Appendix A



Finance & Performance Sub-Committee 6 July 2020

East Northamptonshire Greenway – Potential transfer of funding between projects

Purpose of report

To seek approval for transferring the approved funding for the EN Greenway phases 7 and 8 to a different EN Greenway project aimed at providing a new access facility.

Attachments

Appendix 1 – Equalities Impact Assessment (initial screen)

Appendix 2 – Health Impact Assessment

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members have considered a number of reports around developing the East Northamptonshire Greenway (the Greenway). The Greenway involves creating walking and cycling routes through the Nene Valley, all of which create opportunities for people to improve their health and wellbeing.
- 1.2 At its meeting 25 June 2018 (minute 18.4 iv), the Sub-Committee approved the allocation a further £170K from the Council's Community Projects reserve, to make a funding stream of £300K, to develop phases 7 and 8 of the Greenway. The other part of that £300K, (£130K) was approved by the former Finance Sub-Committee at its meeting 26 June 2017.
- 1.3 Developing phases 7 and 8 has required extensive and prolonged negotiations with the landowner in order to agree the project's proposals. The proposals have attracted a threat of formal objection from the British Horse Society; the details are set out in section 2 below. This is set to delay the project further, making it extremely unlikely that the two phases will be developed before Vesting Day 1 April 2021.

2.0 Greenway phases 7 and 8

- 2.1 Greenway phases 7 and 8 run from Woodford Lock to Islip. The land is owned by Drayton Estates. Much of the negotiation has been through the landowner's agent.
- 2.2 The proposals involve various amendments to the existing rights of way, part of which would create a new access and exit point on the Kettering Road, Islip for the main Bridle Way. The amendments to the rights of way, including the Bridle Way, were prepared and consulted upon by NCC's Rights of Way team. However, as part of that consultation the British Horse Society (BHS) raised significant objection on the perceived grounds of safety to both horse and rider with the proposed new exit and entrance, and the inconvenience of the new route over the existing one. BHS has threatened to make a formal objection if the rights of way amendments proceed to the making of an order.
- 2.3 The BHS objection has been reviewed by LGSS Law. They have provided us with a

legal opinion, which does highlight that an objection of this kind will almost certainly trigger a public inquiry. The landowner is extremely unlikely to maintain his position for the project to proceed without the changes to the rights of way as proposed. We could attempt renegotiation; however, the expected timeframe for this might leave us with insufficient time to complete the works, or reallocate the money to a different project that could be completed before Vesting Day. Officers have reviewed alternative options in consultation with Councillor Sarah Peacock, chair of the Greenway Programme Board.

3.0 Creation of an new entrance/exit point at Washbrook Road on Greenway phase 1, Rushden

- 3.1 Phase 1 was completed in 2011 and makes use of the former railway line running from Crown Park Industrial Estate to the Asda Superstore, and then on to the Ferrers School. This phase is very popular as it provides a good off-road route to Rushden's town centre in one direction, and to Waitrose and Rushden Lakes in the other.
- 3.2 The Lottery-funded 'Out to Water, into History' project is making much-needed improvements to the visual look of the route, at the same time as improving the natural environment and creating features that illustrate Rushden's industrial past. This is increasing both the educational and tourist values of this phase.
- 3.3 The section between Crown Park and Asda is 1.2 kilometres. It has been long argued that without an intermediate access/exit point along this section, people might be put off from using it for fear of safety or lack of convenience. Discussions at the Greenway Programme Board have focused on creating a ramp-type facility, utilising the embankments close to the Washbrook Road bridge. Obviously such a facility would require extensive groundworks to take place in order to support such a structure.
- 3.4 A feasibility study has been carried out by the structures team at Kier WSP Northamptonshire Highways. The study has identified several options for the ground structural support system for the ramp, these being:-
 - Sheet pile retaining walls
 - Gabion retaining walls
 - Concrete retaining walls
 - Brick/masonry retaining walls
 - Steel ramp on screw piles foundations

The feasibility study was informed by both a ground investigation survey: analysing and profiling the soil formation and structure, and a topographical survey identifying land levels, gradients, underground services and drainage networks.

