

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION

Item	Outcome
Date Of Decision	9 November, 2021
Decision Maker	John Hobbs Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure
Brief Description Of Decision	Decision to submit the Outline Business Case for the A38 Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme (BREP) to the Department of Transport.
Reason(s) For Decision	<p>The Cabinet Meeting of 22 October 2020 resolved to approve the further development and submission of the Outline Business Case for the A38 BREP during 2021.</p> <p>The A38 is one of Worcestershire's most important strategic transport routes connecting Bromsgrove with key destinations throughout the region and acting as an important transport corridor. The route is under constant pressure and suffers with congestion and un-reliable journey times</p> <p>The A38 BREP Strategic Outline Business (SOBC) case was submitted to the DfT in 2019. Since that date, work has been underway on the Outline Business Case which is due for submission to DfT in October 2021.</p> <p>Significant updates since the submission of the SOBC include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public engagement in January-March 2020; 2. Public engagement exercise July 2021 specifically on the two proposed active travel bridges over the A38. Scheme 5 is a replacement bridge between Fordhouse Road and Carnforth Road. Scheme 3 is a new bridge between Harvington Road and Old Station Road; 3. Refinement of scheme F School Lane from closure at the junction with the A38, to a left in left out junction; 4. Pre-application discussions with WCC Development Management and preparation of planning applications for submission in winter 2021 5. Negotiations have commenced with landowners to secure the land necessary to deliver the proposals within A38 BREP; 6. Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders including National Highways, Worcestershire LEP and Midlands Connect;

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	<p>7. Consultation has taken place with the CMR for Highways and Transport, Local Members and the Leader of Bromsgrove District Council.</p> <p>8. Delivery of the early schemes at A38/Barley Mow Lane Junction, M42 junction 1 roundabout and M5 junction 4 roundabout;</p> <p>9. Delivery of the active travel scheme linking Charford Road to South Bromsgrove High School and Harvington Road.</p> <p>10. Further modelling and refinement of the business case for the A38 BREP including increased provision of walking and cycling infrastructure, refinement of the costings and updating the Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) for the scheme. Subject to the final scheme this is high at approximately 2.15</p> <p>The cumulation of this progress is that the Outline Business Case (OBC) is now concluded and ready for submission and work can commence on the Full Business Case (FBC). The FBC is scheduled for submission to DfT in Summer 2022, following the submission of planning applications for relevant schemes, further refinement and final modelling of the programme. Further public engagement will be undertaken as required through the planning process and to support any proposals for Traffic Regulation Orders as required.</p> <p>I hereby agree to use my delegated authority to submit the OBC to DfT and to progress the development of the Full Business Case.</p>
Alternative Options Considered And Rejected	Do Nothing; A38 would continue to suffer from poor journey times and congestion.
Joint Equality, Public Health, Data Protection and Sustainability Impact Assessments carried out	The JIA screening identified that the A38 BREP will require a full impact assessment prior to commencement of delivery.
Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	N/A
Reference	08/2021

