

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## REPORT TO CABINET

### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

30 JANUARY 2018

#### CROESTY PRIMARY SCHOOL & PENCOED COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL - SAFE ROUTES IN COMMUNITIES SCHEME EXPENDITURE INCREASE

#### 1. Purpose of Report.

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:

- a) request Cabinet approval to increase the contract expenditure for Phase 2 of the Croesty Primary and Pencoed Comprehensive School capital scheme which is being funded by the Welsh Government's Safe Routes in Communities programme; and
- b) seek a waiver under Contract Procedure Rule 3.2.5 from the requirement to obtain quotes or tenders for the above to allow the extension of the contract with the current contractor.

#### 2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives / Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The development of active travel routes, in particular routes which connect to key destinations such as education or employment facilities, can contribute to the achievement of the following corporate improvement priorities and their supporting aims identified in the 2017-18 update to the Corporate Plan (2016-2020):

- **Priority One – Supporting a successful economy:**
  - To create conditions for growth and enterprise; and
  - To create successful town centres
- **Priority Three – Smarter Use of Resources:**
  - To make the most of our physical assets, including school buildings

2.2 The creation of a network of walking and cycling routes within the County Borough will assist the Council in meeting its obligations under the Well-being of Future Generations Act, and will also contribute towards addressing priority issues such as childhood obesity and mental wellbeing, encouraging and promoting life-long physical activity and promoting low-cost and accessible activities such as walking and cycling.

2.3 The continuous improvement and provision of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists required by the Act will contribute to the development of the cycle route network in the County Borough. It is also a major element in the Council's Local Transport Plan, Walking and Cycling Strategy, and the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP).

### **3. Background.**

- 3.1 In March 2017, the Council was allocated funding of £600,000 to deliver, within the 2017/18 financial year, Phase 2 of a scheme to enhance walking and cycling routes to Croesty Primary School and Pencoed Comprehensive School in Pencoed. A mini-competition tender exercise was carried out in September 2017, and the contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer, Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Limited, for the tender offer in the sum of £434,425.59 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017. The remaining funding will cover costs and professional fees in respect of supervision, design amendments, surveys, scheme monitoring, contract variation and contingency.

### **4. Current Situation / Proposal.**

- 4.1 On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017, an email was received from the Welsh Government's Active Travel Delivery Manager which included a request for an update on scheme progress, and indicated the possibility of additional in-year funding allocations becoming available to deliver further elements of the scheme if suitable works could be identified.
- 4.2 Following internal discussions, a proposal that would enable advanced works to deliver sections of a potential Phase 3 of the scheme was submitted to Welsh Government via email on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017, with an estimated cost of £75,000 including works and professional fees.
- 4.3 Confirmation that the additional funding award of £75,000 had been approved by the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure was provided by the Active Travel Delivery Manager on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017, and a formal revised funding award letter was received on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 which confirmed the revised funding amount available for the scheme as £675,000.
- 4.4 It is anticipated that the additional works will be undertaken by the contractor currently on site and delivering the scheme. However, prior to approving an additional spend greater than 10% of the original contract value, it is necessary to secure Cabinet approval.

### **5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.**

- 5.1 There is no effect upon Policy Framework or Procedure Rules.

### **6. Equalities Impact Assessment.**

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening form for the scheme has been completed previously and a copy of the screening form has been included as a background document.

### **7. Financial Implications.**

- 7.1 It is anticipated that the full costs of the original scheme and the additional works identified, including any further cost increases that may occur as a result of issues encountered on site, will be deliverable within the revised funding allocation of £675,000, subject to the submission and approval of an acceptable quotation to undertake the additional works being submitted by Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Limited.

## **8. Recommendation.**

8.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- (a) approve the additional expenditure on the scheme;
- (b) authorise a waiver under Contract Procedure Rule 3.2.5 from the requirement to obtain quotes or tenders for the above to allow the extension of the contract with the current contractor.

### **MARK SHEPHARD CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES**

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#### **Background documents:**

Equalities Impact Assessment Scoping Report