

## Record of Decision taken by Executive Councillor

**Decision title: Community Infrastructure Levy Allocation – Taunton Station Forecourt Upgrade**

**Executive Councillor making the decision: Cllr Mike Rigby Planning Portfolio Holder**

**Author Contact Details: Kate Murdoch**

**Date of Decision: 18/05/20**

### **Details of decision:**

**In January 2015 a working group comprising TDBC, SCC, GWR and Network Rail submitted a strategic case to the Local Transport Board of the LEP and successfully secured funding towards the overall cost of the redevelopment of Taunton Station comprising the following elements:**

- Ticket Office moved to south side of the station for improved access and orientation towards the town centre**
- Transport interchange created - Improved capacity, efficiency and amenity for users facilitating more journeys**
- Provision of a multi-storey car park - Additional parking spaces to facilitate modal switch and forecast increase in rail demand**
- An environment for redevelopment of land around the station – efficient use of space, enhanced facilities and economic growth**

**The project includes the repaving of the entire station forecourt and adjoining areas. Since the time of going to tender for the work, Somerset West and Taunton's Garden Town Design Guidance has been developed which identifies the forecourt area as a Core area where the Council should aim to achieve high standards in public realm. However, there is a difference of £91,518.06 in the cost of using the standard materials for the paving which were costed out in the original tender and the higher standard York Stone advised in the guidance.**

**The project is therefore requesting that £91,518.06 of CIL funds are made available to ensure that the highest standards of public realm can be achieved.**

### **Reasons for proposed decision:**

**The proposed decision to provide enhanced materials for the station forecourt aligns with the Council's draft Public Realm - Design Guide for Taunton Garden Town. This funding will ensure higher design standards are met in the identified 'Core Area' in the draft design guide, where the station is a key gateway to Taunton.**

**The proposed CIL allocation falls within the £500k CIL budget for Taunton town centre regeneration, approved by Full Council as part of the Capital Programme on 21/02/20.**

**<https://democracy.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/documents/s7980/General%20Fund%20Revenue%20Budget%20and%20Capital%20Estimates%202020-21%20Report.pdf>**


**Alternative funding options sourced: None – the approved CIL allocation for 'Taunton Town Regeneration' is the only available source of funding for this request.**

The below has been completed:	Name(s)	Date
Relevant ward councillor(s) consulted	Cllr Richard Lees Cllr Simon Coles	13/05/20
<b>The following are if appropriate / applicable: Yes/No. If yes the implications should be attached to this decision notice.</b>		
Finance implications	No – CIL funding approved in capital budget and s151 approval given	
Legal implications	None	
Links to corporate aims	Aligns with Council's emerging Design Guide	
Climate and Sustainability implications	None	
Community Safety Implications	None	
Equalities Impact	None	
Safeguarding Implications		
Risk management	None	
Partnership implications	None	

**Any conflicts of interest declared by Leader or Executive Members consulted on the proposed decision. If Yes provide confirmation from Chief Executive to grant dispensation for the Leader's / Executive Member's views to be considered.**

**Decision Maker**

**I am aware of the details of this decision(s), considered the reasons, options, representations and consultation responses and give my approval / agreement to its implementation.**

**Signed:** 

**Name: Cllr Mike Rigby**

**Date: 18/05/20**

Note – This decision record is for decisions taken by Executive Councillors. The decision(s) can be implemented following publication and the period for any call-in has expired.

**Note:** A copy should also be sent to the Governance Team – [governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk](mailto:governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk)

