

CABINET
12 July 2018**A38 BROMSGROVE MAJOR SCHEME**

Relevant Cabinet Member

Dr K A Pollock

Relevant Officer

Director of Economy & Infrastructure

Local Member(s)

Mr C J Bloore

Mrs R L Dent

Mr P M McDonald

Mr K Taylor

Mrs S A Webb

Recommendation

- 1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure recommends that Cabinet:**
 - a) notes the overall concept of the A38 Bromsgrove Scheme and progress made to date;**
 - b) supports the continued progress of the scheme and notes the further work required to finalise the project deliverables, especially in terms of planning strategy, securing funding and land acquisitions;**
 - c) notes the importance of improvements to the A38 in advance of proposed developments, with particular reference to Whitford Rd, Perryfields and Foxlydiate applications;**
 - d) notes the need for some flexibility within and between the packages of work within the overall scheme;**
 - e) requests that the Director of Economy and Infrastructure brings a detailed report on Package 1 of the A38 improvements to Cabinet in Autumn 2018; and**
 - f) supports taking preparatory steps in the interim towards the commencing of Package 1 of the scheme without prejudice to that later decision.**

Why is this decision important?

2. As a key component of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan this scheme is aimed at supporting the sustainable growth of Bromsgrove by enhancing the A38 Bromsgrove Eastern Bypass. There is a requirement to give support to this in advance of the relevant planning applications.

Background

3. The delivery of the overall A38 Bromsgrove Major Scheme programme is essential to support growth identified in the adopted Bromsgrove District Plan. The scheme is a key component of the transport Infrastructure Delivery Plan and would support the sustainable growth of Bromsgrove by enhancing the A38 Bromsgrove Eastern Bypass. Development of the scheme has been funded as agreed in 2015 and 2016. The proposed initial phase of the overall scheme, Package 1, consists of enhancements and improvements to three junctions, the M5 Junction 4, Barley Mow Lane junction and the M42 Junction 1.
4. The overall A38 Bromsgrove Major Scheme works would also be critical in helping to support the objectives of the Redditch Local Plan, the County Council's LTP4 and both the Worcestershire and Greater Birmingham and Solihull Strategic Economic Plans prepared by the Local Enterprise Partnerships.
5. The key issues for the A38 corridor in Bromsgrove have been identified as:
 - There is significant congestion across the local Bromsgrove transport network
 - The A38 strategic corridor, the approaches and the town centre suffer significant congestion, particularly at peak times. On average over a 12 hour period, delay accounts for 23% of total journey times on the highway network
 - The transport network in Bromsgrove is car dominated (particularly for local trips), which is resulting in environmental deterioration
 - The A38 corridor has two Air Quality Management Areas
 - Junction design within Bromsgrove is of variable quality resulting in congestion at junctions.
6. The concept details are shown at **Appendix A**. Concept design drawings showing the schemes included in the Bromsgrove A38 Scheme are contained in **Appendix B**. The sites and proposed works are as follows:
 - A38/B4091 Hanbury Road traffic signals – widening of the A38 southbound approach to provide a long left turn flare;
 - A38/Buntsford Drive roundabout – widening of the A38 northbound approach and exit towards Austin Road roundabout;
 - A38/Austin Road/Sherwood Road roundabout – widening of the A38 northbound approach to two lanes and provision of two lanes on the exit link to Charford Road signals;

- A38/Charford Road traffic signals – localised widening of side road arms and upgrade of signals to provide near-sided pedestrian aspects and on-crossing detection;
 - A38 /B4184 New Road traffic signals – widening of the southbound approach to provide two lanes for the ahead movement;
 - A38 /A448 Bromsgrove Highway (Oakalls) roundabout – widening of the A38 northbound, A38 southbound and A448 westbound entries to the roundabout with widening of the A38 northbound exit to two lanes and ancillary relining and signing of the circulatory carriageway;
 - A38/Birmingham Road – refurbishment of the existing signal including an upgrade to introduce MOVA control;
 - M42 Junction 1 – widening of the A38 southbound approach to provide three long entry lanes as well as widening of the A38 northbound exit to provide two lanes on exit from the roundabout;
 - A38/Barley Mow Lane – localised widening of the carriageway in order to provide a A38 southbound ghost island right turn facility;
 - A38 Marlbrook Crossroads – reconfiguration of the junction to provide two ahead lanes for the A38 arms with merge on exit arrangements and introduction of pedestrian facilities on the south side of the junction;
 - M5 Junction 4 (from Woodrow Lane) – widening of the A38 between Woodrow Lane and M5 Junction 4 to provide two lanes on the approach to M5 Junction 4 as well as two exit lanes over a considerable distance.
7. It is currently envisaged that the improvements would be delivered in five packages. These current packages are summarised in **Appendix A**. As the scheme develops it is likely that some flexibility within and between the packages may be necessary.
8. In order to progress the scheme there are a number of parameters requiring further detail during summer 2018 before the works can be prioritised for implementation. These parameters include:
- Planning Strategy (if not within Permitted Development)
 - Funding Strategy and land acquisition (by Compulsory Purchase Order if not by private treaty)
 - Deliverability
 - Responsiveness to effects of development.
9. As stated earlier, the delivery of the overall A38 Bromsgrove Major Scheme programme is essential to support growth identified in both the adopted Bromsgrove District Plan and the Redditch Borough Local Plan. There is a direct link with the following proposed developments:
- Whitford Road: 490 houses plus retail space
 - Perryfields: 1,300 new homes and include a proportion of affordable housing, new school, new employment and retail space, a provision of elderly care homes, and open space including formal sports pitches.
 - Foxlydiate: 2,800 homes, together with a new primary school, community facilities and open space

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

10. The total cost of the scheme is currently being reviewed. Funding of £7.5m is secured through the Local Growth Fund, in addition a number of funding options are being pursued;
- £2.8m bid to Highways England Growth and Housing Fund
 - £2.3m bid to Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
 - £10.9m bid to the Housing Infrastructure Fund
 - £5.3m contribution from developers
 - All other potential funding options will be pursued, including any opportunities with Major Road Network funding.
11. A Planning Strategy and Land Acquisition Strategy are being developed in order to clarify the options available. The land acquisition strategy will consider the potential need for Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) should it not be possible to acquire the land for the scheme through negotiation. Details of this to be included in a further report to Cabinet in Autumn 2018.

Privacy and Public Health Impact Assessments

12. Health implications will be identified by assessing changes in the opportunities for increased physical activity through cycling and walking. In addition, work will be carried out with Worcestershire Regulatory Services to deliver improved air quality within the designated Air Quality Management Area.

Equality and Diversity Implications

13. An Equality Relevance Screening is currently being undertaken. It is anticipated there will be minimal Equality and Diversity implications.

Supporting Information

- Appendix A: Concept
- Appendix B: Concept Design Drawings for Schemes in Bromsgrove Transport Package
- Appendix C: Bromsgrove District Plan (2011-2030):
 - www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/council/policy-and-strategy/planning-policies/local-development-plan/the-bromsgrove-district-plan-2011-30.aspx

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points
County Council: 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Specific Contact Points for this report

Andy Baker, Transport Planning & Commissioning Manager

Tel: 01905 822071

Email: ACBaker@Worcestershire.gov.uk

Rachel Hill, Strategic Commissioner – Major Projects

Tel: 01905 843539

Email: RJHill@Worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Economy & Infrastructure) the following are background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Report to [Cabinet](#) 5 February 2015 on the Budget;

Report to [Cabinet](#) 4 February 2016 on the Budget and Council Tax 2016-17.