

**CABINET – 15 July 2014****COALVILLE, CROPSTON DRIVE AND ABBOTT'S OAK DRIVE
PROPOSED WALKING AND CYCLING IMPROVEMENT SCHEME****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT****PART A****Purpose of report**

1. To seek approval for the implementation of the Coalville, Cropston Drive and Abbott's Oak Drive proposed walking and cycling improvement scheme.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that the Coalville, Cropston Drive and Abbott's Oak Drive walking and cycling scheme as set out in Part B of this report is approved for implementation.

Reason for Recommendations

3. The scheme forms part of the wider walking and cycling network being delivered in Coalville, and is a named scheme in the Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) Implementation Plan 2014 – 2017.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

4. Subject to the Cabinet's approval, construction work will commence late July / early August 2014.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

5. The scheme contributes to the delivery of LTP3 and the priority of encouraging active and sustainable travel. As stated above, it forms part of the 2014/15 Integrated Transport Schemes Capital Programme which can be found in the LTP3 Implementation Plan 2014 - 17; approved by County Council on the 1st April 2014.
6. Approval of minor transport schemes such as this is delegated by the Cabinet to the Director of Environment and Transport in consultation with the Lead Member and with the support of the relevant Local Member/s. As the local member for Warren Hills, Mr. M. B. Wyatt CC, does not support the proposals, approval falls outside the Director's delegated powers and the scheme is therefore being referred to the Cabinet for a decision.

Resource Implications

7. Funding for the scheme, currently estimated to cost £155,000, is allocated within the 2014/15 Capital programme. The forecasted costs of the works are set out below:.

Waterworks Road / Cropston Drive Phase 1: Cycle link – Waterworks Road to Greenhill shops - £25k

Waterworks Road / Cropston Drive Phase 2: Cycle link – Greenhill shops to Greenhill Road - £85k

Abbott's Oak Drive Phase 3: Cycle link – Greenhill Road junction to shops (Meadow Lane) - £45k

8. The Director of Corporate Resources has been consulted on the content of this report.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

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PART B

Background

9. The proposals are in the 2014/15 Integrated Transport Schemes Capital Programme and form part of the wider walking and cycling network being built in Coalville, as set out in Appendix A. Analysis of the evidence from the County Council's third Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 (LTP3) has identified Coalville as a key area of focus. The proposals are aimed at encouraging walking and cycling to help cut carbon emissions, improve access and reduce congestion; thereby helping the local economy.
10. The proposals are shown on Drawings nos. 4209.000.Z1.1.1 (Appendix B1), 4210.000.Z1.1.1 (Appendix B2), 4210.000.Z1.1.2 (Appendix B3), 4210.000.Z1.1.3 (Appendix B4), 4210.000.Z1.1.4 (Appendix B5) and 4211.000.Z1.1.1 (Appendix B6) which show the widening of the existing footpath to approximately 2.5-3.0 metres in width to create a shared use facility for pedestrians and cyclists, improvements to the existing crossing points and the creation of a new cycle parking area adjacent to the shops on Cropston Drive. The proposed improvements would link the existing Coalville Cycling Routes 5 at Waterworks Road with Route 2 at Meadow Lane as shown in drawing number 4209.000.Z1.1.2.(Appendix C) . The path is an important sustainable travel route for the residents of the Greenhill area to the Schools on Meadow Lane, employment areas at Bardon and Coalville Town Centre.

Consultations

11. Statutory consultees and interest groups including North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC), Leicestershire Police, and the Cycle Touring Club have been consulted on the proposals. No objections were received. Consultations undertaken are set out in Appendix D.
12. Of 60 frontages consulted, there were two objections to the proposals. As the local Member for Warren Hills, Mr. M. B. Wyatt CC has confirmed that he feels unable to support the proposals on the basis of these objections. Whilst the Lead Member for Highways and Transportation is supportive of the scheme, approval falls outside of the Director's delegated powers and the scheme is therefore being referred to Cabinet for a decision.
13. A summary table of the consultations is provided in Appendix D and the comments received with an officer response in Appendix E.

Equal Opportunities Implications

14. Improved access to the public highway is of benefit to all users. The scheme includes a wider footway, with an improved surface, and dropped crossings which will assist pedestrians with mobility issues. No specific equality implications were raised as part of the schemes consultations, reference is therefore made to the Equalities Impact Assessment prepared for delivery of LTP 2 Schemes below £500,000 (March 2009) in Appendix F.

Environmental Impact

15. This scheme is part of a wider network for Coalville aimed at encouraging sustainable travel and improving connectivity and accessibility. This will help to boost the local economy, reduce congestion and cut carbon emissions.

Background Papers

Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) (2011-2026)

<http://www.leics.gov.uk/ltp3v1-3.pdf>

LTP3 Implementation Plan 2014 – 2017

http://website/low_m0830_ltp3impplan_aw04-2.pdf

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014/15 – 2017/18

http://www.leics.gov.uk/2013-14_to_2016-17_medium_term_financial_strategy.pdf

Appendices

Appendix A – Plan of the existing/ proposed Coalville Cycle Network

Appendix B – Key to Maps

Appendix B1 – B6 – Plans of proposed improvements

Appendix C – Plan showing links to existing Coalville Cycle Routes

Appendix D – Summary table of consultations

Appendix E - Summary of comments received with officer responses

Appendix F - Equalities Impact Assessment prepared for delivery of LTP 2 Schemes below £500,000 (March 2009)