

Report to the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation

Date: 24 March 2020

Subject: CityConnect Phase 3: Clay Pit Lane - Exercise of Statutory Powers including Traffic Regulation Order Advertisement and creation of Cycle Tracks

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s): Little London & Woodhouse	🛛 Yes	🗌 No
Has consultation been carried out?	🛛 Yes	🗌 No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	🛛 Yes	🗌 No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	🗌 Yes	🛛 No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	Yes	🛛 No

Summary

1. Main issues

- This report was drafted before the COVID-19 crisis. To expedite matters, no changes have been made at this stage but future reports will more fully reflect the current and ongoing situation.
- CityConnect is a key strand of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transport Fund, seeking to deliver improvements to cycling and walking across the region. Two projects have previously been delivered in Leeds under this programme.
- In November 2019 Leeds City Council's Executive Board approved the principle of a project to deliver three individual schemes as part of Phase 3 of CityConnect in Leeds. This project comprised segregated cycling and walking infrastructure on Clay Pit Lane, Dewsbury Road and Elland Road.
- A number of matters were identified to be brought forward to the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation) for detailed consideration and approval, including Traffic Regulation Orders and the exercise of statutory powers. This report details these matters and seeks necessary approvals for the Clay Pit Lane scheme.
- 2. Best Council Plan Implications (click here for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)
 - These projects will improve cycling and walking connectivity into the city centre, allowing access to the employment, leisure and retail offers from some of the most deprived parts of the city, in line with the Leeds City Council's Best Council Plan

2018/19-2020/21 vision to be a city that is "compassionate and caring with a strong economy, which tackles poverty and reduces inequalities".

3. Resource Implications

• All costs associated with this report will be met from the CityConnect 3 project budget previously approved by Executive Board and entirely funded from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's CityConnect programme

Recommendations

The Chief Officer, Highways & Transportation is requested to:

- Note and approve the general layout of the Clay Pit Lane scheme as shown on the attached drawings (TM-00-470-01-01/02/03) and note that any revisions developed through TRO consultation will be reported back to the Chief Officer in a future report;
- ii) Request the City Solicitor to advertise Traffic Regulation Orders as detailed on drawings TM-00-470-TRO-01 and, subject to no objections being received, to make and seal the orders as advertised; and
- iii) Approve with reference to the powers contained in Section 66(4) of the Highways Act 1980, that the relevant lengths of footway shown on attached drawings (TM-00-470-01-01/02/03) as proposed cycle tracks are removed and that following the removal of the footways, cycle tracks are constructed under the powers contained under the provisions of section 65(1) of the Highways Act 1980 for segregated or shared joint use by pedal cyclists and pedestrians.

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 This report requests the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation) to approve the current design of the CityConnect 3: Clay Pit Lane scheme and to grant authority to advertise Traffic Regulation Orders and to create cycle tracks under Section 65 and 66 of the Highways Act 1980.

2. Background information

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority's CityConnect programme is a well established part of the Transport Fund, providing improvements to cycling and walking across West Yorkshire.
- 2.2 On 25th November 2019 Leeds City Council's Executive Board approved a report to deliver a CityConnect funded project comprising three schemes in Leeds: Clay Pit Lane, Dewsbury Road and Elland Road. These projects comprise segregated cycle tracks with improved footway links and pedestrian crossing facilities.
- 2.3 The Executive Board report noted that the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) would be responsible for the implementation of the scheme. This report brings forward detailed matters for approval.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 A package of Traffic Regulation Orders is required to support the delivery of the Phase 3 projects. This package is detailed on attached drawing TM-00-470-TRO-01 and comprises:
 - Mandatory cycle lanes on Clay Pit Lane
 - Revocation of an existing Prohibition of Pedestrians on Clay Pit Lane between North Street and Elmwood Lane
 - Prohibition of parking and loading on cycle tracks and footways along the route as detailed on drawing TM-00-470-TRO-01
- 3.2 The three schemes all include segregated cycle tracks. These tracks are physically separated from the footway and carriageway. Cycle tracks within the public highway are created by a highway authority under sections 65 and 66 of the Highways Act 1980.
- 3.3 There are two areas of shared use; one close to the junction with Woodhouse Lane and one at a bus stop at the Chapeltown Road junction.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 The Executive Member (Climate Change, Transport & Sustainable Development) was briefed on 12th November 2019 and supports the project.
- 4.1.2 A consultation was completed by WYCA's CityConnect team and was detailed in the Executive Board report. This included consultation with ward members by email dated 6th August 2019. An update will be provided following approval of this report and prior to any TRO advertisements.
- 4.1.3 Specific consultation with affected frontagers was undertaken on 19th December 2019 and detailed discussions have been held to revise the design to address individual concerns
- 4.1.4 More detailed TRO consultation will be carried out in conjunction with the legal advertisements and objections will be captured as part of the overall objection process.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 An Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration screening has been completed and is appended to this report.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

Climate Emergency

4.3.1 Introduction of the TROs and other matters detailed in this report support the delivery of the CityConnect Phase 3 project. The schemes aim to encourage sustainable transport, reducing the reliance on the private car, and so contribute to a reduction in CO2 emissions in Leeds and a consequent positive impact on climate change.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

- 4.4.1 All costs for this project are to be met by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority through their CityConnect programme as part of the Transport Fund.
- 4.4.2 Executive Board approved expenditure of £6.5M for the three schemes in November 2019.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 This report is not eligible for Call-In.

