

REPORT TO	ON
CABINET	23 JANUARY 2018



September 2017

TITLE	PORTFOLIO	REPORT OF
Green Links Multi Use Path	Regeneration and Leisure	Director of Neighbourhoods and Development

Is this report a KEY DECISION (i.e. more than £100,000 or impacting on more than 2 Borough wards?)	Yes
Is this report on the Statutory Cabinet Forward Plan ?	Yes
Is the request outside the policy and budgetary framework and therefore subject to confirmation at full Council?	No
Is this report confidential?	No

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report requests approval to grant delegated authority to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Development in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executives and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration & Leisure to accept the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) for the proposed installation of the Browndedge to Hennel Lane Green Links multi use path.

Delegated authority mitigates the risk of unforeseen circumstances delaying authority to award the contract and safeguards scheme completion within the 18/19 capital programme.

Authority under section 3.4 of the Financial Regulations to incur capital expenditure of up to £200,000 for the above works has already been obtained in a report to Cabinet on 1st Phase of Campus Programme on the 21st June 2018.

2. PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet agree:

That delegated authority is granted to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Development in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executives and the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration & Leisure to accept the MEAT for the proposed installation of the Browndedge to Hennel Lane Green Links multi use path.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Excellence and Financial Sustainability	X
Health and Wellbeing	X
Place	X

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

People	X
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4. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

4.1 Background

Health and Wellbeing is a major priority within the Council’s Corporate Plan. As part of the Green Links, the aim is to create a Borough that is linked together by its green network connecting our parks, open spaces and central park. Through investing on a Borough wide scale, there will be connections that join and open up more places for people to enjoy. A key outcome to improve the health of our residents is to increase their participation in physical activity. As part of this priority, people will be encouraged to use sustainable forms of transport including walking, cycling and running. This in itself will encourage a healthier and active lifestyle while improving the environment of the Borough.

The aim is to promote our health and wellbeing objectives by developing high quality community open spaces, connected across the borough which supports residents in adopting healthier and more active lifestyles. Green links will connect a network of community open spaces developed in partnership with local neighbourhoods across the borough offering opportunities for sustainable travel, leisure activities, sustainable living and a sense of connecting people to places.

As outlined within the ‘Health and Well Being’ section of the Corporate Plan 2018 – 2023, the focus of the health and well-being actions is upon the future health of our growing population and that developing and maintaining active lifestyles is a key building block to achieving this. The most recent South Ribble Partnership Survey with residents identified that parks/open spaces, more facilities for young people and good leisure, recreation and other entertainment facilities within the Borough were important aspects to the people of South Ribble (amongst other). Work is on-going with Sport England at a national level to link with their agenda and emerging themes.

The overall programme for improving green links was highlighted in the business case approved by Cabinet on 6th December 2017 and given authority to spend under the 1st Phase of Campus Programme on the 21st June 2018. The paper attached called “Our Green Links” has been developed to identify the key elements that will be carried out, materials to be used, wayfinding signage and the immediate priorities. This forms the basis of the quality required from the contractor procurement.

These works forms part of the initial 3 year Green links work programme that has been drawn up for areas that have a long standing need for improvement. £275,000 has been earmarked in the current year and the high level programme outlines below.

	£000’s
Penwortham to Bamber Bridge	97
Bamber Bridge LC via Withy Park to Tennis Centre	16
Ribble Link and connection to Central Parks	36
Central Parks	126
	275

4.2 Existing Facilities

The council owned public open space is currently criss-crossed by a number of informal, unsurfaced paths predominantly used by walkers. Several Public Rights of way cross the site and one follows our proposed route for a short section, the relevant permissions and approvals are in place from LCC Highways and Public Rights of Way. The current condition of the paths, being unsurfaced, is seasonally variable but in the main is not suitable for cycle use for most of the year. Consultation with local interest groups cite the crossing of the A6 at Brownedge Road on the main sustrans route 55 as a significant risk. This new route provides a safe alternative to this making use of the existing over pass at Hennel Lane end of the A6.

