STOCKPORT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: ATF4 Romiley - Delivery Update		
Report to: (a) Werneth Area Committee	Date: Monday, 29	July 2024
Report of: (b) Director of Place Management		
Key Decision: (c)NO / YES (Please circle)		
Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency	(Tick box)	
Summary:		

This report provides an update on the Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 (ATF4) Romiley project, following the release of funding for delivery at the end of June 2024.

A summary of the schemes is provided, including how the designs have developed from those consulted and approved under the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF) 'Romiley District Centre' and 'Romiley to Stockport' packages in 2020 – 2021 to align with the ATF4 funding criteria. The delivery of some elements is also subject to future funding, as described in the report.

Construction is planned from summer 2024 for approximately one year.

Recommendation(s):

Members of the Werneth Area Committee are requested to note the contents of the report.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): (d) Communities & Transport Scrutiny Committee

Background Papers (if report for publication): (e) There are none.

Contact person for accessing Officer: Alex Purrier background papers and discussing the report Email: alex.purrier@stockport.gov.uk

'Urgent Business': (f) YES / NO (please circle)

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

ATF4 Romiley - Delivery Update

Report of the Director of Place Management

1. INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 (ATF4) Romiley project, which is to connect local residential areas, local employment, education, retail and leisure destinations.
- 1.2 With support for the project from TfGM and Active Travel England, and following the GMCA Bee Network Committee at the end of June 2024, funding for delivery has now been released under ATF4. Some works are to commence over the summer holidays 2024 and we are in detailed programme discussions with the Contractor about the remainder. All works are expected to be completed by the end of summer 2025. In recognition of various local constraints, the works are being planned and phased to manage all forms of disruption as much as possible.
- 1.3 A summary of the schemes is provided in this report, and how where applicable the designs have developed from those consulted under the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF) in 2020 – 2021 to align with the ATF4 funding criteria. The delivery of some elements is also subject to future funding, as described.
- 1.4 Note the 'Romiley District Centre' / 'Romiley Crossings' package was consulted in November-December 2020 and recommended for approval at Area Committee in March 2021. The 'Romiley to Stockport' scheme was consulted in July-August 2021 and recommended for approval in November 2021
- 1.5 In recognition of the developed schemes, the Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) associated with the ATF4 Romiley proposals were re-presented to Area Committee in March 2024, and have (again) been approved for Legal advertisement. The report in March 2024 also provides further background of the previous reporting and TRO development.

March 2024 report: <u>Issue details - Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund -</u> <u>Romiley District Centre Improvements and Romiley To Stockport Cycling and</u> <u>Walking Route Traffic Regulation Orders - Stockport Council</u>

2. PROJECT DETAILS

2.1. The ATF4 is broken into distinct packages, the key elements of which are detailed below and the Full Business Case drawings are attached, following an Overview plan. The associated Traffic Regulation Orders are detailed in the report of March 2024.

2.2. Scheme A

- A new Toucan (shared pedestrian and cyclist) Crossing on Stockport Road near Green Lane with connecting foot / cycleways to side roads and other measures to improve active travel facilities in the vicinity.
- To maximise accessibility for all users, this scheme has developed from being a Puffin (pedestrian only) Crossing during the MCF consultation, now with shared pedestrian / cyclist connections to the leisure centre, Green Lane and St David's Avenue (and as such the wider 'Romiley to Stockport Phase 1' route).

2.3. Scheme B

- Works to improve the pedestrian facilities and permanently relocate the bus stop as Phase 2 of delivery of the recently installed Puffin (pedestrian) Crossing at Romiley Station. Includes raised tables across Church Lane and John Street at their junctions with Stockport Road.
- A temporary crossing was installed at the station as a 'Safe Streets Save Lives' measure to make Romiley safer for walking in a response to the Covid pandemic, funding was then obtained for the permanent crossing to be constructed in late 2022.
- The raised tables now being installed will be on the side roads only (not Compstall Road as was consulted as part of the MCF proposals).
- Junction tightening cannot be achieved at Guywood Lane whilst maintaining the large vehicle access requirements (including buses).

