

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.		
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Legal Officer:	Jonathan Wills
Access to Services Officer:	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

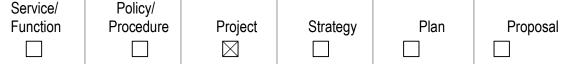
Appendices:

Appendix A	Equality Impact Assessment Screening Forms
Appendix B	Financial Summary

Appendix A – Equalities Impact Assessments

Section 1	
Which service are	ea and directorate are you from?
Service Area:	Traffic Management and Road Safety
Directorate:	Place

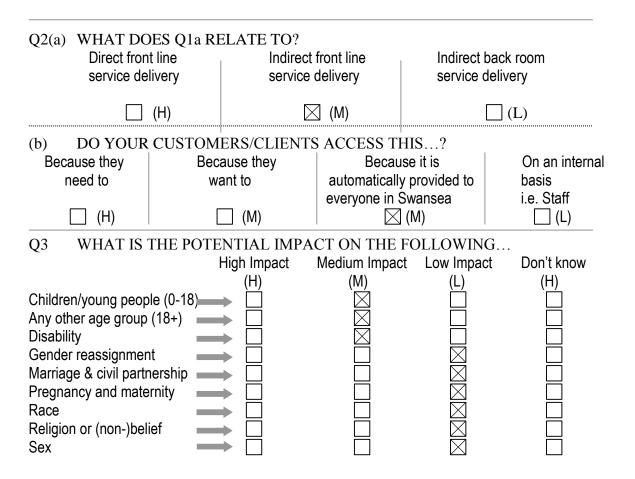
Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?



(b) Please name and describe below

Road Safety Capital Grant fund 2020/21 - A4240 Through Gorseinon

This is targeted at introducing measures to address the 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. The significant majority of these involved vulnerable road users and the project has been targeted at creating a safer environment for them to access the community facilities accessed along this corridor. In developing the measures, care is taken to ensure that they link to Welsh Governments objectives to promote active travel in the wider community.



Sexual Orientation	\longrightarrow		\boxtimes	
Welsh Language			\bowtie	
Poverty/social exclusion		\boxtimes		
Carers (inc. young carers)			\bowtie	
Community cohesion		\boxtimes		

Q4 HAVE YOU / WILL YOU UNDERTAKE ANY PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT RELATING TO THE INITIATIVE?

YES

NO (If NO, you need to consider whether you should be undertaking consultation and engagement – please see the guidance)

If yes, please provide details below

Once the outline design is developed more fully it is proposed to undertake a public consultation on the proposals to enable the community to contribute to the development of the final design layout. In particular, this will take on board the views of local residents and businesses as well as disabled groups to ensure that the measures introduced meet the needs of the wider community. The detail of this will be developed in consultation with the Local Ward Members.

Q5(a)	High visibility	IIS INITIATIVE TO THE C Medium visibility \(M)	Low visibility			
(b)		ENTIAL RISK TO THE CO legal, financial, political, medi	UNCIL'S REPUTATION? (Consider			
	High risk	Medium risk	Low risk ⊠ (L)			
0	 Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service? ☑ Yes □ No If yes, please provide details below The proposals will support a number of other Council services in the delivery of their objectives. In particular, the developed measures will help in making our communities safer to work and live in and address inequalities associated with travel. 					
Q7	HOW DID YOU SCO Please tick the relevant i					
MOS	TLY H and/or M \longrightarrow	HIGH PRIORITY \rightarrow	EIA to be completed Please go to Section 2			
MOS		W PRIORITY / \longrightarrow T RELEVANT	Do not complete EIA Please go to Q8 followed by 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.

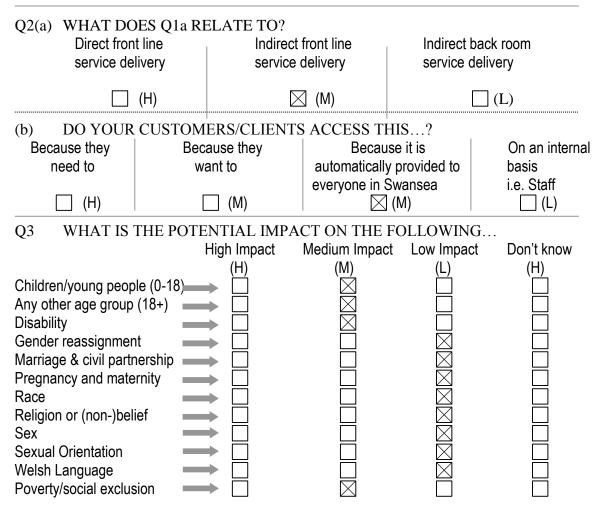
Consequently, at time it is not considered necessary to undertake a full equality impact assessment.

Section 1					
Which service	e area and direct	orate are you f	from?		
Service Area: Traffic Management and Road Safety					
Directorate: Place					
Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?					
Service/ Policy/ Function Procedure Project Strategy Plan Proposal					

(b) Please name and describe below

Road Safety Capital Grant fund 2020/21 – High Street/Castle Street

This is targeted at introducing measures to address the significant number of collisions on High Street and Castle Street in Swansea. In the most recent three-year period 15 collisions were recorded along the route including one fatality and four classified as being serious. The significant majority of these involved vulnerable road users and the project has been targeted at creating a safer environment for them to access the community facilities along this corridor. In developing the measures care is taken to ensure that they support Welsh Governments objectives to promote active travel in the wider community.