- 3.5 The feasibility study's recommended option for the structural support system is concrete retaining walls, with estimated costs at around £250-300K. This would provide the ground structure for constructing the ramp. The last option in the report: steel ramp on screw piles foundation, includes provisions for the ramp. However, this is estimated to be in the region of £600K as a total package of works.
- 3.6 If the £300K was allocated to the project and the ground structure installed, the supply and installation of the ramp itself would have to take place sometime in the future when other funding is available. This would be section 106 contributions from neighbouring developments and, or external funding sources.

4.0 **Proposed way forward**

- 4.1 As identified earlier in this report, the phases 7 and 8 project is likely to see further frustration with reopening landowner negotiations, which potentially should involve BHS too. It is not proposed to drop this project from the Greenway Forward Plan but explore it further to see whether alternative options can be found. However, it leaves the £300K funding uncommitted up to and potentially beyond Vesting Day.
- 4.2 There is greater scope to proceed with the Washbrook Road project and get the ground structure supports system in place. Further discussions are needed with the NCC structures team to develop the proposals in more detail, including the procurement process and final adoption.
- 4.3 The works require the preparation of both detailed design and specification for a tendering process. Subject to further discussion with the NCC teams, the procurement and the works to completion may need external specialist engineering support. If this is the case, officers will be minded to allow a proportion of the £300K to be set aside for that support.

5.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 An equalities impact assessment (initial screen) has been completed and attached at Appendix 1. There are only positive and neutral impacts arising from this proposal. The key positive impact offered by the Washbrook Road ramp is improved access to the Greenway for people with disabilities.

6.0 Privacy Impact Implications

6.1 A Privacy Impact Assessment was carried out to support the report to the Sub-Committee meeting 25 June 2018. It identified no privacy implications. The proposals in this report do not give rise to any privacy implications.

7.0 Health Impact Assessments

7.1 The EN Greenway increases opportunities for people to improve their health and wellbeing. Whilst the proposal is to transfer the funding between separate Greenway projects, a Health Impact Assessment (Appendix 2) has identified positive health benefits with the provision of a ramp access on phase 1 in Rushden for people with disabilities.

8.0 Legal Implications

8.1 This report refers to the fact that the proposals for phases 7 and 8 have led to potential challenge and objection. Legal advice, as set out above has been commissioned. As the objection is likely to instigate a public inquiry, much more detailed legal advice and advocacy are very likely to be required at potentially high cost to the council. Further negotiations with the landowner and possibly BHS, will also require additional legal advice and support.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 As set out in section 4.2 above, the proposed project at Washbrook Road will require further development. As part of that a risk register would be developed and put in

place to mitigate and control all identified risks.

10.0 Resource and Financial Implications

- 10.1 Funding for EN Greenway projects has largely come from developers' contributions (section 106), external bodies such as Sustrans and the Community Projects reserve, which includes the funding for Greenway phases supported through our Community Facilities Fund (CFF). No Greenway projects take place, or have taken place, without the required funding being available and approved by a relevant committee.
- 10.2 The £300K already approved for Greenway phases 7 and 8 is currently within the Community Projects reserve.
- 10.3 In accordance with the financial procedures, funding for capital works must be included in the Capital Programme. Approval is required from Full Council for a project to be added to the Capital Programme.
- 10.4 As stated above, the £300K will only support the installation of the ground structure systems and not the actual ramp itself. However, it is perhaps worth keeping in mind that having the ground structure system in place could be advantageous to potential funders for the ramp itself if a significant part of work has been completed so far.

11.0 Constitutional implications

11.1 There are no constitutional implications arising from these proposals.

12.0 Implications for our customers

12.1 Our residents and visitors benefit from the EN Greenway a lot. The routes are well used and once fully realised, the EN Greenway will provide excellent opportunities to connect East Northamptonshire much better, with a host of opportunities to improve health and wellbeing and promote the visitor economy.

13.0 Corporate outcomes

- 13.1 The Greenway contributes to our corporate outcomes as follows:-
 - Good quality of life safer and healthier: Local people will have opportunities to lead healthy and active lifestyles, through improved, safer and increased cycling and walking to facilities, schools, place of work and other attractions.

14.0 Recommendation

- 14.1 The Sub-Committee is recommended to:
 - 1. Note the Equalities Impact Assessment and the Health Impact Assessment at Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.
 - 2. Approve the transfer of the £300K from Greenway phases 7 and 8 project to the Washbrook Road Rushden project, and **RESOLVE to recommend to Full Council** that this funding be included in the Capital Programme 2020/21.