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 A risk register has been developed for the three schemes forming the overall project and is maintained and reviewed by the project team.
- 4.6.2 Risks and issues are reported to Project and Programme Boards through monthly highlight reports.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Approval of this report will allow the Clay Pit Lane scheme to progress to TRO advertisement and final detailed design ahead of issue to contractor.
- 5.2 Any unresolved objections to the TROs will be reported to the Chief Officer in a further report.

6. Recommendations

The Chief Officer, Highways & Transportation is requested to:

- Note and approve the general layout of the Clay Pit Lane scheme as shown on the attached drawings (TM-00-470-01-01/02/03) and note that any revisions developed through TRO consultation will be reported back to the Chief Officer in a future report;
- ii) Request the City Solicitor to advertise Traffic Regulation Orders as detailed on drawings TM-00-470-TRO-01 and, subject to no objections being received, to make and seal the orders as advertised; and
- iii) Approve with reference to the powers contained in Section 66(4) of the Highways Act 1980, that the relevant lengths of footway shown on attached drawings (TM-00-470-01-01/02/03) as proposed cycle tracks are removed and that following the removal of the footways, cycle tracks are constructed under the powers contained under the provisions of section 65(1) of the Highways Act 1980 for segregated or shared joint use by pedal cyclists and pedestrians.

7. Background documents

7.1 None

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: Highways & Transportation
Lead person: Chris Way	Contact number: 37 87493

1. Title: CityConnect 3: Cla	y Pit Lane Cycle Superhighway	/
Is this a:		
Strategy / Policy	X Service / Function	Other
If other, please specify		

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

Leeds City Council is delivering several segregated cycle routes as part of a package under the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's CityConnect programme. This includes a project along Clay Pit Lane which connects the northern part of the city centre (Merrion centre/arena) with existing cycle facilities at Chapeltown Road/Meanwood Road.

The Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation) has been requested to approve the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders which support the scheme, and to note that the cycle tracks will be delivered under the powers granted by the Highways Act 1980.

The TROs will ensure that the cycle track and upgraded pedestrian facilities are not obstructed. The TRO briefly comprises:

• Prohibition of parking and loading on cycle track and footway

- Mandatory cycle lanes at junctions
- Revocation of existing Prohibition of Pedestrians and mandatory cycle lane (to be upgraded to cycle track)

3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

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.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different	Х	
equality characteristics?		
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the	Х	
policy or proposal?		
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or		Х
procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by		
whom?		
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment		Х
practices?		
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on	Х	
 Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and 		
harassment		
 Advancing equality of opportunity 		
 Fostering good relations 		

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).

• 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)

The project offers opportunities to make significant improvements to the current pedestrian provision, including to those with mobility or other impairments. Currently pedestrians are prohibited from using Clay Pit Lane; despite this pedestrians regularly use the existing cycle track to walk to and from the city centre. The project provides dedicated continuous pedestrian facilities to cater for this demand.

The project contributes to a number of corporate policies and targets aiming to improve equality and diversity, including the Inclusive Growth strategy, by promoting equality of access and opportunity.

• 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)

The new footway link for pedestrians creates a safe and continuous route for pedestrians to access the city centre. This benefits all users but particularly those with mobility issues who do not have a safe and direct route at the current time.

The Traffic Regulation Orders detailed in the report aim to protect the new facilities for all users, but will have a significant benefit for those with mobility issues as the route will be unobstructed and free for use.

• Actions

(think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)

Extensive consultation has taken place during the development of this project, and this has sought to draw out any specific user needs.

The designers have made full use of the Inclusive Mobility guidance, and have involved the Access Officer in the scheme development.

Traffic Regulation Orders allow a statutory objection period which can draw out additional comments from affected users.

The project has built on experience with similar schemes and seeks to make significant improvements to the cycling and walking facilities along this route to allow greater access by non-motorised users particularly those who are currently have difficulties accessing this type of infrastructure.

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 coope and plan your impact accooping in	
Dete te complete veur impact accomment	
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
Nick Hunt	Traffic Engineering	11 th March 2020
	Manager	
Date screening comp	pleted	11 th March 2020

7. Publishing

Though **all** key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council **only** publishes those related to **Executive Board**, **Full Council**, **Key Delegated Decisions** or a **Significant Operational Decision**.

A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:

- Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.
- The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.
- A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to <u>equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</u> for record.

Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:

For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to Governance Services	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:

All other decisions – sent to	Date sent:	
equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk		