



To: ENVIRONMENT POLICY BOARD

On: 11th MARCH 2015

Report by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESOURCE

**Heading: BRIDGES AND OTHER ROAD STRUCTURES
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2015/16**

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report to the Environment Policy Board seeks approval for a programme of capital expenditure for bridges and other road structures in financial year 2015/16.
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2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Environmental Policy Board:

- 2.1 Approves the capital investment programme for planned capital investment in bridges and other road structures of £1,735,000 for financial year 2015/16;
- 2.2 Delegates to the Director of Community Resources to manage and review the planned Bridges and Other Road Structures Investment Programme, to achieve full investment of available resources.
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3. Background

- 3.1 A vital part of the public road network in Renfrewshire is the structural assets such as bridges, culverts and retaining walls. There are over 300 bridges and culverts and over 400 retaining walls associated with the road network that are the responsibility of Community Resources.
 - 3.2 The majority of these structural assets were designed and constructed long before the volume and weight of today's traffic was envisaged. A continuous programme of inspections, structural assessments and strengthening is therefore necessary to ensure the continued safe use of these assets.
 - 3.3 In addition, the levels of safety required of our structural assets increases through time, as dictated through published national standards. A programme of structural improvements is necessary to address issues such as the upgrading of bridge parapets and the installation of measures to prevent scour of bridge foundations within watercourses.
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4. Bridges and other Road Structures

- 4.1 As discussed in the previous report to this Policy Board on 14th May 2014, the complexities associated with strengthening the bridge on the B786 at the entrance to Lochwinnoch resulted in this project being re-programmed into 2015/16. The major allocation of the capital programme in 2015/16 is for the delivery of a replacement bridge at this location. This will address a long standing weight restriction and traffic management arrangements, bringing improved traffic flow and accessibility to Lochwinnoch village. The design phase of the Lochwinnoch Bridge replacement scheme is progressing, with site investigation and testing works now complete. The design is programmed for completion by Spring 2015 initial liaison with the various public utility services for diversion of the apparatus currently carried by the existing bridge deck will also be progressed. The proposed construction phase is being programmed to commence in late summer 2015 for a period of four to six months. The £1,000,000 identified for the construction phase of this project is programmed to be spent in financial year 2015/16. It has to be recognised that with a complex project like this, site conditions encountered during construction may result in some required changes to the planned programme.
- 4.2 A further major bridge structure issue reported to this Board in May 2014 is the road over rail bridge on Penilee Road which is currently subject to a 7.5 tonnes weight restriction. Following on from a previous assessment exercise

which confirmed that Network Rail, as the owners of the bridge have met their load bearing obligations with regards to Penilee Bridge, the Council has subsequently commissioned Network Rail to produce a feasibility study to identify options for future strengthening. Network Rail was initially anticipated to have completed this in the financial year 2014/15, but will instead complete the study in financial year 2015/16. A decision as to how this scheme should progress can be made once the feasibility study is available.

- 4.4 The remainder of the capital allocation has been allocated on a prioritised basis to address asset deterioration to meet modern design standards across bridges and retaining walls as set out in Table 1 below.
- 4.5 The bridges and other road structures programme for 2015/16 is shown in table 1 below and will be adjusted if physical constraints delay a scheme progressing or costs obtained through the procurement process are substantially different from estimates. Therefore, reserve schemes will be added or substituted to ensure full financial spend in 2015/16.

Table 1: 2015/16 Priority Programme of Works		
Projects	Justification	£
Bridge and Other Structures - Consultant/Design and Staff Costs		
Structural Review & Principal Inspections.	16 Structures to be assessed. Statutory duty to assess and inspect	59,000
Lochwinnoch Bridge Replacement	Design and testing to allow future replacement of weight restricted Bridge Deck (carry over)	28,000
White Cart Footbridge	Feasibility study to consider future of closed footbridge.	15,000
Penilee Bridge Feasibility Study	Funding for Network Rail (the bridge owner) to carry out a feasibility study into potential bridge strengthening	103,000
McLaurin Crescent Footbridge Replacement Plymuir Bridge.	Feasibility Study to consider new rail Crossing to replace current closed off footbridge.	25,000
	Design and testing to allow future replacement of weight restricted bridge deck.	25,000

Table 1: 2015/16 Priority Programme of Works		
Projects	Justification	£
Bridge and Other Structures - Consultant/Design and Staff Costs		
Abnormal load assessments	Change bridge stock ratings to reflect current abnormal loads guidelines	55,000
Contractor's Work		
McLaurin Crescent Footbridge Removal - Design of Overhead line.	Closed footbridge to be removed. Network Rail overhead lines attached to underside of bridge.	100,000
Parapet Upgrading on various bridges	Design of new parapets and copes to current design standards for vehicle impact.	80,000
Hammils Bridge Strengthening	Address extensive corrosion to reinforcement bars causing widespread concrete spalling.	50,000
Scour Protection Programme	Rolling programme of protection works to bridge piers / foundations in watercourses.	90,000
Retaining Walls	Rolling programme of works to ensure the structural integrity of Council owned retaining walls.	90,000
Interim Measures	Anti pigeon netting	15,000
Lochwinnoch Bridge Strengthening	Replacement of weight restricted bridge deck to bring structure up to current loading standards.	1,000,000
TOTAL		£1,735,000

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The report proposes a bridges and other road structures programme for financial year 2015/16 to invest the £1,735,000 capital investment programme agreed at the Council meeting on the 12th February 2015.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community Planning** – Delivery of this programme ensures that Renfrewshire's road network is available to all types of traffic including lorries, and supports economic development across the Council area.

4. **Legal** – None
5. **Property/Assets** – An investment of £1,735,000 will be made in bridges and other road structures improvements.
6. **Information Technology** – None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health and Safety** – None
9. **Procurement** – None
10. **Risk** – None
11. **Privacy Impact** – None

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