

Edinburgh and East of Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10 am, Friday 6 December 2019

West Edinburgh Transport Infrastructure Programme update

Item number

Executive Summary

This report summarises progress on delivery of the West Edinburgh Transport Infrastructure Programme as planned under the City Region Deal.

£20 million has been committed from the Scottish Government towards the delivery of public transport infrastructure and the City of Edinburgh Council has committed a further £16 million towards the delivery of the programme of improvements.

The report also seeks approval to progress the procurement of consultants to undertake Stage 1 of the project, in line with the agreed plan. Stage 1 of the project delivery plan is centred on the further development of business cases associated with the infrastructure programme.

At its meeting on 26 August 2019, the Transport Appraisal Board endorsed the delivery plan presented and recommended that the procurement and appointment of consultants to deliver the necessary next stages project be undertaken without delay.

Ewan Kennedy

Policy and Planning Manager, The City of Edinburgh
Council

E-mail: ewan.kennedy@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel:
0131 469 6575



City Region Deal Checklist

Criteria	Details/Link to Document						
Contribution to City Region Deal commitments and Inclusive Growth Framework	West Edinburgh is of national strategic importance. The emphasis on public transport improvements aligns with the City Region Deal's inclusive growth and sustainability ambitions.						
Alignment, integration with, or dependence on, other City Region Deal activities	Improvements proposed will provide long-term resilience and support strong connectivity between neighbouring authorities. Improvements will align with other programmes to enable the supply of increased labour demands to deliver the full economic potential of West Edinburgh by ensuring that the current infrastructure does not constrain sustainable inclusive growth.						
Scale and regional distribution of expected outcomes, benefits, and leverage, from activity	The significance of the area in economic development terms necessitates coordination of transport, planning and land use factors. West Edinburgh is recognised by the Scottish Government as a key national economic asset and perhaps the most important gateway to Scotland. In May 2008 the Scottish Government published the West Edinburgh Planning Framework (WEPF) which set out the long term vision for the area and National Planning Framework (NFP3) cites West Edinburgh as a significant business investment location with potential to be internationally competitive.						
Compliance with financial requirements and agreed expenditure profile	<p>The project is being progressed to prioritise the most necessary and impactful elements of the West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal (WETA) refresh report within the available funding.</p> <p>The WETA Update Note to the Transport Appraisal Board in August 2019 noted following rationale for prioritisation work - during the first quarter of 2019 the City of Edinburgh Council has been developing a model to further prioritise the measures set out in the 2016 report with an emphasis on public transport and active travel prioritisation. The reasons for this focus reflect:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Scottish Government's contribution, as set out in the City Region Deal document, is to support public transport infrastructure improvements contained within WETA; and 2. The City of Edinburgh Council has identified that its contribution should focus both on public transport infrastructure improvements and active travel to deliver against a range of strategic and policy objectives. 						
Equalities Impact	The focus on public transport infrastructure improvements will promote equality. There are areas of multiple deprivation in West Edinburgh that will benefit from these transport improvements.						
Anticipated significant risks and mitigation measures	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Risks</th> <th>Mitigations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Failure to secure sufficient resources and expertise to develop required business cases enabling the further progression transport improvements as identified in the WETA.</td> <td>Seek Joint Committee approval to procure the required consultancy support and execute the first stage of the project delivery plan as agreed.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Programme underspend due to delays in obtaining approval to proceed with the required consultancy work.</td> <td>The Transport Appraisal Board and Executive Board endorsed the project delivery plan and recommended that the procurement and appointment of consultants to deliver the necessary</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Risks	Mitigations	Failure to secure sufficient resources and expertise to develop required business cases enabling the further progression transport improvements as identified in the WETA.	Seek Joint Committee approval to procure the required consultancy support and execute the first stage of the project delivery plan as agreed.	Programme underspend due to delays in obtaining approval to proceed with the required consultancy work.	The Transport Appraisal Board and Executive Board endorsed the project delivery plan and recommended that the procurement and appointment of consultants to deliver the necessary
Risks	Mitigations						
Failure to secure sufficient resources and expertise to develop required business cases enabling the further progression transport improvements as identified in the WETA.	Seek Joint Committee approval to procure the required consultancy support and execute the first stage of the project delivery plan as agreed.						
Programme underspend due to delays in obtaining approval to proceed with the required consultancy work.	The Transport Appraisal Board and Executive Board endorsed the project delivery plan and recommended that the procurement and appointment of consultants to deliver the necessary						

		next stages project be undertaken without delay. Approval from the Joint Committee must now be secured at the earliest opportunity.
Alignment and fit with City Region Deal governance arrangement	This project falls within the Transport theme. Updates on the project will be reported to the Transport Appraisal Board, and where necessary, the Executive Board and City Region Joint Committee.	
PMO check	All evidence provided.	
Advisory Board sign off	TAB approved the paper on 21 October 2019	
Executive Board sign off	Approved by Executive Board on 21 November	

Report

West Edinburgh Transport Infrastructure Programme update

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To acknowledge progress to date on delivery of the City Region Deal West Edinburgh Transport Infrastructure Programme and to approve the procurement of consultants to progress with Stage 1 of the project, as reported and agreed at the Transport Appraisal Board.

