

LEADER AND LEAD MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DECISIONS made by the Leader and Lead Member for Strategic Management and Economic Development, Councillor Keith Glazier, on 18 December 2024 at Remote Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Councillors Stephen Shing and Wright spoke on item 4 (see minute 16)

12. DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

12.1 The Lead Member approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2024.

13. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

13.1 There were none.

14. URGENT ITEMS

14.1 There were none.

15. REPORTS

15.1 Reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

16. EASTBOURNE TOWN CENTRE MOVEMENT AND ACCESS PACKAGE - PHASE 2A PROJECT CHANGE REQUEST

16.1 The Leader and Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

DECISIONS

16.2 The Leader and Lead Member RESOLVED to approve the project change request and updated business case for Eastbourne Town Centre Movement and Access Package Phase 2a and note the project starting construction in 2025/26.

REASONS

16.3 Since the County Council secured £3m of Local Growth Fund (LGF) from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) towards the development and delivery of Phase 2a of the Eastbourne Town Centre Movement and Access Package (ETCMAP) in 2018, significant progress has been made on the design proposals for pedestrian improvements on Terminus Road between Bankers Corner (the junction with Cornfield Road) and Langney Road, aimed at supporting economic growth in Eastbourne Town Centre.

16.4 Additional funding has previously been secured from Active Travel England and allocated from the County Council's capital programme of local transport improvements to increase the overall available funding to develop and deliver the Phase 2a scheme. However, scheme development and construction costs have increased significantly across the sector because of high inflation, the war in Ukraine and delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

16.5 Following a comprehensive design and cost review of the original Phase 2a scheme's scope, the cost to deliver the remaining schemes exceeds the £3.6m remaining funding. With no other funding sources available to address the scheme's funding gap, a descoping exercise has been undertaken to identify which elements of the existing scheme could be delivered in the current funding envelope. This revised scope for Phase 2a has been approved by the Lead Member for Transport and Environment.

16.6 The project change request and corresponding updated business case for the revised Phase 2a scope demonstrates that the revised scheme continues to represent very high value for money, with a benefit to cost ratio of 4.03, alongside delivering other non-monetised benefits. Therefore, the re-scoped scheme will continue to meet the original goals of creating a more pedestrian-friendly environment and supporting the town centre's overall attractiveness that drives footfall, boosts local commerce, and contributes to the long-term vitality of Eastbourne's economy.