Legal Power: Local Government Act 2000											
Leya	•	Other considerations: None									
Backgrou	nd Pape	ers:	Feasi					Road	Access	Ramp	 held with
			Comr	nunity	Partnershi	ps tea	am.				
Person	0	rigina	ating	Mike Greenway (Community Partnerships Manager)							
Report:				a 0'	1832 74224	4 🖂	mgreenway@	⊉east-	northampt	onshire	.gov.uk
Date: 18 J	Date: 18 June 2020										
CFO					MO		11,1		CX	6	\frown
					(Deputy)		INM	-	23/06/20) ())
					25/06/20	12				J	, www

Initial Equalities Impact Assessment

APPENDIX 2

Title of proposal being assessed:	East Northamptonshire Greenway - transfer of funding between projects
What type of proposal is this an assessment of?	Project
What are the aims and/or objectives of the proposal and the intended outcomes?	To seek approval for the transfer of approved funding from one Greenway project to another
Who is intended to benefit from this proposal?	Residents of East Northamptonshire
Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the proposal?	Residents
How is the success of the proposal to be measured?	Good quality of life - feeling safer and healthier Increased users of the EN Greenway
Name of person completing Initial Screening:	Mike Greenway
Job title / role of person completing Initial Screening:	Community Partnerships Manager
Date of Initial Assessment	18/06/2020

Instructions: For **every** category in column A, below, submit a positive, negative or neutral assessment by entering an **x** in the relevant cell. Add an explanation in the Reason box, where applicable, including a specification of any sub-group affected. There may be both a positive and negative impact for the same category (e.g. a policy may be positive for young children but negative for older people).

Equality Group	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact	Explanation and Evidence (e.g. data, consultation results, customer feedback)
Gender:				
Consider Women/Girls, Men/Boys, Transgender individuals.			Х	
Sexual Orientation:				
Consider, for instance: Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals Any other sexual orientation			х	
Race/Ethnicity:				
Consider, for instance: • White British people, • White non-British people • Asian or Asian British people • Black or Black British people • Chinese people • People of mixed heritage • Travellers (Gypsy/Roma/Irish heritage) • People from any other ethnic groups • People who do not have English as their first language			Х	
Disability:				
Physical impairment, e.g mobility issues which mean using a wheelchair or crutches.	x			The project looks to include a new access facility at Washbrook Road, Rushden, which will improve accessibility for users with disabililities
Sensory impairment, e.g blind/having a serious visual impairment, deaf/having a serious hearing impairment.			х	

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Mental health condition, e.g depression or schizophrenia	х		The EN Greenway supports opportunities for improving health, which in turn helps with mental health and wellbeing
Learning disability/difficulty, e.g. Down's syndrome or dyslexia, or cognitive impairment such as autistic spectrum disorder		х	
Long-standing illness or health condition, e.g. cancer, HIV. Diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy		х	
Other health problems or impairments (please specify if appropriate)		х	
Marriage and Civil Partnership:			
People in a Marriage or Civil Partnership		Х	
Pregnancy and Maternity:			
People who have just had a baby or who are pregnant.		Х	
Age:			
Older People (60+)		х	
Children and Young People (see guidance for definition)		x	
Religion/Belief:			
Consider, for instance: • Christian • Hindu • Muslim • Sikh • Buddhist • any other religion or belief (including holding no belief)		х	
Other Potentially Affected Groups			
Rural Isolation - People who live in rural areas e.g isolated geographically, lack of internet access		x	
Socio-economic Exclusion – e.g. people who are on benefits, have low educational attainment, single parents, people living in poor quality housing, people who have poor access to services, the unemployed or any combination of these and the other protected strands		x	
Any other potentially affected groups (please specify)		Х	





APPENDIX 2

NCC - Health Impact Assessment

How to use this tool:

Potential Health and Wellbeing impact – Think about what the potential health and wellbeing impacts will be in regards to each determinant of health. If you are unsure of the impact, mark uncertain. If there is no identified impact, mark neutral.

Length of impact – Provide details of whether the identified health and wellbeing impacts are likely to be short, medium or long term, or a combination.

