

Report of the Director of Place

External Funding Panel - 5 December 2018

Local Transport Fund Additional Bid 2018/19 – Broadway Interchange

Purpose: To approve the additional funding application for

the Local Transport Fund 2018/19 – Broadway

Interchange Scheme

Policy Framework: Joint Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015 –

2020)

Consultation: Access to Services, Finance, Legal.

Recommendation(s): It is recommended that the External Funding

Panel approve the additional Local Transport

Fund 2018/19 application.

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Finance Officer: Ben Smith

Legal Officer: Debbie Smith

Access to Services Officer: Catherine Window

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A funding bid for the Local Transport Fund & Local Transport Network Fund (LTF & LTNF) was originally submitted to the Welsh Government on 25th January 2018 in accordance with guidance from the Welsh Government. The funding bid was ultimately approved by the External Funding Panel and the Council was successful in securing £1.856million for the development and delivery of four schemes.
- 1.2 The Welsh Government ordinarily invite bids once per annum for Local Transport Fund, but additional funding has recently been announced and consequently a second invitation to bid was issued to Welsh Local Authorities on 3rd October 2018, with a closing deadline of 22nd October 2018.

- 1.3 The guidance stated that there was a total funding pot of £78million for the Local Transport Fund (£26million per year for 2018/19 to 2020/21). This funding is available to all Welsh Local Authorities. Whilst match funding is not a requirement of the funding bids, it was made clear that those schemes that benefited from match funding would be more likely to receive an LTF allocation.
- 1.4 It was not possible to seek approval from the External Funding Panel prior to the submission of the bid because of the limited time granted by the Welsh Government between the invitation and the actual submission date. Approval from the Cabinet Member for Environment Services was however sought and granted prior to the completion of the bids.
- 1.5 This report seeks the retrospective approval of the External Funding Panel.

2. Submitted Bids

- 2.1. The City & County of Swansea submitted three funding bids, however two of these are exempt from public viewing to preserve the ability of the council to best negotiate land purchases for those schemes.
- 2.2. This report therefore presents the remaining scheme concerning the reconfiguration of the Broadway Interchange as detailed below.

Table One - Summary of Additional LTF Bid

Scheme		Total LTF 2018/19 (£k)	Total LTF 2019/20 (£k)	Match Funding 2019/20 (£k)	Total
Broadway Interchange		85	750	100*	935
	Total	85	750	100*	935

^{*}S106 funding.

3. Details of Proposed Schemes - LTF

- 3.1 The bid for additional Local Transport Funding 2018/19 is summarised below. The Welsh Government required that the proposed projects be prioritised; the Broadway Interchange scheme is listed as priority three of three and, if successful, will be delivered over two financial years.
- 3.2 <u>Broadway Interchange</u>: The proposal for improvements at this interchange will deliver improvements to highway network efficiency for an area that is often congested by peak hour traffic. The improvements will involve the redesigning of the junction to ease congestion, introduce active travel accessibility, increase capacity and improve public transport journey time reliability and efficiency.

3.3 This scheme has previously been awarded £10k of feasibility study funding from the Local Transport Network Fund. Funding for this scheme will accelerate the project from feasibility to design and completion in 2019/20.

4. Equality and Engagement Implications

4.1. If approved, the projects will consider their equality impacts more fully at the appropriate design stages when they will be screened in their own right. These transport infrastructure projects will all serve to improve public amenity, connectivity and access and will be the subject of consultation as appropriate. Close consultation with local disability and access groups will be undertaken to ensure accessibility for all.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The scheme described in this report, relies upon the Local Transport Fund to provide 100% grant funding to secure their delivery.
- 5.2. The Broadway Interchange project will utilise £100k of Section 106 funding secured from the recent development and expansion of the Ty Coch Campus. This funding has been secured and is available for use by this project.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1. When delivering Transport Schemes, compliance will be required with the relevant Highways and Transport Act measure and guidelines. The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 puts an obligation on local authorities to provide walking and cycling infrastructure.
- 6.2. It will be necessary to ensure that all terms and conditions attached to external grant funding are complied with and that the Council's Financial Procedure Rules Regarding Grant Applications and Acceptances are followed.
- 6.3. Land agreements whether by purchase or lease will be in place prior to the commencement of scheme construction and delivery.
- 6.4. Planning Consent may be required for the Broadway Interchange project.
- 6.5. Separate legal advice will need to be sought regarding any contract and procurement issues relevant to the schemes.

Background Papers: Local Transport Fund Bid Documents

Appendices:

Appendix A – Equality Impact Assessment Screening