

KCC Highways Scheme Schools Cluster to Folkestone Harbour Cycle Route, improvements update

To: **Shepway Joint Transportation Board, 12th September 2016**

Main Portfolio Area: KCC – Growth Environment and Waste

By: Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste

Classification: Unrestricted

Ward: Folkestone Central Division: Folkestone West / Folkestone North East /Folkestone South

Summary: Initial funding has now been received from a LTP funding bid first made in 2011 to improve cycle route provision between the Morehall school cluster and Folkestone Harbour.

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The initial application for funding was made in 2011 and details of the potential scheme were passed to Shepway JTB at the time. Please see the historical JTB document attached at Annex 1.
- 1.2 When the funding application was made detailed scoping designs were not completed. In principle the scheme should generally improve cycle connections between the school cluster at Morehall towards Folkestone harbour. There was also the aim to improve north/south town links artificially severed by the railway line and potentially improve access to the railway stations.
- 1.3 There is already an under-utilised off-road cycle link between A2034/ Cheriton Road and Shorncliffe road which transverses the railway line. This detailed scheme design aims to improve the cycle route links to this route. The planned improved route would begin at the Harvey Grammar school, potentially improve crossing facilities at the school, run east along Cheriton Road to Cornwallis Avenue and then join the north-south off-road cycle route under the railway line already in place. It would then link onto the A259/Earls Avenue to finish at the cliff-top coastal route by the junction with The Leas. Safer crossing points at each junction would be included. The route would provide improved non-motorised links to major destinations in the area including William Harvey Grammar school, Folkestone football and bowls club, Morrisons, East Kent College, Dover College, the two train stations, the Civic area and the Coastal Park. Any funding surplus after construction would be used to begin modelling traffic movements at the Cheriton Road/Cherry Garden Avenue junction where there has been a cluster of pedal and motorbike accidents to inform any future Highway improvements here. It is hoped the scheme continuation can eventually link to planned cycle network improvements planned for the harbour area and elsewhere including improved cycle facilities at the rail stations.

JTB/16/04

3.0 Financial

3.1 The funding application was for £150 000. This was made available to the KCC scheme team in June 2016. The works need to be completed by end of the financial year 2017.

4.0 Legal implications

4.1 None

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 The cycle route improvements are at the detailed design stage and due to be implemented within this financial year 2016/2017. The funding will not complete the entire proposed scheme but can be used as a phase 1 for further cycle improvements in central Folkestone. The scheme will also improve resident's links to the planned Cinque Port Cycleway currently under phase 1 construction from Folkestone westwards.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 I have shown the plans for the scheme to Shepway Cycle who are fully supportive of the scheme. I have also met with Harvey Grammar School who are equally supportive of the scheme and already have a higher than average number of secondary school pupils and staff who cycle to school. I am submitting this scheme update so that members are fully informed of the projects status and could support further linked funding bids.

Future Meeting if applicable:	Date: N/A
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Annex List

<i>Annex 1</i>	<i>Previous Scheme brief for Shepway JTB in 2011</i>
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