

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member and Advisers for Regeneration and Development</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Pinch Point Fund – A630 Pool Green Roundabout Improvement Scheme</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Development Services</b>

### 5. Summary

The report outlines progress with the detailed scheme assessment and traffic modelling regarding the successful funding bid to improve the A630 Pool Green Roundabout utilising the Department for Transport (DfT) Pinch Point Fund. It seeks approval for implementation of the preferred scheme, subject to the agreement of the Department for Transport and securing of the required Traffic Regulation Orders, and the extension of the commission to WSP UK (Council minute G30 of 29 July 2013 refers) to undertake detailed design, monitoring and evaluation.

### 6. Recommendations

**Cabinet Member is asked to resolve that**

- (i) The proposals to improve Pool Green Roundabout to a signalised junction in accordance with the principles of WSP drawing number SK-005 REV E, attached, are approved subject to agreement from the Department for Transport, and that the scheme be implemented subject to the satisfactory completion of statutory processes.**
- (ii) The Traffic Regulation Orders required to implement the scheme are secured to include appropriate consultation in accordance with the statutory process; any objections received be reported to a future meeting.**
- (iii) The commission to WSP UK is extended to include detailed design processes, and monitoring and evaluation for the scheme as required by the Department for Transport.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

Cabinet Member will recall the successful bid made to the Department for Transport (DfT) regarding the proposed improvement to Pool Green Roundabout as noted in the report considered on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2013. The report noted the significant changes to flows on the highway network around Centenary Way, particularly in the vicinity of Main Street. Traffic surveys were recently undertaken to enable an additional technical assessment to be carried out to ensure the detail of the proposed signalisation of the junction would operate optimally. The traffic surveys revealed a significant increase in flow at the junction since the previous surveys in 2010 which were used to develop the original design for the Pinch Point Scheme. Subsequently, a more complex signalised junction has been developed utilising the most up to date traffic flows. The revised design, which will require the support from the DfT, ensures that traffic growth, and in particular traffic generated from developments such as the Basingthorpe Farm project, can be accommodated. The most significant changes to the scheme are the widening of the Centenary Way approaches to 3 lanes, and accommodating the right turn movements from Main Street and Centenary Way via signal controlled U-Turn facilities within the wide central reservation on Centenary Way. Pedestrian crossing facilities will be at-grade and signal controlled resulting in the removal of the two Centenary Way subways to the South and North of the current Pool Green Roundabout. The right turn movement from Masbrough Street, which has the highest right turning flow at the junction, is retained and signal controlled. The principles of the scheme concept are illustrated on WSP drawing number SK-005 REV E, attached as an appendix.

The revised scheme has significant benefits in terms for both the free and safe flow of traffic on the highway network, and meets the DfT's main objectives in awarding grants under the Pinch Point Fund effectively freeing up the most constrained junction along Centenary Way between St. Anns and Ickles Roundabouts. From the traffic modelling exercise that has now been undertaken, it is considered that the scheme design now promoted can acceptably accommodate the predicted traffic growth up to the scheme design year 2030, whilst also accommodating pedestrians crossing from Masbrough into the Town Centre at-grade under signal control. The revised scheme will require the support of the DfT as it is a variation on the previously submitted scheme for pinch point funding.

There will be a number of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) that require procurement (primarily restricted movement TROs) in order to secure successful delivery of the scheme. It is proposed to commence this statutory process in parallel with the detailed design in order that delivery is expedited. It is a condition of pinch point funding that schemes are implemented by 31 March 2015.

WSP Development and Transportation have been commissioned to undertake the feasibility assessment and traffic modelling to develop the scheme (Council Minute G30 of 29 July 2013 refers) and in order to expedite the scheme delivery programme, it is proposed to extend this commission to assist with the detailed design processes and the comprehensive monitoring and evaluation required by the DfT.

## **8. Finance**

The works for the improvements to the Pool Green Roundabout junction are being funded from the DfT Pinch Point Fund with local contributions as previously agreed, through the Local Transport Plan fund allocation 2014/15, and the Council's Capital Programme.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

The changes to the highway network in the vicinity of the A630 Centenary Way and exceptional traffic growth since 2010 have resulted in revisions to the previously submitted proposals to the DfT and as such the DfT will be required to support the amendments to the scheme. The implementation of the revised proposals is subject to the procurement of TROs which is subject to the appropriate statutory process.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The scheme accords with the policies contained in the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2015, the Sheffield City Region Transport Strategy and the Traffic Management Act 2004.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Consultation has taken place with the Director of Financial Services.

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## **Appendix**

Drawing SK-005 REV E Pool Green Pinch Point Design Scheme Concept 5