

Market and Coastal Towns Rural 'Foundation' Programme

Joint Report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment and of the Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

Recommendation: It is recommended that:

- (a) the Committee notes the funding provisions for West Devon which have been included in report PTE/13/55 Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 2011 to 2026: Proposed Programme 2012/13 to 2014/15 for Devon;**
- (b) the footway as shown on drawing No. B13010 for New Launceston Road, Tavistock be approved for construction at an estimated cost of £60,000. Subject to confirmation of statutory undertakers costs and agreement of West Devon Borough Council.**

1. Summary

The report summarises the proposed Local Transport Plan programme for 2014/15 in the West Devon area and seeks approval from members for the implementation of a new footway on New Launceston Road, Tavistock.

2. Background/Introduction

Cabinet agreed a two year Local Transport Plan programme for 2013/14 and 2014/15 in July 2013. This included the award of Government funding for the Local Pinch Point schemes and New Stations Fund. Since then £4.4m of Government funding has also been awarded for the Granite and Gears cycling programme for Dartmoor National Park, a number of schemes of which are in the West Devon area.

All 'non-maintenance' schemes included in the Local Transport Plan have been assessed against the twin priorities of economic growth and carbon reduction whilst also achieving other wider objectives relating to the environment, health and well-being and communities.

The programme list includes an element of 'over-programming' should there be a delay in delivering particular schemes.

Sources of funding for the programme come from central government, the Invest in Devon programme and external sources, including Section 106 developer contributions.

New Launceston Road Footway

The proposed footway scheme on New Launceston Road (C463) was originally identified in the 2013/14 Local Scheme Programme and provides a link between the west side of St Maryhaye estate and Tavistock Hospital along a route currently used by children on their way to and from school.

At its meeting on 24 June 2013 HATOC resolved that:

arrangements be made for a site visit for all members of the HATOC in relation to the proposed scheme for the Launceston Road Footway, Tavistock.

At a meeting on 2 September 2013 attended by Councillor Sellis and a representative of West Devon Borough Council (WDBC) it was agreed to progress design of the scheme for presentation to HATOC. The footpath route crosses a former railway bridge owned by WDBC who will need to agree the final plans as will utility companies whose apparatus may be affected.

3. Summary of Programme for the West Devon Area for 2014/15

Local Schemes

2014/15 Market and Coastal Towns Rural Devon Foundation: Local Schemes

| Provisional Schemes | Scheme Details | Preliminary Estimate |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Aids to Movement: District wide | Provision of dropped kerbs, etc. to facilitate movement for those with mobility difficulties. | 10k |
| New Launceston Road Footway, Tavistock | Provide footway link on route used by schoolchildren between Hospital and St Maryhay. | 60k |
| West Street Dropped Kerbs, Tavistock | This request is to improve pedestrian access by constructing informal pedestrian crossing point on West Street, on the west and east side of its junction Russell Street. | 4k |
| Fatherford Road Playground Warning Signs, Okehampton | Provide two 'Playground' warning signs on Fatherford Lane either side of the crossing point where pedestrians cross from the neighbouring estate to the playground. | 0.6k |
| Horrabridge A386 – Pedestrian Crossing Feasibility Study | To consider the options and make recommendation for improving the crossing facilities on the Plymouth Road A386. Study should explore the most appropriate crossing and carry out initial designs and estimates as necessary. | 3k |
| | Estimated Year 3 Expenditure | 77.6k |

The 2014/15 programme is the final year of a three year programme. The programme is subject to regular review and may change to ensure that objectives are being met and that value for money is being achieved. Typically, additional new schemes may be identified and added if considered to be of a higher priority.

There is currently a further £10k further investment included in the programme for the West Devon Area in 2014/15 (year 3). However, this may change if successful bids are received for funding during the current financial year.

A summary of progress in Year 2 (2013/14) of the programme is shown below.

