

# Report of the Cabinet Member for Environment Enhancement & Infrastructure Management

#### Cabinet - 15 October 2020

### Financial Procedure Rule 7 – Road Safety Grant 2020/21

Purpose: To confirm the Road Safety grant allocation from

Welsh Government and include the expenditure in

the capital programme for 2020/21.

**Policy Framework:** The Local Transport Plan.

**Consultation:** Access to Services, Finance, Legal.

**Recommendation(s):** It is recommended that:

1) The Road Safety grant of £879,800 is confirmed and this expenditure be included in the capital programme for 2020/21.

Report Author:
Finance Officer:
Legal Officer:
Access to Services Officer:
Alan Ferris
Ben Smith
Jonathan Wills
Rhian Millar

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The following report has been prepared to advise on the success of the Council in bidding for grant funding from Welsh Government to implement road safety improvements. The bids are aimed at:
  - a) Introducing measures on the A4240, through Gorseinon, aimed at reducing the number and severity of collisions and promoting walking and cycling in the area.
  - b) Introducing measures on the High Street/ Castle Street, Swansea, again aimed at reducing the number and severity of collisions and promoting walking and cycling in the area.
  - c) The development of road safety measures on St Helen's Road to continue the 20mph zone from the recently improved Kingsway. In so doing improving road safety particularly for pedestrians and cyclists.

1.2 The report details the works proposed to be undertaken using the grant allocation from Welsh Government and invites members to confirm their acceptance of the grant and its inclusion in the 2020/21 capital programme.

#### 2. Road Safety (Capital ) bid details

2.1 In January 2020 Welsh Government invited Councils across Wales to submit up to three bids for funding to support the reduction in road casualties in Council areas. The information below provides details of each of these bids, the issues identified at each site, the solutions proposed and the level of grant funding awarded.

#### 2.2 A4240, through Gorseinon

- 2.3 On analysing the collision statistics throughout the County area it was evident that there were a significant number of collisions on the A4240, from Penllergaer through Gorseinon towards Loughor. In the most recent three year period 29 collisions were recorded along the route including one fatality and seven classified as being serious. Closer analysis of the collisions showed that vulnerable road users accounted for 18 of these collisions with pedestrian casualties accounting for the significant proportion of that number. Furthermore, traffic speeds on the corridor have been consistently recorded at levels exceeding the 30mph limit. Surveys have recorded the 85th percentile average at between 33.1 and 34.3 mph with the off-peak figure exceeding 40mph.
- 2.4 The developed bid aims to address the issues identified above. A key element of this is the reduction in the speed limit to 20mph through the core commercial areas. The reduced speed limit will be supported through the construction of speed plateaus. The plateaus will have added benefit in allowing at grade crossing of the carriageway and where possible they will be designed to promote pedestrian visibility by advancing the crossing point through parked vehicles.
- 2.5 The new 20 limit will extend on the side roads to link to existing 20 limits elsewhere in the town, particularly on routes to the schools and towards the bus interchange. It is also proposed to upgrade the existing zebra crossing facility in this location to a puffin crossing due to concerns that drivers are ignoring the crossing during periods of congestion. Although there is no statistical evidence to support this, observations have confirmed the issue. Solid white lining introduced previously, failed in satisfactorily resolving the problem.
- 2.6 The design of the works also includes alterations to the signal control junctions. This will enable pedestrian facilities be moved to more closely match desire lines. Furthermore, it is proposed to remove the staggered pedestrian facility at the link to the cycle route, making it a wider single-phase crossing to further promote use of the cycle facilities. The bid also

- allows for the introduction of cycle parking facilities in the centre of Gorseinon further promoting active travel locally.
- 2.7 The total capital cost of the works, including design and supervision, is £470,300. Welsh Government confirmed that the works will be funded in full through the grant.

