



Meeting: Transport Working Party

Date: 30th June 2016

Wards Affected: Tormohun

Report Title: Fleet Street Regeneration Scheme – Proposed Phase 3 Construction

**Executive Lead Contact Details: Councillor Robert Excell, Executive Lead for
Community Services**

**Supporting Officer Contact Details: Ian Jones – Highways and Transport Service
Manager**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To update members on the progress of the Fleet Street Regeneration Scheme to date and provide information on the proposals regarding the commencement of Phase 3 of the scheme.

2. Proposed Decision

- 2.1 Members are recommended to support the commencement of Phase 3 of the Fleet Street Regeneration Scheme, to commence in early 2017.

3. Action Needed

- 3.1 That Phase 3 of the scheme is commenced in early 2017 to avoid the forthcoming Christmas Period, leading to a completion of the scheme, and that Traders and other stakeholders are made fully aware of the proposals in order that they can plan ahead for the likely disruption.

4. Summary

- 4.1 Phase 1 of the Fleet Street Regeneration Scheme was commenced in January 2013 with completion in the Following November. Following a consultation exercise with Traders, it was agreed that the following Phase should not be commenced until after the following Christmas Period. Phase 2 was then commenced in January 2015 and completed prior to the following summer period.
- 4.2 Phase 3 of the regeneration scheme is the final phase of the overall scheme, linking from the already completed section, up to the junction known as the 'GPO roundabout'.

Supporting Information

5. Position

- 5.1 The regeneration of Fleet Street, Torquay forms part of the Council's Local Transport Plan and the layout was agreed following an extensive consultation process with Traders and other stakeholders.

- 5.2 Due to funding issues, the works were programmed to be carried out in 3 phases to ensure that the LTP capital funding could be spread over the 5 year period of the implementation Plan. This also provided flexibility to programme the works around the busiest trading periods and therefore minimize the disruption to traders and public transport.
- 5.3 Phase 1 of the Fleet Street Regeneration Scheme was commenced in January 2013 with completion in the Following November. The works were suspended during the summer period, however problems with utility services did cause the works to take longer than expected.
- 5.4 Following a consultation exercise with Traders, it was agreed that the following Phase should not be commenced until after the following Christmas Period. Phase 2 was then commenced in January 2015 and completed prior to the following summer period.
- 5.5 Phase 3 of the regeneration scheme is the final phase of the overall scheme, linking from the already completed section, up to the junction known as the 'GPO roundabout'. Taking the views of traders from the previous consultation, it is considered appropriate to allow a similar break between the works as for the previous phase, allowing a clear period up to the Christmas 2016 trading period.
- 5.6 Members are therefore being recommended to support the continuation of this scheme to commence early in 2017, with a planned completion prior to the main summer 2017 period, however if particular difficulties are encountered on this phase then consideration may be given to carrying out some works in the following autumn period if necessary.
- 5.7 Following the support of the Working Party, the Torbay Development Agency will be commissioned to implement the scheme and to carry out a notification process to Traders and other stakeholders to ensure they are fully aware of the timescales and enable them to plan effectively.
- 5.8 Due to the fact that a future regeneration scheme for the 'GPO' roundabout is likely to be proposed as part of a future LTP implementation plan, the extent of the Fleet Street paving is proposed to be reduced slightly at this end from the original agreed scheme, to ensure that any abortive works are minimized. This will not however impact on the overall scheme and will remove the current maintenance liabilities. The proposed layout is identified in Appendix 1.

6. **Possibilities and Options**

- 6.1 That Phase 3 of the Regeneration scheme is commenced in early 2017 following the forthcoming Christmas Trading Period.
- 6.2 That Phase 3 is delayed until the following Autumn/Winter period.
- 6.3 That Phase 3 is not commenced at the present time.

7. **Preferred Solution/Option**

- 7.1 It is recommended that the option in item 6.1 above is implemented in accordance with the Council's Local Transport Plan.

8. **Consultation**

- 8.1 The scheme has been subject to a major consultation process with traders, public transport operators and other stakeholders as part of its design and implementation to date.
- 8.2 Affected stakeholders will be provided with prior notification of the forthcoming works in order that they may plan effectively.

9. Risks

- 9.1 If the final phase of the scheme is further delayed or not commenced, then the condition of this section of highway will continue to deteriorate leaving the highway authority with an increasing maintenance burden.
- 9.2 If the final phase of the scheme is further delayed or not commenced, then there may be a detrimental effect on longer term economy of this section of the Town Centre due to the ongoing deterioration of this section of road.
- 9.3 The implementation of this scheme is likely to cause disruption to traders in Fleet Street and require the diversion of public transport away from this area during the construction period, which may have a detrimental effect to the economy of this section of the Town Centre in the short term.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Layout Plan of Fleet Street Regeneration Scheme.

Additional Information:

None.

Documents available in Members' Rooms:

None.

Background Papers:

Report of Transport Working Party August 2012
Report of Transport Working Party September 2013