2. Background

- 2.1 The West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal (WETA) refresh report 2016, was developed as a strategic identification of transport interventions required to support the implementation of the West Edinburgh Planning Framework (2008). This sets out the long term objectives for the area; the core of which is the implementation of the International Business Gateway (IBG) site.
- 2.2 The significant scale of development proposed in West Edinburgh, including sites in West Lothian, alongside the forecasted growth of the Airport can only be realised through improved transport accessibility and maximising mode shift to more sustainable forms of travel. Consequently, the identification of interventions in WETA would prioritise sustainable modes of travel specifically through the configuration of cycling, walking and public transport projects; for example, an emphasis to reduce journey times for public transport was set as a key target.

- 2.3 City Region Deal funding of £36 million (£20 million from Scottish Government to support public transport infrastructure improvements and £16 million from the City of Edinburgh Council) has been identified. Further contributions will be collected from the private sector and developers (TBC).
- 2.4 The project is being developed through the agreed City Region Deal governance and in close partnership with Transport Scotland and West Lothian Council, and programme oversight is provided by the Transport Appraisal Board.

3. Main report

- 3.1 A report and presentation was made to the Transport Appraisal Board meeting on 26 August 2019 providing an update on progress to date and seeking approval to progress the procurement of consultants to execute Stage 1 of the programme as presented.
- 3.2 Stage 1 of the programme is a necessary piece of work, to further develop the business cases for the West Edinburgh Transport Infrastructure Programme.
- 3.3 The West Edinburgh Transport Infrastructure Programme originates from the West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal approved in 2010. In 2016 it was necessary to refresh the 2010 study to reflect changes in development proposals and airport passenger growth projections, this resulted in the publication of the WETA 2016 Refresh study, which still serves as key document of reference, and formed the basis of a City Region Deal bid to better support the delivery of necessary transport infrastructure to better support the economic priorities for the area. The estimated cost of the total package of transport infrastructure improvements to support the growth in West Edinburgh, including significant forecasted passenger increases at Edinburgh Airport and the development International Business Gateway site, through prioritising sustainable forms of transportation is approximately £108 million.
- 3.4 The £108m (including optimism bias at 44%) is for a package to take forward cycling, public transport and road measures. In progressing the WETA refresh, there was a focus on measures to prioritise sustainable modes of travel. The final package of WETA transport measures is incorporated in the City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC) Local Development Plan Action Programme.
- 3.5 During the first quarter of 2019 CEC has been developing a model to further prioritise the measures set out in the 2016 report with an emphasis on public transport and active travel prioritisation. The reason for this focus was because:
- The Scottish Government identified within the City Region Deal report that its contribution was to support public transport infrastructure improvements contained within WETA. Transport Scotland reaffirmed this requirement at a meeting in March 2019; and
 - CEC has identified that its contribution should focus both on public transport infrastructure improvements and active travel to deliver against a range of strategic and policy objectives.

- 3.6 The Transport Appraisal Board acknowledged progress to date and also agreed to allocate £0.450 million to procure consultants to undertake further feasibility and appraisal works. Approval was on the basis of final homologation by the City Region Deal Joint Committee.

4. Financial impact

- 4.1 £36 million has been allocated for the West Edinburgh project (£20 million from Scottish Government and £16 million from the City of Edinburgh Council).
- 4.2 The execution of Stage 1 of the programme requires £0.450 million for consultancy work. These funds will be taken from the £36 million City Region Deal allocation for West Edinburgh.

5. Equalities impact

- 5.1 The focus on public transport and active travel infrastructure improvements will promote equality. There are areas of multiple deprivation in West Edinburgh that will benefit from these transport improvements.
- 5.2 The City Region Deal PMO is working with the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and Scottish Government on identifying appropriate measures to capture the impact that the programme will have on people with protected characteristics.

6. Background reading/external references

- 6.1 [West Edinburgh Transport Appraisal Refresh Report \(December 2016\)](#)
- 6.2 [City Region Deal Document \(August 2018\)](#)

7. Appendices

- 7.1 None.