#### 2.8 High Street/Castle Street/Swansea

- 2.9 On analysing the collision statistics throughout the County area, it was evident that there were a significant number of collisions on the A4489, High Street/Castle Street, Swansea. In the most recent three year period 15 collisions were recorded along the route including one fatality and four classified as being serious. Closer analysis of the collisions showed that vulnerable road users accounted for 13 of these collisions with 11 pedestrian casualties.
- 2.10 The primary aim of the scheme is to target the high levels of pedestrian casualties and their severity. To do so the scheme focuses on lowering the speeds of vehicles, through the introduction of speed plateaus, but also improving the visibility of pedestrians by building out crossing points and adjusting parking and loading provision to accommodate this. Particular emphasis has focused on pedestrian provision in the locale of Swansea Central Station and other existing links to public transport along the corridor. This will help to promote connectivity in this area. The southern extent of the corridor is in immediate proximity of Swansea Castle and allowance was made in this location for the use of high quality materials in keeping with the existing finishes in the area.
- 2.11 The scheme as a whole will link with the new 20mph zones being developed through the city centre, along The Kingsway through to Oystermouth Road. This will help in opening the entire central area of Swansea to pedestrians and cyclists, creating a consistent environment for those vulnerable groups of road users.
- 2.12 The total capital cost of the works, including design and supervision, is £258,200. Welsh Government confirmed that the grant will fund the full cost in implementing the scheme.

#### 2.13 B4290, St Helen's Road, Swansea

- 2.14 Analysis of the collision statistics showed there were a significant number of collisions on the B4290, St Helen's Road, Swansea. In the most recent three year period 16 collisions were recorded along the route including two classified as being serious. Closer analysis of the collisions showed that vulnerable road users accounted for 10 of these collisions including both which resulted in serious injury.
- 2.15 As with the other schemes, the primary aim of the project is targeting the high levels of pedestrian and cyclist casualties and their severity. To do so

the scheme focuses on lowering the speeds of vehicles by introducing speed plateaus. Appropriate build outs will also be introduced to improve sightlines for pedestrians.

- 2.16 As with the High Street/ Castle Street scheme, the proposals will link to the new 20mph zones being developed through the city centre, along The Kingsway through to Oystermouth Road. This will help in opening the entire central area of Swansea to pedestrians and cyclists, creating a consistent environment for those vulnerable group of road users.
- 2.17 The total capital cost of the works, including design and supervision, is £151,300. Welsh Government confirmed that the grant will fund the full cost in implementing the scheme.
- 2.18 In total Welsh Government provided a grant of £879,800 to develop road safety measures in the three corridors identified above. This funding is conditional on the works being completed by 31 March 2021.

#### 3. General Issues

#### 3.1 Staffing Implications

3.2 The grant awarded has an allowance for fee built into the award. This will be used in supporting the operation of the Highways section in delivering these projects.

#### 4. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
  - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

4.2 The ambition of the proposals are to improve road safety by reducing road traffic collisions and casualties, whilst safeguarding vulnerable people particularly pedestrians and cyclists. Full consultation will take place on the developed proposals involving all user groups, including those with disability to enable the wider community to input to the final design prior to the works being introduced.

- 4.3 The works will be designed taking full account of the requirements to support the use of Welsh language. All traffic signs will be bi-lingual with Welsh appearing first.
- 4.4 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening form has been completed with the agreed outcome that a full EIA report was not required. A copy has been appended to the report.

#### 5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Details of the proposed expenditure are shown in the Financial summary which is included as Appendix B to this report.
- 5.2 All works must be completed within financial year 2020/21. It will not be possible to draw down grant funding to complete unfinished work after 31 March 2021.

#### 6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 The Highways Act 1980 Section 41(1) places a statutory duty of care on the Highway Authority towards road users of all kinds. The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 legislates for the provision of routes designed for walking and cycling. The success in implementing the works identified above will help the Council in meeting its obligations in this regard.
- 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.

