

Scrutiny Review - Delays in implementing the proposed enhancement works to the Lower Beach Road Car Park and Ferry Road in Shoreham and vandalism to the Adur Ferry Bridge

Report by the Director for Digital and Resources

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a briefing to assist the Committee in undertaking its review on the delays in implementing the proposed enhancement works to the Lower Beach Road Car Park and Ferry Road in Shoreham-by-Sea. The review will also have the opportunity to assess the reasons for the vandalism to the Adur Ferry Bridge and what stakeholders are doing to mitigate this risk.

2.0 Background

Lower Beach Road Car Park and Ferry Road enhancement scheme

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Committee on 16 June 2016, it was agreed that a review/investigation would be undertaken into the delays in implementing the proposed enhancement works to the Lower Beach Road Car Park and Ferry Road in Shoreham. The Committee also agreed to extend the scope of the review to include a review of recent incidents of vandalism which had occurred on the Adur Ferry Bridge. The Committee assessed the suitability of this item for review in accordance with the 'PAPER' assessment criteria.
- 2.2 The proposed enhancement works to the Lower Beach Road Car Park and Ferry Road in Shoreham is a partnership scheme between Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council (WSSCC). The works form the last part of the Shoreham Renaissance Project and will involve improvements to the car park, the Ferry Road local shopping area and the public realm. The proposed works have the potential to improve the area for local residents, businesses and visitors.
- 2.3 Adur District Council, as the owner of the car park, are Project Managers for the scheme and control all the finances, programme, implementation and contract documents. WSSCC as the Highways Authority are responsible for Planning Permission for works on the highway, Traffic Regulation Orders and Signing off

(independent) Safety Audit exception reports. All relevant due processes have been followed before the scheme can begin which include statutory consultation as stipulated by the Department for Transport and local Governance in accordance with WSCC's constitution.

- 2.4 There have been a number of delays to the implementation of the project in view of the number of interested parties and objections received at various stages of the project. These included complex issues with adjoining land owners and issues regarding required Traffic Regulation Orders. Both Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council have been working in partnership to try and address the issues of concern. The proposed enhancement works are also linked to the Environment Agency Adur Tidal Walls project which is due to start later in 2016.

Adur Ferry Bridge vandalism and Graffiti

- 2.5 The Adur Ferry Bridge was opened in 2013, however, a number of glass panels have been damaged since the opening and recently paint and graffiti has been daubed over the glass panels, the deck and central posts. All stakeholders have been involved in discussions on ways to deal with these issues affecting the Bridge.

3.0 Consideration by the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 3.1 The Committee has requested that these matters be considered as part of the Work Programme.
- 3.2 Representatives from the relevant stakeholders involved in the Ferry Road scheme will attend the Committee to explain the background, the reasons for the delays to the scheme and what is being done to try and implement the improvements as soon as possible to improve the area for local residents, businesses and visitors. Stakeholders involved in trying to resolve the vandalism issues on the Adur Ferry Bridge will attend the Committee to explain what is being done to combat the vandalism.
- 3.3 As part of its 'Challenge' role, the Committee will have the opportunity to put questions to the stakeholders and members of the public will also be allowed to submit questions.

4.0 Proposals

- 4.1 The Committee is requested to review the delays to the Lower Beach Road Car Park/Ferry Road improvement scheme and the vandalism issues on the Adur Ferry Bridge and to consider if anything can be done to resolve these issues as soon as possible.

5.0 Legal

- 5.1 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to do anything to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of their functions.
- 5.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a Local Authority to do anything that individuals generally may do (subject to any current restrictions or limitations prescribed in existing legislation).
- 5.3 Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (LGA 1999) contains a general duty on a best value authority to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

6.0 Financial implications

- 6.1 There are no known financial implications for the Councils arising from this report although there may be financial implications from any recommendations which the Committee proposes.

7.0 Recommendation

- 7.1 That the Committee reviews the delays to the Lower Beach Road Car Park/Ferry Road scheme and the vandalism issues on the Adur Ferry Bridge and considers if anything further can be done to progress these issues as soon as possible or if any further evidence is required.**

Local Government Act 1972 Background Papers:

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Schedule of other matters

1.0 Council Priority

1.1 Matter considered and issues related to Council Priorities identified.

2.0 Specific Action Plans

2.1 Matter considered. The proposals for the enhancement works to the Lower Beach Road Car Park and Ferry Road, Shoreham-by-Sea are part of the Shoreham Renaissance Project which aims to enhance the Public Realm in Shoreham-by-Sea.

3.0 Sustainability Issues

3.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

4.0 Equality Issues

4.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

5.0 Community Safety issues (Section 17)

5.1 Matter considered. The vandalism to the Adur Ferry Bridge is a community safety concern.

6.0 Human Rights Issues

6.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

7.0 Reputation

7.1 Matter considered. Further delay to Lower Beach Road Car Park/Ferry Road enhancement scheme may cause reputational harm to Adur District Council and other stakeholders involved.

8.0 Consultations

8.1 Matter considered. The Ferry Road enhancement scheme proposals have been subject to consultations with relevant stakeholders and residents.

9.0 Risk assessment

9.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

10.0 Health & Safety Issues

10.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

11.0 Procurement Strategy

11.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

12.0 Partnership working

12.1 Matter considered and the proposals are subject to joint working with appropriate stakeholders.