

**Report to the Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation)**

**Date: 15 December 2020**

**Subject: A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvement – Deed of Variation**

**Capital Scheme Number: 32810**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Armley, Beeston and Holbeck, Farnley and Wortley, Morley North and Pudsey	
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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**

**1. Main issues**

- This report seeks authority to enter into a Deed of variation (DOV) of the existing funding agreement between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority which covers the development and submission of the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the A6110 Outer Ring Road improvement scheme.
- An existing agreement is already in place between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority however a new Deed of variation (DOV) is required to release additional scheme development monies.
- The Deed of variation will continue to provide a legal agreement between Leeds City Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and will therefore reduce risks associated with the development of the proposals.

**2. Best Council Plan implications** (see the [latest version of the Best Council Plan](#))

- The vision for Leeds is to be the best city in the UK; one that is compassionate and caring with a strong economy, which tackles poverty and reduces inequalities and is working towards being a net zero carbon city by 2030.

- The A6110 Outer Ring Road improvements plays a strategic role in developing transport network infrastructure which reduces congestion and encourages modal shift from the private car to public transport and active transport modes.

### **3. Resource implications**

- There are no direct resource implications associated with this report.

### **Recommendations**

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

- i) give authority to enter a deed of variation of the original funding agreement between the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (funder) and Leeds City Council (recipient) for the continued development of the A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvement Scheme.
  
- ii) give approval to inject an extra £310,000 taking the total project budget up to £596,000 for the development of the Outline Business Case.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 This report seeks authority to enter into a Deed of variation of the grant funding agreement between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 Approval was granted to develop the business case
- 2.2 Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority entered into a funding agreement in November 2019. The A6110 ORR Improvements was allocated £286,000 of development funding to enable the development of an Outline Business Case (OBC).

## **3 Main Issues**

- 3.1 A review of this scheme and original scheme objectives has been undertaken in lieu of the Climate Emergency Declaration by Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority which necessitated the need to review the original scheme objectives and undertake a full options appraisal.
- 3.2 An increase in the total approved funding of £310,000 will allow the revised schemes options and development work to continue to Outline Business Case.
- 3.3 A request for further development monies was approved and has now been granted by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to increase the development costs by

£310,000 for the A6110 Leeds Outer Ring Road scheme, to allow Leeds City Council to progress the scheme to decision point 3 (Outline Business Case) only. This will take the total scheme development costs from £286,000 to £596,000.

- 3.4** A formal change request was drafted and submitted to the PMA team at West Yorkshire Combined Authority which was approved by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on 13th November 2020.
- 3.5** Leeds City Council has already entered a grant funding agreement up to the value of £286,000 and subsequently a Deed of variation needs to be entered to cover the additional grant funding amount up to the value of £596,000.
- 3.6** The existing development partner has been retained to complete the Outline Business Case, with OBC submission expected in autumn 2021.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 No specific consultation has been undertaken to date because the development proposals are still in the earlier stages.
- 4.1.2 Full consultation with stakeholders and the public is proposed as part of the scope of this scheme. This would be carried out during the development of Outline Business Case stage which is expected to be in summer 2021.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 The proposal requested in this report have no direct impact on any of the equality characteristics as it is purely an administrative function and therefore it is not applicable to carry out an equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening at this time.
- 4.2.2 A full equality impact assessment will be undertaken for this scheme when required during the Outline Business Case development stage.
- 4.2.3 An Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration screening form has been completed for the approval granted for all West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund schemes on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 at Executive Board.

### **4.3 Council policies and best council plan**

- 4.3.1 The anticipated benefits of the revised A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvements has the potential to contribute to the vision of Leeds 2030 to be the best city in the UK and address following Best City and Best Council expirations, outcomes and priorities; good growth, resilient communities, transport and infrastructure and a low carbon future.

#### **4.4 Climate Emergency**

- 4.4.1 Leeds City Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and pledged to make Leeds Carbon neutral by 2030. In order to meet our 2030 target we must persuade people to adopt more sustainable, low carbon travel choices.
- 4.4.2 The A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvements, encourage modal shift from the private car to public transport and active transport modes.

#### **4.5 Resources, procurement and value for money**

- 4.5.1 The previous approvals detailed the resources required for the scheme and the procurement of professional services to support development of the scheme. The current development partner has been retained to complete the Outline Business Case to maintain continuity and knowledge of the scheme to date.

#### **4.6 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

- 4.6.1 The Funding Agreement has been agreed in principle with Officers from Highways and Transportation and Legal Services, and also with West Yorkshire Combined Authority Legal Services.
- 4.6.2 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority (funder) has agreed to pay the grant to the recipient Leeds City Council solely for the A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvements in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the funding agreement.

#### **4.7 Risk Management**

- 4.7.1 The Deed of variation of the funding agreement will continue to provide a legal agreement between Leeds City Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority for the development of the proposals to Outline Business Case.
- 4.7.2 Additional funding will be drawn from the existing West Yorkshire + Transport Fund (WY+TF) which is to be increased by £310,000 from £286,000 to £596,000 therefore reducing the financial risk for Leeds City Council.

### **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 This Deed of variation between Leeds City Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will allow for the continued development of the Outline Business Case for the A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvement programme.

#### **Recommendations**

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

- i) give authority to enter a deed of variation of the original funding agreement between the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (funder) and Leeds City Council (recipient) for the continued development of the A6110 Outer Ring Road Improvement Scheme.

- ii) give approval to inject an extra £310,000 taking the total project budget up to £596,000 for the development of the Outline Business Case.

## **6 Background documents**

None

## **7 Appendices**

7.1 Appendix 1 - A6110 Deed of variation