

CABINET

13 JUNE 2012

THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

18 JUNE 2012

THE SQUARE, WINCHESTER PHASE 2 – GREAT MINSTER STREET

REPORT OF HEAD OF ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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RECENT REFERENCES:

CAB2164(TP) – TRO Prohibition of Motor Vehicles (except for access) – Great Minster Street and The Square, Winchester – 27 April 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the allocation of £60,000 supplementary capital estimate, financed by a release from the Major Investment Reserve, to enable environmental improvements to The Square, Winchester to be extended to include Great Minster Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To Cabinet:

1. That, subject to the decision not being called in by The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, approval is given for a supplementary capital estimate of £60,000 as the City Council's contribution towards the refurbishment of Great Minster Street, financed by a release from the Major Investment Reserve, and

2. That approval is given for the release of the funds under Financial Procedure Rule 6.4.

To The Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

That the Committee considers if it wishes to call-in Recommendation 1 above under its powers of call in.

CABINET13-JUNE 2012THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE18 JUNE 2012THE SQUARE, WINCHESTER PHASE 2 – GREAT MINSTER STREETREPORT OF HEAD OF ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTUREDETAIL:1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for a supplementary capital estimate of £60,000 in 2012/13 to enable environmental improvements to The Square, Winchester to be extended to include Great Minster Street.
- 1.2 The Square, including Market Street and Great Minster Street, is one of Winchester's most distinctive places and makes a significant contribution to the economic and cultural vitality of the city.
- 1.3 Work to improve the structure, condition and appearance of The Square and Market Street in Winchester has recently been completed. The new paving, surface water drainage and complimentary traffic management measures, including a 20 mph zone, have been very well received.
- 1.4 The scheme for The Square was undertaken in partnership with the County Council and Winchester BID and there is now interest in extending the benefits of these improvements into Great Minster Street. The extension would provide further support for local businesses, promote access for all and enhance the historic setting to Winchester Cathedral.
- 1.5 The estimated cost for the proposed work is £300,000. The City Council's contribution to the project would be £60,000, based on a fixed sum payment with the County Council funding the balance of the costs.
- 1.6 The proposed extension of refurbishment works into Great Minster Street would utilise the same high quality materials used in the previously completed works for The Square and High Street. The precise extent of the scheme, layout, and any additional traffic management measures that may be necessary, have yet to be determined. Members will be consulted on these and other issues, as the scheme is developed.

2 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

3 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND CHANGE PLANS (RELEVANCE TO):

- 3.1 Sited in the heart of the conservation area, the buildings, streets and spaces that make up this location are of significant historical importance. The area is known for its speciality shopping, pavement cafes and as a venue for street events including the annual Hat Fair. Market Street, The Square and Great Minster Street provide the main links between the Museum, Cathedral, Winchester College and the High Street and are a well established part of the tourist circuit. The scheme will therefore contribute to High Quality Environment objectives and benefit the local economy.
- 3.2 The recently completed improvements in The Square follow the successful refurbishment works in the High Street. Both initiatives have used a consistent palette of high quality materials, greatly enhancing the centre and helping visitors to find their way around. The work has contributed to an increase in footfall supporting the economic performance of local businesses during a difficult trading period.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The effect on the Council's Prudential Indicators and Budgets are shown in the Table below:

<u>Prudential Indicators</u>	2012/13
	£000
Estimates of Capital Expenditure:	
<i>Proposals</i>	
<u>Non - HRA</u>	
Environmental Improvements Contribution - Great Minster St.	60
Total Capital Expenditure	60
Financed by:	
Major Investment Reserve	60
Total Capital Expenditure	60
Ratio of Financing costs to Net Revenue Stream:	
Non - HRA	0.00%
Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions	
Increase / (decrease) in Council Tax - Band D	£0.01

<u>Budgetary Implications</u>	2012/13
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	£000
<u>Capital Programme Budgets:</u>	
Existing Budget	0
TOTAL	0
SUPPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENT	60
<u>Revenue Implications:</u>	
Interest income	0
TOTAL	0

- 4.1 Subject to development of the scheme and detailed investigations, the currently estimated cost for the proposed work, including specialist surveys and fees, is £300,000.
- 4.2 Based on the partnership arrangements previously adopted with Hampshire County Council for the High Street scheme, and the recently completed work in The Square, Winchester City Council's contribution would be one-fifth of the total cost, up to a maximum contribution of £60,000.
- 4.3 There are resource implications for the City Council in relation to investigating possible additional traffic management measures and in turn implementing any agreed measures. There will also be a need to support the project team and management of this project.
- 5 **RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**
- 5.1 Providing a fixed sum contribution for this project reduces risks to the City Council in terms of the project running over budget.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

None