Background Papers: None

#### Appendices:

Appendix A Equality Impact Assessment Screening Forms

Appendix B Financial Summary

# **Appendix A** – Equalities Impact Assessments

Section 1			2 2			
Which service an						
Service Area:	Traffic M	anagement an	d Road Safety			
Directorate:	Place					
Q1(a) WHAT A	RE YOU SCI	REENING FO	OR RELEVAN	ICE?		
Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project ⊠	Strategy	Plan	Proposal	
(b) Please nar	ne and descri	be below	1	1	1	
Road Safety Ca	pital Grant f	und 2020/21	-A4240 Thro	ough Gorseinc	on	
vulnerable road environment for	ar period 29 en classified users and the them to according to the them.	collisions we as being sended the project had been described as the compare is taken	ere recorded a rious. The signs been targe munity faciliti to ensure tha	along the route nificant majori ted at creating es accessed a t they link to W	e including one ty of these involve	
Q2(a) WHAT Do Direct fro service do		Indirect	front line delivery	Indirect bac service deli		
	(H)	⊠ (M)		(L)		
(b) DO YOUI Because they need to	Beca	ERS/CLIENT: use they nt to	S ACCESS TE Because automatically everyone in S	se it is provided to	On an internal basis i.e. Staff	
Q3 WHAT IS		NTIAL IMPA ligh Impact (H)	CT ON THE I Medium Impac (M)	FOLLOWING t Low Impact (L)		
Children/young peo Any other age group Disability Gender reassignme Marriage & civil par Pregnancy and mat Race Religion or (non-)be Sex	ent thership ernity					

Welsh Language Poverty/social exclusion Carers (inc. young carers) Community cohesion			
•	OU UNDERTAKE ANY F ATING TO THE INITIATI		TION AND
☐ YES          NO	(If NO, you need to conside consultation and engager		
If yes, please provide details b	elow		
Once the outline design is of consultation on the proposal development of the final design local residents and business introduced meet the needs in consultation with the Local	Is to enable the communisign layout. In particular, the ses as well as disabled goof the wider community.	ity to contribute to the this will take on board roups to ensure that	e d the views of the measures
Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS TH High visibility [H)	IS INITIATIVE TO THE G  Medium visibility  (M)	ENERAL PUBLIC?  Low visibility  (L)	
	NTIAL RISK TO THE COU		1
High risk ☐ (H)	Medium risk	Low risk ⊠ (L)	
Q6 Will this initiative have	e an impact (however minor  If yes, please provid	•	service?
objectives. In particular, tl	t a number of other Council ne developed measures will dress inequalities associated	help in making our cor	
Q7 HOW DID YOU SCOI Please tick the relevant b			
MOSTLY H and/or M $\longrightarrow$ 1	HIGH PRIORITY ->	☐ EIA to be completely Please go to Section	
	√ PRIORITY / → Γ RELEVANT	Do not complete ? Please go to Q8 fo Section 2	

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for a full EIA report, you must provide adequate explanation below. In relation to the Council's commitment to the UNCRC, your explanation must demonstrate that the initiative is designed / planned in the best interests of children (0-18 years). For Welsh language, we must maximise positive and minimise adverse effects on the language and its use. Your explanation must also show this where appropriate.

The proposed works are designed to improve road safety and promote sustainable forms of transport. In assessing collisions there was particular focus in reviewing those involving young people. The primary focus of the bid is the reduction in the number and severity of road collisions particularly those involving vulnerable road users The proposed changes will integrate into the existing highway network and enable all road users to travel more safely in a sustainable fashion. The developed design will meet Welsh Government standards in the positioning of Welsh on all road signage.

Consequently, at time it is not considered necessary to undertake a full equality impact assessment.

Section 1					
Which service	area and direc	torate are you	from?		
Service Area:	Traffic N	lanagement and	l Road Safety		
Directorate:	Place				
Q1(a) WHAT	ADE VOII SC	DEENING EO	D DELEVAN	ICE9	
		KEENING FO	K KELEVAN 	ICE!	
Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Droinet	Ctrotogy	Plan	Droposal
FullCuon		Project	Strategy		Proposal
(b) Please n	ame and descr	ibe below			
Road Safety C	Capital Grant	fund 2020/21	–High Stree	t/Castle Street	
collisions were being serious. project has be community fac	e recorded ald The significa en targeted a silities along t ey support W	ong the route nt majority of it creating a s his corridor. In	including on these involv afer environi n developing	e fatality and fo ed vulnerable r ment for them to the measures	ee-year period 15 our classified as oad users and the cacess the care is taken to active travel in the
- ' '	DOES Q1a RE		front line	Indirect back	c room
service	delivery	service delivery		service delivery	
☐ (H)		$\succeq$	(M)		(L)
(b) DO YOUR CUSTOM Because they Because		ERS/CLIENTS ACCESS THe ause they automatically everyone in S		se it is provided to	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
Q3 WHAT	IS THE POTE	NTIAL IMPA	CT ON THE	FOLLOWING	
			Medium Impac		Don't know
Children/young por Any other age group Disability Gender reassigns Marriage & civil por Pregnancy and more Race Religion or (non-) Sex Sexual Orientation Welsh Language Poverty/social exceptions	ment artnership haternity belief				(H)

