

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Sylvia Wright Head of Leisure and Culture

Officer Making the Decision

Chris Trail - Director: Neighbourhoods and Community Wellbeing

Recommendation

That the use of block paving as part of the Town Centre Transport Scheme in the service vehicle track along Swan Street as set out in a 'Letter of Intent' provided by Leicestershire County Council at an estimated cost of the Borough of £68k be approved utilising funding allocated in the Council's Capital Programme for the improvement of Public Realm in the Inner Relief Road area and other revenue funding.

Reason

To take advantage of the County Council's willingness to replace the planned tarmac carriageway with block paving to match the wider Market Place streetscape. Following the in principle support of Cabinet members to utilise monies in Charnwood Borough Council's Capital and Revenue budgets allocated to the improvement of the Public Realm in Loughborough and for general capital or revenue purposes.

Authority for Decision

8.3 Delegation of Executive Functions – Delegations to Chief Executive, Strategic Directors and Heads of Service – 2. To incur expenditure within the Council's approved capital/revenue budget in accordance with approved rules and procedures.

Decision and Date

Agreed 6.6.14

C. Tait Strategic Director

Background

Neighbourhoods & Community Wellbeing

Following the recent Leicestershire County Council Cabinet decision to adopt option C for the purposes of the bus trial in the delivery of the Inner Relief Road and the exclusion of buses from Swan Street LCC proposed to retain the track along Swan Street formerly designed for buses and services vehicles; providing a track constructed of a coloured flexible surfacing material but with flush kerbs.

Following representations from Loughborough BID, Shopping centre managers and the Town Team consideration was given to replace the planned tarmac carriage way with block paving in order to match the wider Market Place street-scape, subject to availability of funding. LCC confirmed that they were unable to commit additional funding as any design and construction modifications could only proceed where they could be contained within the agreed scheme budget.

Cabinet members have now considered the request to support the additional cost of the block paving and are in agreement that the use of monies already allocated in the Capital Programme for the improvement of the public realm could deliver this initiative.

Comments from HR

Not appropriate

Financial Implications

There is a Capital Scheme for Public Realm and Art Improvements for £115,000 and the £42,000 of capital expenditure can be met from this budget. The commuted sum of £26,000 is revenue expenditure and an equivalent amount, currently unallocated and budgeted for Revenue Contribution to Capital in 2014/15, will be transferred to Town Centre Management (P150) to pay for this. An adjustment to P150 will be made at the year end so that this is not charged to the Loughborough Special Expenses.

Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
The costs exceed the estimate provided by the County Council	Medium	Low	There is sufficient capital budget to cover any reasonable over spend.

Key Decision: No
Background Papers: Letter of Intent to LCC