



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

Report To: Greater Cambridge City Deal Executive Board 9 June 2016

Lead Officer: Graham Hughes, Executive Director of Economy, Transport and Environment, Cambridgeshire County Council

City Deal Urban and Environmental Design Guidance

Purpose

- 1 This report seeks the endorsement of a document setting out the principles to be followed and guidance that should be taken into account during the development of City Deal transport infrastructure projects on the major roads into Cambridge and city centre access routes.

Recommendations

- 2 The Executive Board is recommended to:
 - a. Endorse the 'City Deal Urban and Environmental Design Guidance' document;
 - b. Require that the document is proactively used and referenced by project managers during the development of relevant City Deal transport projects; and
 - c. Request that the document is updated periodically to reflect any significant changes in highway and planning design policy.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 3 City Deal transport projects aim to achieve an acceptable balance of high quality sustainable transport infrastructure and enhanced public realm and streetscape improvement. Utilising the guidance and principles set out in the document will support the achievement of this aim.

Background

- 4 At its meeting on 17th December 2015, the City Deal Joint Assembly received a presentation on opportunities for public realm and landscaping enhancement within the City Deal. Consequently, the Joint Assembly recommended the development of an Environmental Design Guide for City Deal Major infrastructure schemes.
- 5 At its meeting on 15th January 2016, the City Deal Executive Board accepted this recommendation and at its meeting on 3rd March re-emphasised it should be a statement of environmental and public realm guiding principles reflecting and summarising current national and locally determined good practices.

Draft document

- 6 A draft document entitled “City Deal Urban and Environmental Design Guidance” is appended to this report.
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- Glen Richardson (Urban Design Manager, Cambridge City Council) and Andrew Cameron (Director of Urban Design) from consultants WSP, the joint authors of the document, will be in attendance to respond to questions on the draft document.
- 7 The document aims to establish the general design principles that should apply to the development of City Deal transport projects and to reference design guidance that has been developed by a wide range of organisations and professionals that should be used to influence and inform the design process. The document also references schemes that demonstrate the implementation of these principles and guidance.
- 8 The draft is intended as a dynamic document that would be updated periodically to reflect new developments in the design process and any relevant changes in national and local planning and highway design policy.

Implications

- 9 In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk management, equality and diversity, climate change, community safety and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered: -

Financial and other resources

The production cost for the guidance document has been met from the City Deal funding stream.

Legal

No significant legal implications have been identified during the development of the guidance document.

Staffing

Project management for the production of the guidance document is undertaken by Cambridgeshire County Council’s Major Infrastructure Delivery Team in collaboration with the District Councils.

Risk Management

Failure to follow the guidance referenced in the guidance document could lead to flawed scheme designs and stakeholder challenge.

Equality and Diversity

There are no equality or diversity implications in this report.

Climate Change and Environmental

The guidance document underpins the development of sustainable scheme designs which have the potential to reduce congestion, improve air quality, reduce flooding and encourage a shift towards sustainable transport modes.

Consultation responses and Communication

No significant legal implications have been identified during the development of the guidance document.

Community Safety

No significant legal implications have been identified during the development of the guidance document.

Background Papers

Cambridgeshire Design Guide 2007:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Cambridgeshire%20Design%20Guide%20for%20Streets%20and%20the%20Public%20Realm%202007.pdf>

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