

Cabinet

7 September 2021

Weymouth Station Gateway project payments over £500,000

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr R Bryan, Highways, Travel and Environment

Local Councillor(s): All Weymouth Councillors

Executive Director: John Sellgren, Executive Director of Place

Report Author: Bridget Betts

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

To agree

- 1) To Dorset Council entering into a contract with Hanson Contracting for delivery of the capital element of this project subject to any funding shortfall being secured and planning consent obtained.
- 2) The contract award should be delegated to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the relevant Cabinet portfolio holder.

Reason for Recommendation:

Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500,000 or more. The Weymouth Station Gateway project has received significant funding to deliver a project. The Dorset Coast Forum team seek an assurance from Cabinet that they can pay an amount above £500,000 when this is claimed by Hanson Contracting in accordance with any limits agreed in the project delivery terms and when full funding has been successful.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The aim of the project, which is agreed and supported by the local authorities and stakeholders is to improve the station forecourt and sustainable transport links, make the area a more welcoming and safer place to use and bring economic benefit.

1.2 The project is being coordinated by Dorset Coast Forum. Dorset Council is the accountable body for the Weymouth Station Gateway project. Dorset Council will also be the contracting body for the project, including for any capital works.

1.3 The scope of the Weymouth Station Gateway Project includes the car park, drop-off zone, taxi waiting area, bus integration, improving pedestrian and cycle links and traffic flow within the forecourt. This does not include the station building itself or road traffic flow outside the forecourt.

1.4 The total cost to deliver the project is £997,096 which includes a £450,000 grant from the South Western Railway Customer and Communities Improvement Fund (SWR CCIF) and additional funding from partners; Dorset Council, Public Health Dorset, Weymouth BID and Weymouth Town Council. Additional grant funding is being sought to make up the shortfall of this project.

1.5 The capital delivery element of the project is due to start in October 2021 with a completion date by March 2022. Dorset Council, as contracting body for the project, will contract with Hanson Contracting for this capital element using the existing framework contract, the costs of which are currently estimated at £718,148. However, works will not commence under the contract until any funding shortfall has been secured and planning consent obtained.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 The following table indicates the financial costs associated with this project

Expenditure	Cost
DCF Management	£30,000.00
WSP* (Estimate)	£56,018.41
Surveys	£3,000.00
Landscape Architect (DC property)	£5,520.00
DC Highways PM	£10,000.00
Construction (Target costs for forecourt)	£718,148.00
Landscaping (including first year maintenance)	£23,000.00
NR BAPPA Costs */Station Change	£53,030.00

Planning permissions		£500.00
Landlords Consent		£0.00
Contingency (Risk Pot)		£40,000.00
Other (includes CCTV Upgrade)*		£16,880.00
Street Lighting Installation		£21,000.00
Interpretation and Wayfinding		£20,000.00
Total		£997,096.41

The match funding is confirmed in the table below

Confirmed Income/Match funding	Cost
Weymouth BID	£10,000.00
Weymouth TC	£1,000.00
Dorset Council	£100,000.00
BID ASB Grant	£5,000.00
CIL - Lighting Grant	£21,000.00
CCIF (Station grant fund)	£450,000
Total	£587,000.00

2.3 There is a shortfall of £410,096.41 to deliver this project with two options being considered to ensure project delivery:

Option 1 – the design has been value engineered in consultation with the design team and the contractor to look at materials and some design aspects to reduce costs.

Option 2 – Bids totalling £410,000 have been submitted to several funding sources. The outcome of bids is due in August and October.

3. Well-being and Health implications

3.1 The project provides the following wellbeing and health benefits:

- Health Improvement - by improvement in the environment this area will become be less conducive to drug and alcohol issues and could offer a place to signpost them to get support.
- Supporting communities and tackling inequalities – it will increase travel and transport links to the area, promoting inward investment and a more usable space for the local community. The park district area is a deprived area and help to uplift the area will support the inequality of the area leading to greater prosperity and improved health outcomes.

- Health protection – to have a new space which is central and accessible in Weymouth could be utilised for temporary health interventions e.g. vaccine pop up centres.

4. Climate implications

4.1 The project acknowledges the potential implications of climate change and has taken a considered and sustainable approach to the design and materials used.

4.2 The site could be used to illustrate climate and environmental change and encourage people to reduce their impact on the environment through pop up events, wayfinding, or signage.

5. Other Implications

5.1 Planning – planning permission is being applied for on which the project is dependent.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Having considered the risks associated with these decisions, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

The capital delivery element of the project under the contract with Hanson Contracting, will not proceed if any funding shortfall is not secured and planning consent is not obtained, therefore limiting any risk to Dorset Council.

7. Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

7.1 An EqIA was conducted and approved by the EQIA team at Dorset Council to evaluate access for all and take into consideration the needs of the wider community. As this is a public place, it covers all community users and visitors to the town in all demographic groups. This project will have a positive impact on children, young people and the elderly with improved pedestrian access, better wayfinding which should make it less confusing and easier to navigate to and from the station.

8. Appendices

8.1 Weymouth Station Gateway project Overview – Appendix 1

9. Background Papers

NONE

John Sellgren
Executive Director for Place
18 August 2021

Footnote:

Issues relating to financial, legal, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report