Carers (inc. young carers) Community cohesion	•		
•	YOU UNDERTAKE ANY I ATING TO THE INITIATI		TION AND
☐ YES 🖂 N	O (If NO, you need to consider consultation and engage		
If yes, please provide details b	pelow		
Once the outline design is consultation on the proposa development of the final de local residents and busines introduced meet the needs in consultation with the Local residents.	als to enable the communisign layout. In particular, sees as well as disabled got the wider community.	ity to contribute to th this will take on boar roups to ensure that	e d the views of the measures
Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS TH			
High visibility ☐(H)	Medium visibility	Low visibility	
	ENTIAL RISK TO THE CO legal, financial, political, medi		1
High risk ☐ (H)	Medium risk	Low risk ⊠ (L)	
Q6 Will this initiative hav	e an impact (however minor	r) on any other Council	service?
	o If yes, please provide	le details below	
objectives. In particular, t	rt a number of other Council the developed measures will ddress inequalities associated	help in making our co	•
Q7 HOW DID YOU SCO Please tick the relevant			
MOSTLY H and/or M $\longrightarrow$	HIGH PRIORITY $\longrightarrow$	☐ EIA to be comple Please go to Section	
	W PRIORITY / → T RELEVANT	Do not complete Please go to Q8 for Section 2	

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for a full EIA report, you must provide adequate explanation below. In relation to the Council's commitment to the UNCRC, your explanation must demonstrate that the initiative is designed / planned in the best interests of children (0-18 years). For Welsh language, we must maximise positive and minimise adverse effects on the language and its use. Your explanation must also show this where appropriate.

The proposed works are designed to improve road safety and promote sustainable forms of transport. In assessing collisions there was particular focus in reviewing those involving young people. The primary focus of the bid is the reduction in the number and severity of road collisions particularly those involving vulnerable road users The proposed changes will integrate into the existing highway network and enable all road users to travel more safely in a sustainable fashion. The developed design will meet Welsh Government standards in the positioning of Welsh on all road signage.

Consequently, at time it is not considered necessary to undertake a full equality impact assessment.

Section 1					
Which service	area and direc	torate are you	from?		
Service Area:	Traffic N	/lanagement and	d Road Safety		
Directorate:	Place				
O1(a) WILAT	ADE VOIT CO	DEENING EC	D DELEVAN	ICE9	
Q1(a) WHAT		REENING FO	JK KELEVAN 	NCE?	
Service/	Policy/	Dunia at	Ctt	Diam	Duanasal
Function	Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal
(b) Please na	ame and descr	ibe below			
Road Safety C	apital Grant	fund 2020/21	-B4290 St I	Helen's Road	
on St Helen's I recorded along majority of the creating a safe this corridor. In	Road in Swar g the route in se involved p er environmer n developing	nsea. In the r cluding two c edestrians ar nt for these g the measures	nost recent the lassified as the cyclists. The cyclists. The coups to access care is take	hree-year perio peing serious. T he project has	been targeted at nity facilities along It they support
Q2(a) WHAT I	DOES Q1a RI	ELATE TO?			
- ' '	ront line	Indirect front line		Indirect back room	
service	delivery	service delivery		service deliv	ery
☐ (H)			☑ (M)		(L)
` /		ERS/CLIENTS	1	1	_
Because they need to		ause they Becau			On an internal
need to	Wa	ant to	automatically everyone in S		basis i.e. Staff
☐ (H)				] (M)	
	IS THE POTE	NTIAL IMPA		FOLLOWING	
Q5 WIIIII	-	High Impact	Medium Impac		Don't know
		( <u>H)</u>	( <u>M)</u>	<u>(L)</u>	( <u>H)</u>
Children/young pe		<b>→</b> ∐	$\boxtimes$		
Any other age gro Disability	oup (18+)	<b>!</b>	X	$\vdash$	
Gender reassignn	nent	K H			H
Marriage & civil pa		H	H		H
Pregnancy and maternity		→ □			
Race	_	→ □			
Religion or (non-)	belief	<b>→</b> ∐			
Sex Sexual Orientation	_			$\bowtie$	
Welsh Language		<b>+</b>	$\vdash$		H
Poverty/social exc	clusion	→ □	$\square$		
Carers (inc. young		→ □		$\overline{\boxtimes}$	