2013/14 Market and Coastal Towns Rural Foundation: Local Schemes

| Schemes reported to Hatoc | Scheme Details | Progress/Expenditure |
|--|---|----------------------|
| Aids to Movement: District wide | Provision of dropped kerbs, etc. to facilitate movement for those with mobility difficulties. | 13.5k |
| New Launceston Road Footway, Tavistock | Provide footway link on route used by school children between Hospital and St Maryhay – design work, main scheme to be delivered 14/15 subject to HATOC approval. | 4.5K |
| A382 Exeter Road, Whiddon Down | Scheme to provide pedestrian refuge. Scheme cannot be progressed as no suitable location for the refuge could be identified. | Nil |
| Mary Tavy Footway Link | New footway link to Playing Fields – Scheme to be progressed through developers. | Nil |
| | Year 2 Expenditure | £18k |

Market and Coastal Towns Rural Devon 'Foundation' Programme Larger Schemes

The programme was confirmed by Cabinet in July 2013 as noted earlier in the report. Dartmoor was the subject of the County Council's Linking Communities bid for cycling in National Parks and several of the schemes, including Bridestowe Station and a link to the Granite Way via the Fatherford Bridge are within the West Devon area. Cabinet subsequently approved the Granite and Gears programme of cycle schemes over 2013/14 and 2014/15 in December 2013 based on the funding awarded by Government. Many of the schemes due for construction in 14/15 are in the West Devon area, also support walking and include:

- Link from Drakes Trail to Princetown including a bridge crossing of the B3212
- Footway/cycleway link to Dousland
- Bellever cycle hub
- Okehampton to Moretonhampstead on road cycle route signing
- Link from Tavistock to Tamar Trails
- Clearbrook Ramp
- Peter Tavy to Mary Tavy bridleway upgrade
- Rattlebrook railway link improvements
- Okehampton East to Granite Way and college link (including new bridge over railway adjacent to Fatherford Lane)
- Pegasus Way link between Granite Way and Ruby Way

Market and Coastal Towns and Rural Devon Targeted Capital Investment Programme

The Targeted Capital Investment (TCI) programme is targeted at schemes that open up economic growth, particularly where it is essential to enabling new development. Schemes will be progressed through design and planning stages to be ready for construction as internal and external funds are identified.

Funding will be available to continue design and planning for the extension of the rail line between Bere Alston and Tavistock including the business case to secure potential Local Transport Board (LTB) funding towards the end of the 2015/16 – 2020/21 period and the required Development Consent Order. The high cost of progressing this scheme to construction stage is likely to require interim design funding from the LTB as County Council funds will be limited. The need for the scheme has been confirmed through the adopted West Devon Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy to support growth in

housing and employment at Tavistock (notably the southern urban extension), providing links to employment and facilities in Plymouth. It will also provide a rail gateway to the western edge of Dartmoor with onward bus and cycle links into the moor and Tavistock town centre.

Work will also continue on the design of the Okehampton Relief Road for the town centre and the Okehampton link road between Crediton Road and Exeter Road which will serve new development. Contributions to both are being sought from developments to the east of the town. The link road is considered to be the priority for developer funding with any remaining being put towards the town centre relief road. The latter is a longer term scheme with many challenges to overcome before any proposals can be confirmed with any implementation later in the period of the West Devon Local Development Framework to 2026.

Countywide Foundation Programme

Cabinet approved the installation of a Countywide bus real time information system in February 2013. It is currently anticipated that the system will be in place by the end of 2014 with information initially being provided through Smartphones and the internet. Separate reports will be taken to Cabinet on proposals to provide on-street information displays and real time linked bus priority at traffic signals. These will need to take account of the on-going maintenance liabilities.

Other countywide programmes include Casualty and Severity Reduction (CSR), public rights of way, cycle parking in market and coastal towns and cycle parking at schools. The relevant local County Council members will be asked for their approval before works commence.

4. Sustainability Considerations

The objectives and strategies of the Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan aim to improve travel choices and reduce unnecessary use of the private car as a contribution to improving Devon's environmental, social and economic well-being.