Carers (inc. young carers)		\bowtie	
Community cohesion	\boxtimes		

Q4 HAVE YOU / WILL YOU UNDERTAKE ANY PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT RELATING TO THE INITIATIVE?

YES

NO (If NO, you need to consider whether you should be undertaking consultation and engagement – please see the guidance)

If yes, please provide details below

Once the outline design is developed more fully it is proposed to undertake a public consultation on the proposals to enable the community to contribute to the development of the final design layout. In particular, this will take on board the views of local residents and businesses as well as disabled groups to ensure that the measures introduced meet the needs of the wider community. The detail of this will be developed in consultation with the Local Ward Members.

Q5(a) HOW VISIBLE IS THIS INITIATIVE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC?					
	High visibility □(H)	Medium visibility (M)	Low visibility		
(b)		NTIAL RISK TO THE CO legal, financial, political, medi	UNCIL'S REPUTATION? (Consider		
	High risk (H)	Medium risk	Low risk ⊠ (L)		
Q6	Will this initiative hav	e an impact (however minor	r) on any other Council service?		
	🛛 Yes 🗌 N	0 If yes, please provid	le details below		
oł	ojectives. In particular, t		l services in the delivery of their help in making our communities safer d with travel.		
Q7	HOW DID YOU SCO Please tick the relevant				
MOST	TLY H and/or M \longrightarrow	HIGH PRIORITY \rightarrow	EIA to be completed Please go to Section 2		
MOST	_	W PRIORITY / \longrightarrow T RELEVANT	Do not complete EIA Please go to Q8 followed by 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	e area and direc	torate are you f	from?		
Service Area:	Service Area: Traffic Management and Road Safety				
Directorate: Place					
Q1(a) WHAT ARE YOU SCREENING FOR RELEVANCE?					
Service/ Policy/ Function Procedure Project Strategy Plan Proposal					

(b) Please name and describe below

Road Safety Capital Grant fund 2020/21 –B4290 St Helen's Road

This is targeted at introducing measures to address the significant number of collisions on St Helen's Road in Swansea. In the most recent three-year period 16 collisions were recorded along the route including two classified as being serious. The significant majority of these involved pedestrians and cyclists. The project has been targeted at creating a safer environment for these groups to access the community facilities along this corridor. In developing the measures care is taken to ensure that they support Welsh Governments objectives to promote active travel in the wider community.

Q2(a) WHAT DC Direct from	-		front line	Indirect t	back room
service de		service		service d	
	(H)] (M)	[(L)
	1	ERS/CLIENTS	1	1	
Because they need to		ause they ant to	Becaus automatically everyone in S	provided to	On an internal basis i.e. Staff
(H)	[(M)		(M)	
Q3 WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE FOLLOWING					
		High Impact	Medium Impact	t Low Impac	
Children/young peop Any other age group Disability Gender reassignmer Marriage & civil partr Pregnancy and mate Race Religion or (non-)bel Sex Sexual Orientation Welsh Language Poverty/social exclus Carers (inc. young ca	(18+) nt nership ernity ief		$(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N})$		

Community cohesion	\boxtimes	

Q4 HAVE YOU / WILL YOU UNDERTAKE ANY PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT RELATING TO THE INITIATIVE?

7 YES

NO (If NO, you need to consider whether you should be undertaking consultation and engagement – please see the guidance)

Low risk

If yes, please provide details below

Once the outline design is developed more fully it is proposed to undertake a public consultation on the proposals to enable the community to contribute to the development of the final design layout. In particular, this will take on board the views of local residents and businesses as well as disabled groups to ensure that the measures introduced meet the needs of the wider community. The detail of this will be developed in consultation with the Local Ward Members.

Q5(a)	HOW VISIBLE IS TH	IIS INITIATIVE TO THE C	ENERAL PUBLIC?
	High visibility	Medium visibility	Low visibility
	(H)	(M)	(L)
(b)	WHAT IS THE DOTE	NTIAL DISK TO THE COL	INCIL'S PEDITATION? (Consider

(b) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL RISK TO THE COUNCIL'S REPUTATION? (Consider the following impacts – legal, financial, political, media, public perception etc...)

High risk	Medium risk	
<u>—</u> (Н)	(M)	

Q6 Will this initiative have an impact (however minor) on any other Council service?

Yes No If

If yes, please provide details below

The proposals will support a number of other Council services in the delivery of their objectives. In particular, the developed measures will help in making our communities safer to work and live in and address inequalities associated with travel.

Q7 HOW DID YOU SCORE? Please tick the relevant box

MOSTLY H and/or M \rightarrow HIGH PRIORITY \rightarrow \square EIA to be completed Please go to Section 2 MOSTLY L \rightarrow LOW PRIORITY / \rightarrow NOT RELEVANT \square Do not complete EIA Please go to Q8 followed by 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.

Appendix B - Financial Implications

Financial Procedure Rule 7

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS : SUMMARY

Portfolio: PLACE

Service : HIGHWAYS

Scheme : ROAD SAFETY GRANT CAPITAL 2020/21

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