5. PROPOSALS

5.1 Details of New Facilities

It is proposed to install a 3 meter wide, multi-use stone path from Brownedge to Walton-le-dale with a safe, off road route linking to the wider green links network at both ends. The route will also serve links from several local neighbourhoods along the route as well as improving access into Dog Kennel woods.

5.2 Guarantees and Maintenance

Once installed the path will be covered by a 12 month defects period after which occasional maintenance will be required to top dress the stone surface. The path has been designed as such that if its use demands a bound surface in the future that it may be overlaid at that point with minimal remedial works.

The Council will create a robust maintenance plan and identify part of the overall funding resources to allocate to future lifetime costs. In future developments an element of funding will be held against commuted sums for ongoing costs of maintenance.

5.5 Tendering Process

Open tenders have been invited in line with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules via the Chest - the regional e-procurement portal that enables tenders and quotations to be advertised, invited and received electronically. In addition, as an openly advertised opportunity, tenders were also advertised on Contracts Finder, the national e-procurement portal.

The invitation to tender documentation included details of the evaluation criteria to be used to determine the MEAT. This was 70% cost and 30% quality, taking account of methodology and previous work of the bidders.

5.6 Tender Results

Tender submissions received via the Chest/Contracts Finder will be evaluated in accordance with the MEAT evaluation criteria. The estimated value of this works including contingencies is £140,000.

6 CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

Various external consultations have been carried out with local interest groups and key stakeholders on the Green links and as part of the wider Central parks programme. The

response was limited but supported providing and enhancing off road multi use links across the borough.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Several schemes have been considered as part of the central parks programme. To provide a grade separated crossing of the A6 linking Bamber Bridge in the east, to the spine of Central Parks in the West. All of these options were significantly more expensive.

8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The approved capital programme for 2018/19 includes a capital budget allocation of £275,000 for the Green Links. The proposals in this report will require delegated authority for the awards of a contract of up to £140,000 of the available budget.

The Council will create a robust maintenance plan and identify part of the overall funding resources to allocate to future lifetime costs. In future developments an element of funding will be held against commuted sums for ongoing costs of maintenance.

9 HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resource implications as a result of this report.

10 ICT/TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

There are no ICT implications as a result of this report.

11 PROPERTY AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no property and assets management implications as a result of this report.

12 RISK MANAGEMENT

The proposed will form a safe route replacing an unmaintained footpath. Enhanced arboriculture management works will be undertaken as part of the works to reduce risk of injury from falling trees to path users.

A robust maintenance plan will put into place to mitigate future liability.

13 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT

Equality issues have been fully considered and incorporated into the design proposals. The proposals will impact positively on users who will have access to improved facilities which will support their health and wellbeing.

Once installed the path will increase accessibility for disabled users joining public rights of way at access points from highways.

14 RELEVANT DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS

The proposals in this report will improve the off road 'Green Links' for the benefit of the borough's residents.

Officer recommendations are as follows:

That delegated authority is granted to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration & Leisure to accept the MEAT for the proposed installation of the Brownedge to Hennel Lane Green Links multi use path.

15 COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

The funds required are included in the Green Links capital allocation for 2018/19. The tendering has been undertaken through the Chest system to ensure the Council achieves the Most Economic Advantageous Tender.

A robust funded maintenance plan will be created within the overall Green Links project to cover future maintenance liabilities.

16 COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

A procurement exercise in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules has been carried out.

Formal contract documentation will be drawn up and entered into with the successful tenderer.

