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	0

APPENDIX C – FABIAN WAY FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Portfolio: PLACE
Service : HIGHWAYS
Scheme : LTF - FABIAN WAY

<u>1. CAPITAL COSTS</u>	2015/16 £'000				TOTAL £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Cycle Route	275				275
Bus Stop Enhancement	192				192
Baldwins Bridge	100				100
Port Tennant Road MOVA	40				40
EXPENDITURE	607	0	0	0	607
<u>Financing</u>					
LTF grant	332				332
S106 Developer Contribution (via NPTBC)	275				275
FINANCING	607	0	0	0	607

<u>2. REVENUE COSTS</u>	2015/16 £'000				FULL YEAR £'000
<u>Service Controlled - Expenditure</u>					
Employees	)				0
Maintenance	) To be met from existing budgets				0
Equipment	)				0
Administration	)				0
NET EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	0

APPENDIX D – ACTIVE TRAVEL MAPPING

Portfolio: PLACE

Service : HIGHWAYS

Scheme : LTF – ACTIVE TRAVEL MAPPING

<u>1. CAPITAL COSTS</u>	2015/16 £'000				TOTAL £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Active Travel Mapping	26				26
EXPENDITURE	26	0	0	0	26
<u>Financing</u>					
LTF grant	26				26
Own resources	0				0
FINANCING	26	0	0	0	26

<u>2. REVENUE COSTS</u>	2015/16 £'000				FULL YEAR £'000
<u>Service Controlled - Expenditure</u>					
Employees	)				0
Maintenance	) To be met from existing budgets				0
Equipment	)				0
Administration	)				0
NET EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	0