Description of impact – Provide further details describing the potential impact of the policy, project or proposal.

Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions – Think about any recommendations detailing how positive impacts could be enhanced and negative impacts mitigated against.

If you have any questions regarding completing this form, you can contact Mitch Harper, Public Health Mharper@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Name of proposal, policy or project	East Northamptonshire Greenway – transfer of funding between projects to create an additional access and exit point with a ramp facility.
Service/organisation responsible	Customer & Community Services (Community Partnerships) - East Northamptonshire Council
Name of completing officer	Mike Greenway
Date HIA created	18.06.2020



How does this proposal impact upon **health behaviours** in a positive or negative way?

Determinant	Potential	Length of	Description of potential impact	Recommended mitigation or enhancement
of Health	Health and	impact		actions
	Wellbeing	Short (<1 yr)	Please identify any specific indicators	
	impact	Med (1-5 yrs)		
		Long (>5 yrs)		
Healthy eating	□ Positive	□Short term		
	□Negative	□ Medium term		
	\boxtimes Neutral	□Long term		
	□Uncertain			
Physical	⊠Positive	□Short term		There are no further recommended actions
activity	□Negative	□ Medium term	The EN Greenway as a whole promotes opportunity for	
	□Neutral	⊠Long term	improving health and wellbeing through walking, cycling	
	□Uncertain		and access to the countryside.	
Mental Health	⊠Positive	□Short term		
	□Negative	□ Medium term	The new ramp access/exit will support this and help	
	□Neutral	⊠Long term	people with disabilities	
	□Uncertain			
Use of	□ Positive	□Short term		
alcohol/drugs	□Negative	□ Medium term		
	\boxtimes Neutral	□Long term		
	□Uncertain			
Sexual Health	□ Positive	□Short term		
	□Negative	□ Medium term		
	\boxtimes Neutral	□Long term		
	□Uncertain			
Use of	□ Positive	□Short term		
cigarettes	□Negative	□ Medium term		
	\boxtimes Neutral	⊠Long term		
	□Uncertain			
Other (list in	□ Positive	□Short term		



ſ	description)	□Negative	□ Medium term
		□Neutral	□Long term
		□Uncertain	

How does this proposal impact upon **social support and the community** in a positive or negative way?

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Public Health Northamptonshire



Community safety –a safe and inclusive environment that acts to discourage crime and antisocial behaviour.	 ☑ Positive ☑ Negative ☑ Neutral ☑ Uncertain 	□Short term □Medium term ⊠Long term	An additional access and exit facility at Washbrook Road will aim to improve a feeling of safety and in turn, encourage participants to use the route.	There are no further recommended actions
Social isolation – will the proposal have an impact on the level of contact between an individual and society?	 ☑ Positive ☑ Negative ☑ Neutral ☑ Uncertain 	☐ Short term ☐ Medium term ⊠ Long term	The Greenway helps provide connectivity so people who feel isolated have opportunities to meet up with others.	There are no further recommended actions
Other (list in description)	 Positive Negative Neutral Uncertain 	□Short term □Medium term □Long term		



How does this proposal impact upon the **housing** in a positive or negative way?

Determinant of Health	Potential Health and	Length of impact	Description of potential impact	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
	Wellbeing	Short (<1 yr)	Please identify any specific indicators	
	impact	Med (1-5 yrs)		
		Long (>5 yrs)		
Home	□ Positive	□Short term		
temperature	□Negative	☐ Medium term		
and warmth –	⊠Neutral	□Long term		
will the	□Uncertain			
proposal				
affect home				
energy and				
the access to a				
warm home?				
Noise	□ Positive	□Short term		
exposure – is	□Negative	□ Medium term		
there likely to	⊠Neutral	□Long term		
be a change to	□Uncertain			
the exposure				
of noise in the				
proposal?				
Indoor air	□Positive	□Short term		
pollution –	□Negative	□ Medium term		
will the	⊠Neutral	□Long term		
proposal	□Uncertain			
impact on				



indoor air quality – house dust mites, allergens and dampness.			
Adequate	□Positive	□Short term	
space – will	□Negative	□ Medium term	
the proposal	\boxtimes Neutral	□Long term	
affect access	□Uncertain		
and size of			
housing space? Is there			
likely to be an			
increased risk			
of falls?			
Home safety –	□ Positive	□Short term	
is there likely	□Negative	□ Medium term	
to be an	⊠Neutral	□Long term	
impact on	□Uncertain		
safety in the			
home?			
Other (list in	□ Positive	□Short term	
description)	\Box Negative	□ Medium term	
	□Neutral	□Long term	
	□Uncertain		



How does this proposal impact upon the **environment** in a positive or negative way?