17 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

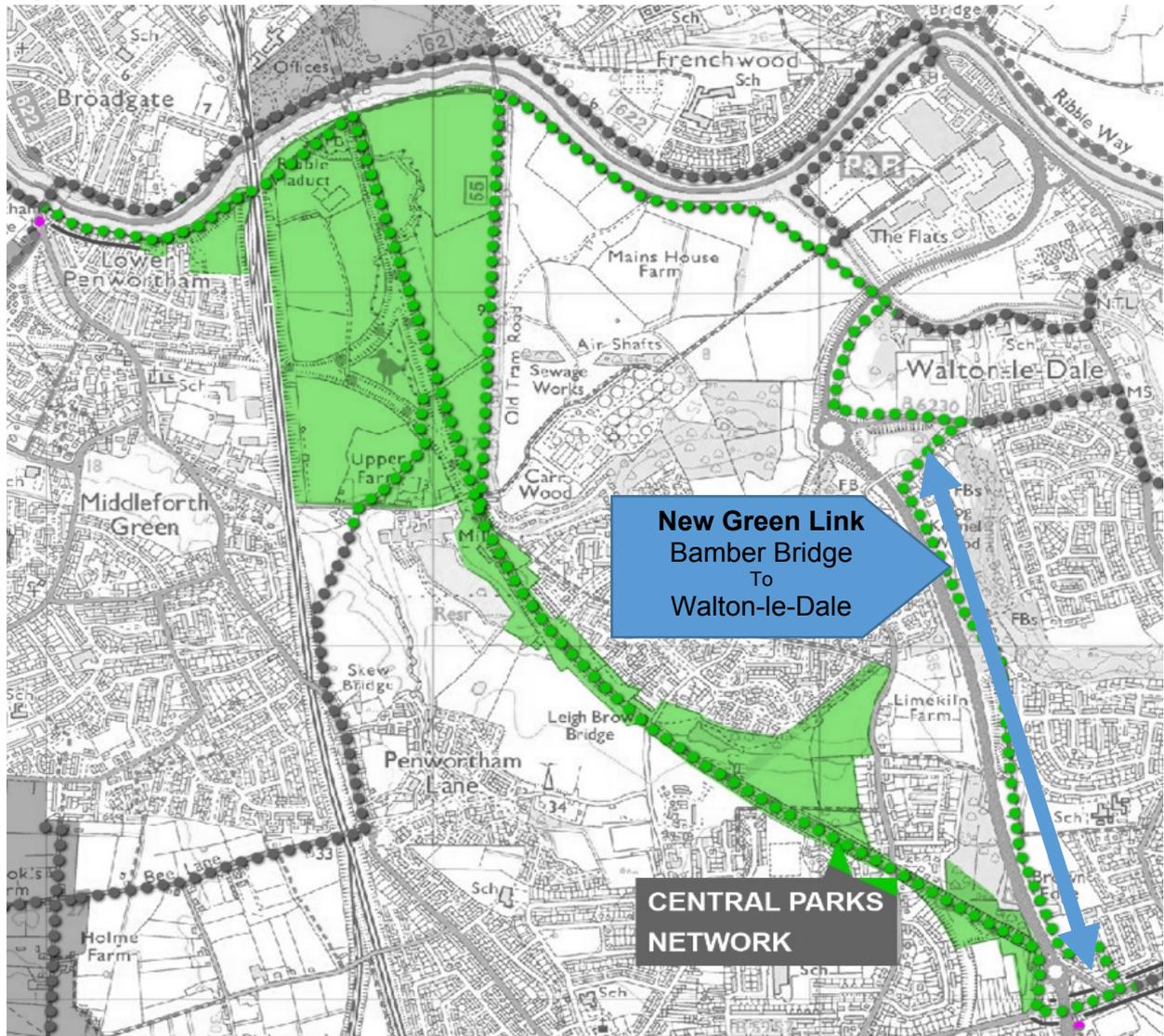
Appendix A – Location plan and route details of the Green links programme.

Appendix B – Our Green Links

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Appendix A

ROUTE 4 - CENTRAL PARKS



OUTCOMES

- Increased numbers of walkers, cyclists and horse riders in all age groups, using the network for work, leisure and events
- Increased accessibility for disabled users joining public rights of way at access points from highways
- Improved footpath through Dog Kennel and Cockshott Woods
- Continued management of the Friends of Preston Junction Local Nature Reserve volunteers
- Implementation of the Preston Junction LNR Management Plan
- Installation of new signage and interpretation material
- Develop the conditions necessary to implement a Forest Schools education programme and formal physical health programme