2.4. Scheme C

- An upgrade of the existing Puffin (pedestrian) Crossing on Compstall Road at Romiley precinct to a Sparrow (segregated pedestrian and cyclist) Crossing, with segregated cycleway connections to Oakwood Road and Central Drive, and one way working on part of Central Drive (away from Compstall Road).
- The principles of this scheme are as approved under the MCF proposals. The proposal to close Central Drive in both directions was removed in response to the consultation, and subsequently approved as one way northbound instead. The raised tables will be on the side roads only (not Compstall Road as was consulted).
- The proposed amendments to the Compstall Road / Sandy Lane junction have been removed from the ATF4 project in liaison with TfGM and Active Travel England; the improvement of an uncontrolled crossing across Sandy Lane at the junction is no longer supported based on the latest guidance in relation to the volume of motor vehicles using the junction.

2.5. Scheme D

- A new Toucan (shared pedestrian and cyclist) Crossing on Compstall Road close to Birch Avenue with connection into Romiley Park, Birch Avenue and existing infrastructure to Tangshutts Lane.
- The principles of this scheme are as consulted and approved under the MCF proposals. The crossing will no longer be on a raised table, and the Carlton Avenue junction and connection to Tangshutts will remain as existing.

2.6. Scheme E

 A 20mph speed limit on roads between the Peak Forest Canal and Stockport Road, and the Overdale Road estate in support of Romiley to Stockport Phase 1. These areas were included in the MCF 20mph proposals.

2.7. Scheme F

- A new Toucan crossing on Hatherlow with connections to Hurstheads Lane and Overdale Road.
- Also the closure to motor vehicles of Hurstheads Lane at Hatherlow / Otterspool Road, and Green Lane at the canal bridge, with the creation of segregated pedestrian and cycle facilities in support of Romiley to Stockport Phase 1.
- The principles of this scheme are as consulted and approved under the MCF proposals. The crossing location has been moved south slightly in response to comments from Active Travel England.

2.8. Romiley to Stockport Phase 1

- An east-west walking and cycling route between Romiley precinct (Oakwood Road) and Bredbury Green estate (Clapgate), including junction, footway and path improvements and supported by Schemes E & F.
- Onward connections also consulted as part of the MCF proposals between Romiley centre and Cherry Tree, and Bredbury Green to Stockport do not have funding to be delivered at this time, but funding will be sought in future grant applications and they would likely be subject to further development and consultation as required.

3. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- 3.1. Large scale public consultation has been undertaken in the development of the proposals, as detailed in previous reports.
- 3.2. A Communications Plan is in place to support delivery of the project, to engage with the local community in such a way that manages all forms of disruption as much as possible. Communications will be through a variety of media with the objectives to:

- Inform affected parties and the general public of the scheme;
- Identify key stakeholders, their sensitivities and requirements;
- Inform of scheduled works and measures being taken to minimise impact; and
- Update on works taking place and measures being taken to minimise impact.
- 3.3. We will write to local residents and businesses, and use on-street signage to provide information and raise awareness about the works taking place. The Council web pages will have up to date information about this at https://www.stockport.gov.uk/roadworks-closures-diversions.
- 3.4. The project delivery team will be contactable via <u>stockportwalkcycle@stockport.gov.uk</u> or 0161 474 2299 for general enquiries.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1. The project is funded by the Government's Active Travel Fund (Tranche 4).

5. EQUALITIES / COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1. Equal Opportunities
 - To provide a suitable and safer environment for pedestrians and other road users. The project contributes to the Council's vision statement "Promote equal life outcomes for all by tackling known inequalities across the borough of Stockport".
- 5.2. Sustainable Environment
 - To develop and sustain a healthy, safe and attractive local environment which contributes to Stockport. Stockport Council understands the responsibility it has to lead by example and help the broader community make a positive contribution to the local environment.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. Members of the Werneth Area Committee are requested to note the contents of the report.

Anyone wishing further information please contact Alex Purrier by email at alex.purrier@stockport.gov.uk