

8 December 2020		ITEM: 7
Planning, Transport, Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Stanford-le-Hope Interchange Report		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: N/A	
Report of: Anna Eastgate, Assistant Director of Lower Thames Crossing & Project Delivery		
Accountable Assistant Director: Anna Eastgate, Assistant Director of Lower Thames Crossing & Project Delivery		
Accountable Director: Andy Millard, Director of Place		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

This report is provided at the Chair's request in order to inform Members of an update on the SLH scheme.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That the Planning Transport Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes and comments on the information provided relating to the Stanford le Hope Interchange project.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 This scheme involves the construction of new station buildings with footbridge and lifts, passenger information system, bus turnaround facility, passenger drop-off points and cycle parking.

2.2 There are a number of stakeholders involved in the scheme including UK Power Networks, C2C, Network Rail and the Port of London Authority and it will be delivered under a Development Agreement with C2C, who are the principal land owner.

2.3 Since the last update to the PTR Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2020, significant progress has been made to move the project forward. Most of this work has been behind the scenes getting the project ready for physical delivery on site. The exception is that there have been works undertaken to clear vegetation and invasive species from both banks of the River Hope.

- 2.4 A report was considered by Standards and Audit Committee on 24 November 2020 in relation to this project.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

Progress:

- 3.1 The Concept Design for the station has been completed and passed Inter Disciplinary Review with very positive feedback. The Design will be ready to go to Planning by publication of this report.
- 3.2 The concept design for the Phase 2 Transport Hub is in development and a workshop is planned for November to share some suggested configurations with the key Stakeholders including London Gateway DPW and c2c.
- 3.3 Invitations to tender have been sent out to 11 potential Principal Contractors within an existing Thurrock Council Framework Agreement. We expect some Companies will decline to participate, as they will fail to meet Network Rail criteria. However, we fully expect to get sufficient Letters of Interest to carry out a meaningful tender.
- 3.4 The project steering group is continuing to meet on a monthly basis, to share information and ideas and obtain feedback on progress to ensure this infrastructure is coming forward with the agreement of stakeholders and local residents. So far, all the feedback has been very positive.

Budget

- 3.5 It has been agreed with the designers that a high level “estimated project” cost evaluation exercise be carried out at two “checkpoints” through the design process, once when the full concept is agreed and a further check at final design approval, to give further certainty and to give some indicative numbers in support of the tender evaluation process

Programme

- 3.6 An updated programme is currently being worked up to reflect the time required to prepare a full OJEU compliant tender process. This will include the preparation of tender documentation, prequalification of bidders, the tender process, through to tender evaluation and award.
- 3.7 Subject to the procurement process, it is anticipated that Phase 1 of the works will be delivered within the current programmed completion date of Summer 2021 with the Phase 2 works following in quick succession.
- 3.8 At the moment, there are no impacts from Covid 19 affecting the progress of this project but Covid remains a live issue and impacts may arise once works begin again on site. This will be monitored and kept under review.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 To respond to the Chair's request for information on Stanford-le-Hope Interchange project.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 Consultation was undertaken as part of planning process and further stakeholder engagement is continuing. This includes meetings with the residents of Chantry Crescent and local Councillors.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 The Stanford-le-Hope scheme supports the Place corporate priority, in particular:
- roads, houses and public spaces that connect people and places

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by:

Jonathan Wilson
Assistant Director, Finance

The budget implications are set out in section 3.5

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Tim Hallam**
Deputy Head of Law and Deputy Monitoring Officer

The report provides an update on this scheme, largely on the contractual aspects, as set out in the Development Agreement – the parties to which were Trenitalia C2C limited and Thurrock Borough Council.

The report states that once the redesign of this scheme is completed, the Council will commence the process of procuring a main works contractor. Given the value of this scheme, the procurement process must comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules including the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Council should simultaneously commence the negotiation Trenitalia C2C limited to vary the obligations as set out in the Development Agreement including the financial caps and who would meet the overrun costs an issue which has hitherto hampered the delivery of this scheme. Other

than the above there are no other legal implications. Legal Services will provide any further legal advice in relation to this project as and when required.

7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Roxanne Scanlon**
**Community Engagement and Project
Monitoring Officer**

There are no direct implications arising specifically from this update report

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

- Not applicable.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- None

9. **Appendices to the report**

- None

Report Author:

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