Comm	unity cohesion	<b>→</b>				
Q4	HAVE YOU / V ENGAGEMEN					SULTATION AND
[	YES	⊠ NO	•		_	should be undertaking ee the guidance)
If yes,	please provide de	etails belo	OW			
consu devel local introd	ultation on the propertion on the fire contraction of the firesidents and bu	roposals nal desigusinesse needs of	to enable the gn layout. In p es as well as o the wider co	e communi particular, t disabled gr mmunity. T	ty to contribut his will take o oups to ensu	ndertake a public te to the on board the views of re that the measures nis will be developed
Q5(a)	HOW VISIBLE	IS THIS	INITIATIVE	TO THE G	ENERAL PUE	BLIC?
	High visibility ☐(H)		Medium vi ⊠	sibility (M)	Low vi	isibility ] (L)
(b)	WHAT IS THE the following imp					UTATION? (Consider tion etc)
	High risk ☐ (H)		Medium ri:	I	Low ri	
Q6	Will this initiative	ve have a	n impact (how	vever minor	on any other (	Council service?
	∑ Yes	☐ No	- '		e details below	
ol	he proposals will bjectives. In partic work and live in	cular, the	developed me	asures will	help in making	delivery of their our communities safer
Q7	HOW DID YOU Please tick the red					
MOST	ΓLY H and/or M ·	→ <sub>HI</sub>	GH PRIORIT	$_{\mathrm{Y}}$ $\longrightarrow$	☐ EIA to be Please go to \$	completed Section 2
MOST	$_{\text{TLY L}} \rightarrow$		PRIORITY / RELEVANT	$\rightarrow$	Do not co Please go t Section 2	omplete EIA to Q8 followed by
00	TC 1			. 1	C 11 171 4	

Q8 If you determine that this initiative is not relevant for a full EIA report, you must provide adequate explanation below. In relation to the Council's commitment to the UNCRC, your explanation must demonstrate that the initiative is designed / planned in the best interests of children (0-18 years). For Welsh language, we must maximise positive and

minimise adverse effects on the language and its use. Your explanation must also show this where appropriate.

The proposed works are designed to improve road safety and promote sustainable forms of transport. In assessing collisions there was particular focus in reviewing those involving young people. The primary focus of the bid is the reduction in the number and severity of road collisions particularly those involving vulnerable road users The proposed changes will integrate into the existing highway network and enable all road users to travel more safely in a sustainable fashion. The developed design will meet Welsh Government standards in the positioning of Welsh on all road signage.

Consequently, at time it is not considered necessary to undertake a full equality impact assessment.

# **Appendix B** - Financial Implications

Financial Procedure Rule 7

# **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: SUMMARY**

**Portfolio: PLACE** 

Service: HIGHWAYS

Scheme: ROAD SAFETY GRANT CAPITAL 2020/21

1. CAPITAL COSTS £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	TOTAL £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Works	750.7			750.7
Fees	129.1			129.1
Budget Code: <b>EXPENDITURE</b>	879.8	0	0	879.8
<u>Financing</u>				
Road Safety Grant	879.8			879.8
FINANCING	879.8	0	0	879.8
2020/21 2. REVENUE COSTS	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	FULL YEAR £'000	£'000
Service Controlled - Expenditure				
Employees Maintenance Equipment Administration		1.0	1.0	0 2.0 0 0
NET EXPENDITURE		1.0	1.0	2.0