

**NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**CABINET DELEGATED DECISION – TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2020**



<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>ASHBY ROAD, COALVILLE HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT WORKS</b>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Cllr Robert Ashman Portfolio Holder for Planning and Infrastructure	
<b>Background Papers</b>	None	<b>Public Report:</b> Yes
		<b>Key Decision:</b> Yes
<b>Financial Implications</b>	North West Leicestershire District Council are contributing a maximum amount of £175,000 to the improvement works and this is held in earmarked reserves.	
	<b>Signed off by the Section 151 Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Legal Implications</b>	No legal implications directly arising from the contents of this report	
	<b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	No staffing implications directly arising from the contents of this report	
	<b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service:</b> Yes	
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To advise Cabinet of the responses received to the public consultation exercise on the proposed Ashby Road, Coalville, highway improvement works.	
<b>Reason for Decision</b>	Cabinet approval is needed to confirm the Council's support for the highway improvement works shown on the Ashby Road, Coalville Public Consultation Drawing No.0041.000.H1.1.3 Revision B to be delivered by Leicestershire County Council	
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>THAT CABINET:</b>  <b>A) SUPPORT THE HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT WORKS SHOWN ON DRAWING NO. 0041.000.H1.1.3 REVISION B; AND</b>  <b>B) CONFIRM THE COUNCILS AGREEMENT FOR LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO CONTINUE TO DELIVER THE SCHEME.</b>	

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## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 As part of the Council's commitment to Building Confidence in Coalville a report to Cabinet in June 2017 set out proposals to make improvements to Marlborough Square, Memorial Square and Ashby Road.
- 1.2 Members will recall that the funding and principle of the Ashby Road highway improvement scheme was agreed at Cabinet in June 2017. The key principles, proposed by Leicestershire County Council officers was to straighten the carriageway by removing the existing build outs and some vegetation, and to remove street clutter such as signage and barriers which currently act to slow vehicles down. However, it has been accepted that any public realm or landscaping improvements will need to be undertaken as a separate exercise which the District Council would need to carry out following completion of the scheme and any works proposed will require Leicestershire County Council highways approval.
- 1.3 The project consists of six highway improvement sites at various locations along Ashby Road, from the junction of Ravenstone Road to its junction with Belvoir Road, Coalville.  
  
Improvements include:
  - The removal of traffic calming buildouts; sheltered parking buildouts and priority narrowing's
  - The creation of additional on-street parking spaces
  - Extending the advisory school 20mph zone
  - Improving existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing points to LCC standards
  - Removal of unnecessary pedestrian guardrails
  - Addressing of existing maintenance issues
- 1.4 The highway improvement design and construction costs are estimated to be £317k. However, Leicestershire County Council anticipate this could reduce to £270k at the detailed design stage.
- 1.5 Both Leicestershire County Council Property and North West Leicestershire District Council have agreed to contribute a maximum amount of £175,000 each to provide for a total scheme commitment of £350,000.

## **2.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

- 2.1 A public consultation exercise on the proposed improvement works took place from 10 January to 31 January 2020 and residents were invited to comment using an online questionnaire or on a paper based version.

- 2.2 In addition, staff from Leicestershire County Council and North West Leicestershire District Council attended a display at the Administration Office at Snibston Discovery Park on the afternoon of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to answer questions on the proposed scheme. An unattended display was open to the public to both view and leave comments through to 31 January.
- 2.3 The proposed improvement works shown on Drawing No 0041.000.H1.1.3 Revision B were on display at the Administration Office, Snibston Discovery Park and are attached to this report as Appendix 1.
- 2.4 The responses to the public consultation exercise compiled by officers at Leicestershire County Council are attached to this report as Appendix 2, "Ashby Road, Coalville Public Consultation Results"
- 2.5 Cabinet will see from the paper attached at Appendix 2 that 77% of respondents agreed that Ashby Road requires improvements to the street scene and 68% agreed with proposed package of works shown on Drawing No 0041.000.H1.1.3 Revision B.
- 2.6 The following statements represent the common theme of those not in favour of the scheme and were raised by a number of respondents.
- Removing the traffic calming will increase road speed dangerously
  - The current traffic calming is working
  - Additional parking will restrict the road further

### 3.0 NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 The response to the public consultation has generally been positive and as such Cabinet are asked to agree to support the scheme as proposed by on Drawing No 0041.000.H1.1.3 Revision B. and to confirm the Councils agreement for Leicestershire County Council to deliver the scheme.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	Supporting Coalville to be a more vibrant, family-friendly town  Our communities are safe, healthy and connected
Policy Considerations:	None identified.
Safeguarding:	None identified.
Equalities/Diversity:	None identified at this time.
Customer Impact:	Some short term disruption during the construction phase
Economic and Social Impact:	The proposed scheme will support regeneration to enhance the entrance to the town centre
Environment and Climate Change:	The proposed scheme will result in visual

	improvements to the street scene and enhance the entrance to the town centre
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Detailed in Section 2
Risks:	<p>Short term impact of road closures along Ashby Road to be mitigated by Leicestershire County Council as the highway authority developing a plan of works to minimise disruption.</p> <p>Public realm works overrun in terms of time and costs Is mitigated by a contingency fund built into project costs.</p>
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