

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	17 July 2018
Title:	Project Appraisal: Eclipse Busway: Completion of Phase 1
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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1. The decision:

- 1.1 That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport approves the Project Appraisal for the completion of Phase 1 of the Eclipse Busway in Gosport, as outlined in the supporting report.
- 1.2 That, subject to County Council approving the recommendation to provide up to £2.5 million of funding to underwrite the scheme in the event that further grant funding cannot be secured:
 - 1.2.1 That approval is given to procure and spend and enter into the necessary contractual arrangements to implement the proposed improvements to complete Phase 1 of the Eclipse Busway, as set out in the supporting report, at an estimated cost of £9.53 million to be funded from £6.93 million from the Department for Transport's National Productivity Investment Fund, £100,000 from the profit share from Phase 1 of the busway, and £2.5 million from Hampshire County Council.
 - 1.2.2 The Executive Member approves the increase in funding of this scheme in the 2018/19 programme.
 - 1.2.3 That authority to make the arrangements to implement Phase 1 of the Eclipse Busway, including minor variations to the design and contract, is delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment.
 - 1.2.4 That authority is given to adopt the land on which the busway and relocated shared use footway/cycleway are constructed, from the back of verge to back of verge, including the new acoustic and boundary fences, as public highway.
 - 1.2.5 That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment and the Head of Legal Services to progress any appropriate temporary or permanent Traffic Regulation Orders, Notices

or statutory procedures and obtain any consents rights or easements to enable or facilitate the delivery of Phase 1 of the Eclipse Busway.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1 To improve the public transport offering to and from the Gosport peninsular and support the wider regional strategy of improving access to Fareham and Gosport.
- 2.2 The completion of Phase 1 of the Eclipse Busway (“the Scheme”) will provide a southern extension to the award winning Eclipse Busway from Fareham to Gosport. It is a 0.9 kilometre extension from Hutfield Link/Tichborne Way to Rowner Road at an estimated cost of £9.53 million. The Scheme forms the final phase of a planned busway forecast to deliver additional time savings, patronage growth, modal shift, access to key development sites, and improved air quality. The Scheme will also facilitate a new ‘Eclipse Extra’ bus service to the Solent Enterprise Zone at Daedalus.
- 2.3 The proposal to extend the busway will deliver journey time savings of approximately 3 minutes per single journey in each direction, representing a journey time saving of 8% over the existing E1 & E2 services. Eclipse services already provide high levels of journey time consistency and the completion of Phase 1 will improve this further by avoiding congested sections of the A32.
- 2.4 The Gosport peninsular suffers from significant traffic congestion, restricting the growth of the local economy. Key sites and developments such as Gosport Waterfront and the Solent Enterprise Zone need to be better linked to the public transport network. This project improves those links. This commitment underlines the belief that investment in access to the Gosport Peninsula will help remove the transport barriers to growth and encourage investment at key sites including the Solent Enterprise Zone as well as helping to reduce journey times in congested urban areas.
- 2.5 Hampshire County Council secured £6.93 million from the Government’s National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) in October 2017 for the Scheme. The County Council will contribute £2.5 million of capital funding with an additional £100,000 being provided from the profit share from Phase 1A of the busway.
- 2.6 Once complete, First Hampshire and Dorset will invest £3 million in a new fleet of seventeen high specification, low-emission buses to provide fast and high-frequency services on the busway, as well as introducing a new Eclipse Extra service to the Enterprise Zone.
- 2.7 Success of the proposal will be measured by further increases in busway patronage and a transfer of trips from the local road network.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1 Several options were considered as part of the original Eclipse scheme development, including improved local bus services through Quality Bus Partnerships; on-street bus priority where possible; guided buses with a mix of on-track and on-street running; trolley buses; trams; and heavy rail. The assessment process concluded that a combination of a busway and on-street running provided the best balance between benefits and deliverability.
- 3.2 Do nothing. This option will not deliver the necessary air quality and public transport improvements offered by this proposal.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1 Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none
- 4.2 Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by: ----- Executive Member for Environment and Transport Councillor Rob Humby	Date: 17 July 2018
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