

Report to the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation)

Date: 18 June 2019

Subject: UTC Communications 2019

Capital Scheme Number: 33169

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

The Best Council plan 2018/19 outlines how Leeds City will achieve its ambition to become the Best City in the UK and Leeds City Council the best local authority. According to the Best Council Plan, the success of the Best Council objective sustainable infrastructure” can be achieved as this project meets the objective by strengthening Smart City infrastructure. This project contributes towards the “Climate Emergency” commitments by enabling the use of traffic signal control technology that reduces vehicle stops and, consequently, emissions. Ultimately, it is envisaged that the communications infrastructure will provide the platform for connected vehicles that will reduce physical infrastructure requirements and thus provide carbon savings.

This report seeks approval to enhance the existing UTMC communication network by installing a private fibre network to traffic signals and CCTV equipment to enable a more resilient, flexible and future proofed network whilst reducing overall revenue costs.

Recommendations

The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to:

- i) Note the contents of this report.
- ii) approve the proposal at the total cost of £350,000 and

- iii) Give authority to incur expenditure of £310,000 works costs and £40,000 staff costs, to be funded from the LTP Transport Policy Capital Programme (100% Government grant funding).

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the procurement of equipment and services to implement a private fibre communication network. This work will include a review of backhaul sites that is likely to result in provision of some new Fibre Ethernet circuits to upgrade the current connectivity and provide a backbone capable of supporting the emerging and future technology such as Connected and Automated vehicles.

2. Background information

- 2.1 UTC currently utilise a number of leased circuits to provide connectivity to traffic signal systems and CCTV. The limitations of these circuits with regard to bandwidth has been identified in the current LPTIP proposals and installing a fibre service that will be solely owned by Leeds City Council will provide the capacity we require to install the latest technology in operating and controlling traffic signals.
- 2.2 The installation of a fibre network would secure revenue savings on existing circuits and provide the city with capability to expand its own fibre network in future.
- 2.3 The proposed network of ducting can also be made available to other council departments to provide a cheaper and stable solution to connectivity and meet the objectives of Smart Cities proposals. The ducting network, once installed, could also provide the council with revenue if third party organisations required a ducting network for similar projects.

3. Main issues

3.1 Design Proposals/Scheme Description

- 3.1.1 The scheme will provide Leeds City Council with the opportunity to install a fibre network that would not incur annual leased charges and provide the capability to meet the demands of Smart Cities. The opportunity to install such a scheme has in part been made possible by the implementation of the LPTIP programme and other planned major schemes such as the City Centre Package.

These major investment programmes have provided the opportunity to install large sections of ducting infrastructure across the city that can be used to implement fibre optic communications. The proposed LTP programme will ensure that the ducting installed through the various major schemes is linked to maximise fibre connectivity, initially across the City Centre.

The proposal also extends to providing a resilient backhaul solution to the new WY UTMC centre to ensure continuous connectivity as the fibre network extends and evolves.

3.2 Programme

- 3.2.1 It is proposed to start work as soon as approval is received. Work will continue throughout the financial year 2019/2020.

4. Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Consultation will not be undertaken as the proposals will not affect the operation of either traffic signals or cameras. Any significant changes to traffic signal control that may be made possible following the communications infrastructure upgrade would be consulted on separately.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 A screening document has been prepared and is attached as Appendix 1. An independent impact assessment is not required for the approvals requested. The screening document has been sent to the Equality Team to be approved and published.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The proposal contributes to the policies in the Best Council Plan 2019 to 2021 as follows:

Sustainable Infrastructure

Improving transport connections, safety, reliability and affordability.

Strengthening digital and data “Smart City” infrastructure and increasing digital inclusion.

Climate Emergency

The implementation of a fibre communication network enables the use of more sophisticated network management techniques that will reduce vehicle stops and, consequently, emissions. It is envisaged that the higher bandwidth and more robust communications infrastructure will provide the platform for connected vehicles that will ultimately reduce physical infrastructure requirements and thus provide carbon savings.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

- 4.4.1 Scheme Design Estimate: The estimated total cost for this work is £350,000, consisting of £310,000 works costs and £40,000 staff costs. It is proposed to procure the equipment through the contract 3435 Supply & Installation of Traffic Signal Equipment and contract 3430 West Yorkshire Traffic Signal Maintenance.

4.4.2 Capital Funding and Cash Flow

Previous total Authority to Spend on this scheme	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH		FORECAST			
		2018 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	0.0						
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	0.0						
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Authority to Spend required for this Approval	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH		FORECAST			
		2018 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022 on £000's
LAND (1)	0.0						
CONSTRUCTION (3)	310.0			310.0			
FURN & EQPT (5)	0.0						
DESIGN FEES (6)	40.0			40.0			
OTHER COSTS (7)	0.0						
TOTALS	350.0	0.0	0.0	350.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total overall Funding (As per latest Capital Programme)	TOTAL £000's	TO MARCH		FORECAST			
		2018 £000's	2018/19 £000's	2019/20 £000's	2020/21 £000's	2021/22 £000's	2022 on £000's
Government Grant - TP / LTP	350.0			350.0			
Total Funding	350.0	0.0	0.0	350.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Balance / Shortfall =	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Parent Scheme Number: 99609

Title: LTP Transport Policy Capital Programme

4.5 Revenue Implications

4.5.1 There are revenue savings opportunities with the implementation of this scheme, the current provision of Ethernet circuits for CCTV operation at £1080 per annum, and traffic signal network connections of £450 per annum will provide long term savings with the installation of a private fibre network.

4.6 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In:

4.6.1 The scheme is eligible for call in because it is above the relevant thresholds.

4.7 Risk Management

4.7.1 Failure to implement this scheme will mean the CCTV coverage of the road network will not be improved and providing the latest technology for traffic signal operation could be compromised.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Network control is a vital part of the UTC function. The Highways investment in Leeds has provided an opportunity to invest in a Leeds City Council owned asset to provide connectivity not only for UTC but other council departments such as Leeds Watch and DIS, and meet the requirements of Smart Cities objectives. Providing the potential bandwidth of a fibre service will provide UTC with the backbone to install the latest technology at traffic signals. Revenue savings potential will be achieved with the installation of a private fibre network.

6. Recommendations

The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to:

- i) note the contents of this report.
- ii) approve the proposal at the total cost of £350,000; and
- iii) give authority to incur expenditure of £310,000 works costs and £40,000 staff costs, to be funded from the LTP Transport Policy Capital Programme (100% Government grant funding).

7. Background documents¹

- 7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions. Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- The relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being/has already been considered, and
- Whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

Directorate: City Development	Service area: Transport Policy
Lead person: Richard Tallant	Contact number: 3787542

1. Title: : UTMC Communication
Is this a:
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service / Function <input type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The screening process relates to the installation of a fibre service network to control and monitor traffic signals.

<p>3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration</p> <p>All the council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.</p> <p>The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.</p>
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When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and any other relevant characteristics (for example socio-economic status, social class, income, unemployment, residential location or family background and education or skills levels).		
Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		X
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment • Advancing equality of opportunity • Fostering good relations 		X

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration
If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.
Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration? (think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key findings (think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions (think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)

5. If you are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you will need to carry out an impact assessment.	
Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	
Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
Name	Job title	Date
Joel Dodsworth	UTMC Manager	29/05/19

7. Publishing
This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If you are not carrying out an independent impact assessment the screening document will need to be published.
Please send a copy to the Equality Team for publishing

Date screening completed	
Date sent to Equality Team	
Date published (To be completed by the Equality Team)	