Determinant of Health	Potential Health and	Length of impact	Description of potential impact	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
	Wellbeing impact	Short (<1 yr) Med (1-5 yrs) Long (>5 yrs)	Please identify any specific indicators	
Noise	□Positive	□Short term		
exposure – is	□Negative	□ Medium term		
there likely to	⊠Neutral	□Long term		
be a change to	□Uncertain	-		
the exposure				
of noise in the				
proposal?				
Outdoor air	□ Positive	□Short term		
pollution –	□Negative	□ Medium term		
will the	⊠Neutral	□Long term		
proposal	□Uncertain	_		
contribute				
towards a				
reduction in				
air pollution?				
Green spaces	□Positive	☐Short term		
– will the	□Negative	□ Medium term		
proposal	⊠Neutral	□Long term		
affect access		- 0		
and				
availability of				
green spaces?				



Waste	□ Positive	□Short term	
disposal – is	□Negative	□ Medium term	
there likely to	⊠Neutral	□Long term	
be an increase	□Uncertain	_	
in the amount			
of landfill and			
food waste?			
Other (list in	□ Positive	□Short term	
description)	□Negative	□ Medium term	
	□Neutral	□Long term	
	□Uncertain		

How does this proposal impact upon **work, education and income** in a positive or negative way?

Determinant of Health	Potential Health and Wellbeing impact	Length of impact Short (<1 yr) Med (1-5 yrs) Long (>5 yrs)	Description of potential impact Please identify any specific indicators	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Employment - including working conditions	□ Positive □ Negative ⊠ Neutral □ Uncertain	□Short term □Medium term □Long term		
Economy – will the proposal have impact on work, benefits, allowance income and the economy?	□ Positive □ Negative ⊠ Neutral □ Uncertain	□Short term □Medium term □Long term		



Education – is there likely to be an affect on opportunities for education?	 Positive Negative Neutral Uncertain 	□Short term □Medium term □Long term	Access to accommodation will improve access to education and life chances for children and adults will be improved	
Other (list in description)	 Positive Negative Neutral Uncertain 	□Short term □Medium term □Long term		

How does this proposal impact upon **transport** in a positive or negative way?

Determinant of Health	Potential Health and	Length of impact	Description of potential impact	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
	Wellbeing impact	Short (<1 yr) Med (1-5 yrs) Long (>5 yrs)	Please identify any specific indicators	
Active	⊠Positive	□Short term	The Greenway provides safer routes for cycling and	There are no further recommended actions
transport	□Negative	□ Medium term	walking. The additional access/exit point will support	
networks –	□Neutral	⊠Long term	this further.	
how will the	□Uncertain			
proposal				
affect				
participation				
in active				
travel?				
(cycling /				
walking)				



Public transport networks – will the proposal support public transport use? Will it provide more availability of public transport?	 □ Positive □ Negative ⊠ Neutral □ Uncertain 	☐ Short term ☐ Medium term ☐ Long term		
Traffic management – is there likely to be an impact on the traffic flow and pedestrian crossings?	□ Positive □ Negative ⊠ Neutral □ Uncertain	□Short term □Medium term □Long term		
Road injury risk – will the proposal have an impact on the road risk to pedestrians and vehicle users?	 ☑ Positive ☑ Negative ☑ Neutral ☑ Uncertain 	☐Short term ☐Medium term ☐Long term	The Greenway provides safer routes for cycling and walking	There are no further recommended actions





Other (list in	□ Positive	□Short term
description)	□Negative	□ Medium term
	□Neutral	□Long term
	□Uncertain	

Using the above information, your own experience, and the evidence base, briefly outline the overall proposed health impact of the project.

The provision of a new ramp access facility at Washbrook Road will support opportunities for improved health and wellbeing and especially for those with disabilities.