The New Launceston Rd footway scheme creates a safe footway link between areas of housing in the northern part of the town, the local Hospital and schools (Tavistock Community Primary and Tavistock College) within the town encouraging access to these facilities by sustainable means.

5. Carbon Impact Considerations

The programmes in this report have been designed bearing in mind the effect on carbon emissions and overall have a positive impact. The New Launceston Road Footway scheme has been designed to encourage low carbon travel choices to public facilities within the town.

6. Equality Considerations

Where relevant to the decision, the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duty requires decision makers to give due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct;
- advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs; and

- foster good relations between people by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

taking account of age, disability, race/ethnicity (includes Gypsies and Travellers), gender and gender identity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, pregnant women/ new and breastfeeding mothers, marriage/civil partnership status in coming to a decision, a decision maker may also consider other relevant factors such as caring responsibilities, rural isolation or socio-economic disadvantage.

This may be achieved, for example, through completing a full Equality Impact Needs Assessment/Impact Assessment or other form of options/project management appraisal that achieves the same objective.

An Equality Impact and Needs Assessment (EINA) was undertaken for the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011, which set out the 2010/11 programmes. No negative impacts were identified. Impact Assessments covering equalities and other aspects such as economic and social will be carried out for major schemes and included with the relevant Cabinet report seeking scheme approval.

The New Launceston Road footway scheme will improve access for all user groups by creating a safe footway link and crossing points on a section of road currently without such facilities.

7. Legal Considerations

There are no specific legal considerations arising from this report. Specific considerations arising from individual schemes will be reported as part of the scheme approval process.

8. Risk Management Considerations

The programmes have been designed to maximise their deliverability taking into account factors such as land.

Risks associated with individual schemes will be reported as part of the scheme approval process. The main risk associated with the Launceston Road footway is the presence of underground utility equipment. Initial enquiries have been made with utility providers and costs included within the total estimate. A general contingency is also built in.

9. Public Health Impact

The proposals are designed to help make Devon a place to be Safe and Naturally Active in a sustainable and low carbon environment. Walking and cycling schemes help to promote an active lifestyle. Using bus services also encourages greater levels of walking activity.

The New Launceston Road footway scheme will promote regular walking by children to local schools and wider age groups to other facilities.

10. Options/Alternatives

The programmes set out in this report have been developed to maximise the efficiency of transport across all modes, whilst following the principles of the strategies set out in the Local Transport Plan. The programmes are under continuous review to reflect transport need and changing circumstances.

There were no other suitable route alternatives to the New Launceston Road footway scheme due to the requirement to cross the old railway alignment.

11. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The recommendations promoted in this report have followed the principles and objectives set out in the Local Transport Plan. The programme proposed in this report continues the implementation of the agreed objectives throughout the West Devon area as part of the Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan 2011 to 2026.

The New Launceston Road footway scheme provides a suitable walking route to schools where none existed previously. This will help to improve fitness levels with likely associated benefits for academic performance.

David Whitton
Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste
David Black
Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment

Electoral Divisions: All in West Devon Borough

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

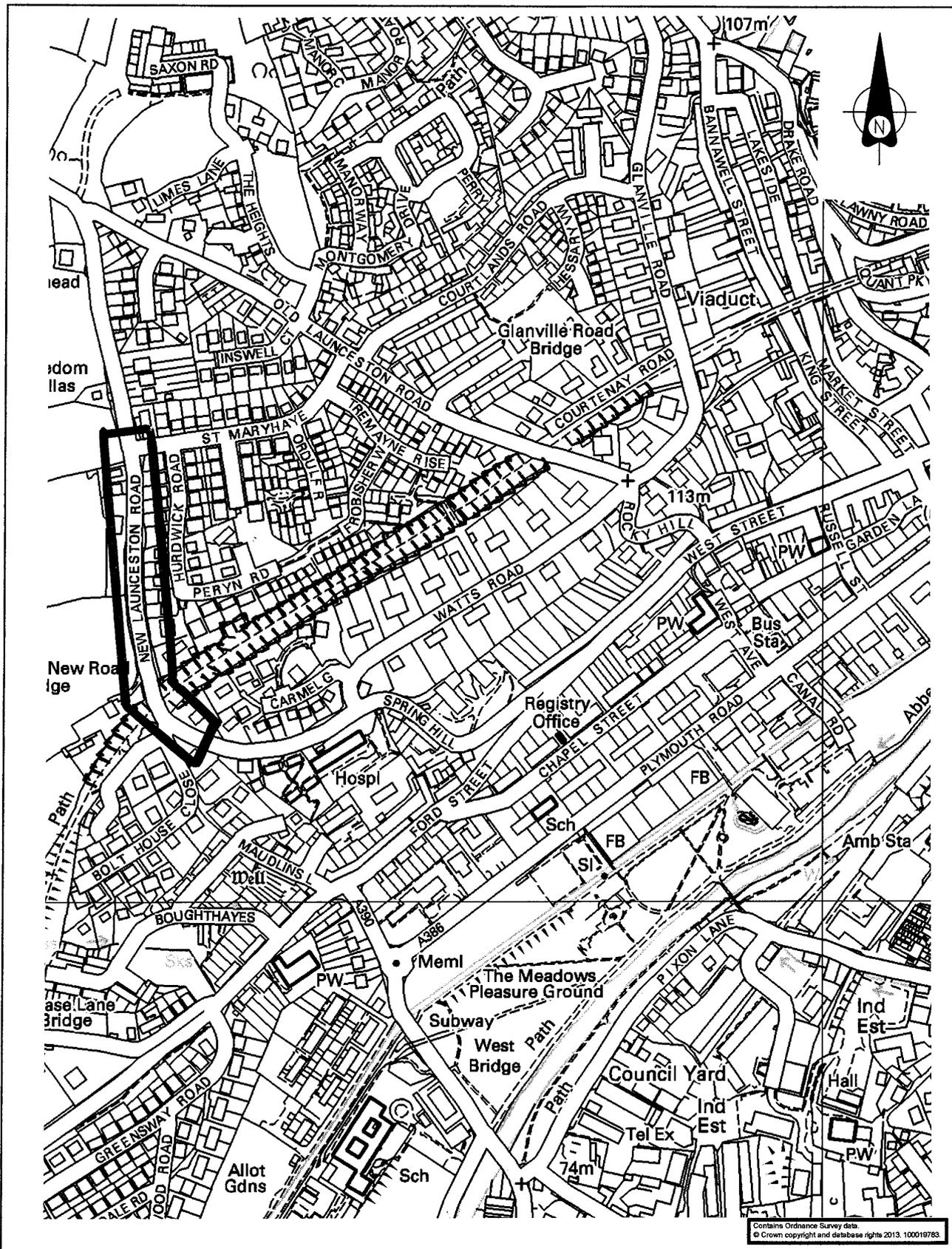
Contact for enquiries: Andrew Ardley

Room No. AB3 Lucombe House

Tel No: (01392) 383528

| Background Paper | Date | File Reference |
|------------------|------|----------------|
| Nil | | |

aa260214wdh
sc/cr/market coastal towns rural foundation programme
04 110314



**Engineering
Design Group**

Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee
**NEW LAUNCESTON ROAD,
 TAVISTOCK - PROPOSED FOOTWAY
 LOCATION PLAN**

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| date | scale |
| March 2014 | 1:5000 |
| number | |
| Sheet 3 - B13010/ 3 | A4 |



| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | Engineering Design Group | Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee | |
| | | NEW LAUNCESTON ROAD TAVISTOCK POROPOSED FOOTWAY | Date: March 2014 Scale: 1:500 |
| Sheet 1 - B13010/1 | | A4 | |



| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | Engineering Design Group | Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee | |
| | | NEW LAUNCESTON ROAD TAVISTOCK POROPOSED FOOTWAY | Date: March 2014 Scale: 1:500 |
| Sheet 2 - B13010/2 | | A4 | |

KEY

- New centre line road markings where road is greater than 5.5 metres in width.
- New footway, Minimum width 1.2 metres.