

To: The Council Leader and Members of Cabinet

Agenda

CABINET

A reconvened meeting of the Cabinet will be held as follows:

Date: Monday 27 March 2023
Time: 10.00 am
Place: Conference Room B - Cumbria House Carlisle CA1 1RD

John Metcalfe
Chief Executive

Enquiries and requests for supporting papers to: Jackie Currie
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MEMBERSHIP

Mr SF Young (Leader)
Mrs PA Bell
Mrs A Burns
Ms D Earl
Mr KA Little

Mrs S Sanderson
Mr DE Southward
Mr P Thornton
Mrs C Tibble
Mrs J Willis

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Agenda and Reports

Copies of the agenda and Part I reports are available for members of the public to inspect prior to the meeting. Copies will also be available at the meeting.

The agenda and Part I reports are also available on the County Council's website – www.cumbria.gov.uk

Background Papers

Requests for the background papers to the Part I reports, excluding those papers that contain exempt information, can be made to Legal and Democratic Services at the address overleaf between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday.

A G E N D A

PART 1: ITEMS LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members are invited to disclose any disclosable pecuniary interest they have in any item on the agenda which comprises

- 1 Details of any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- 2 Details of any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. (This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
- 3 Details of any contract which is made between you (or a body in which you have a beneficial interest) and the authority
 - (a) Under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - (b) Which has not been fully discharged.
- 4 Details of any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the authority.
- 5 Details of any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the authority for a month or longer.
- 6 Details of any tenancy where (to your knowledge)
 - (a) The landlord is the authority; and
 - (b) The tenant is a body in which you have a beneficial interest.
- 7 Details of any beneficial interest in securities of a body where
 - (a) That body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the

area of the authority; and

(b) Either –

- (i) The total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
- (ii) If that share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

In addition, you must also disclose other non-pecuniary interests set out in the Code of Conduct where these have not already been registered.

Note

A “disclosable pecuniary interest” is an interest of a councillor or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they are civil partners).

3 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

4 MINUTES

To receive the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 16 March 2023 (copy enclosed)

(Pages 7 - 22)

5 STATEMENTS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBERS

To receive statements by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions, petitions or statements at the time of despatch

DIRECTORATE REPORTS - ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

7 AWARD OF DESIGN AND BUILD CONTRACT TO CONSTRUCT CARLISLE SOUTHERN LINK ROAD AND APPROVAL TO EXECUTE DEED OF VARIATION TO GRANT DETERMINATION AGREEMENT WITH HOMES ENGLAND

To consider a report from the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure (copy enclosed)

Please note the appendices to this report are not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as this report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

(Pages 23 - 44)

PART 2: ITEMS LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

See comment above re appendices for Item No 7

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CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Cabinet** held on **Thursday, 16 March 2023 at 10.00 am at Council Chamber, County Offices, Kendal**

PRESENT:

Mr SF Young (Leader)
Mrs PA Bell
Mrs A Burns
Ms D Earl
Mr KA Little
Mrs S Sanderson
Mr P Thornton
Mrs C Tibble
Mrs J Willis

Officers in attendance:

Chief Executive, Executive Director (People), Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure, Chief Fire Officer, Director of Public Health, Chief Legal Officer, Leadership Support Officer - Labour Group, Leadership Support Officer - Liberal Democrat Group, Professional Lead - Democratic Services and Communications Manager

PART 1 ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mr D Southward.

47 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mrs A Burns declared a non pecuniary interest in Agenda Item No 11 – Domestic Abuse Supported Living – Use of Department of Levelling Up and Housing Communities Grant, as she is a trustee on Women’s Community Matters. She was not present during consideration of this item.

Mrs C Tibble declared a non pecuniary interest in Agenda Item No 12 – Award of Framework Contracts for Day Opportunities in Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness Councils, as she is a Board Member at West House, and her daughter and son both work at West House, an organisation that delivered day opportunities. She was not present during consideration of this item.

48 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair reminded members that the appendices in Agenda Item No 12 – Carlisle Station Gateway and Agenda Item No 13 – Award of Contract for Main Construction Works for Carlisle Southern Link Road were not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as this report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information), and should members need to discuss anything contained within these appendices the meeting would need to move into Part II.

49 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2022 be signed by the Chair.

50 STATEMENTS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBERS

The Cabinet Member for Customers, Transformation, Fire and Rescue announced that Cumbria County Council had been awarded £139,000 to support the scaling up of a digital tool which helped to identify vulnerable households during a crisis.

The innovative new tool, VIPER, was created by Cumbria County Council's Digital Team in 2022 for regional and national partners within the Cumbria Local Resilience Forum. The tool searches multi-partner data sources to allow the rapid identification of vulnerable households in an emergency or crisis.

The money granted by government would fund a project to support the tool's expansion, allowing it to be used by other authorities and Local Resilience Forums.

The Cabinet Member then announced that the Chief Fire Officer had advised of his intention to retire in June this year, and took the opportunity to thank John for all of his hard work and dedication to CFRS & CCC over the years.

He had been a pleasure to work with and she felt he was one of the most community spirited officers she had ever met.

Cabinet members wished him well for the future.

51 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public questions, petitions or statements made at this meeting.

There were no referrals from local committee or scrutiny committees on this occasion.

52 2022/23 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Deputy Leader presented the final 2022/23 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report, and he began by thanking all the Finance officers, both past and present, for all the work they had done in ensuring the Council had an established track record of strong and robust financial management and this report presented the position for Quarter 3 as at 31 December 2022.

The report covered the Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and Treasury Management activities.

Since Council set the 2022/23 Budget in February 2022 the economic uncertainty, both nationally and internationally, had continued. Like all public sector organisations, the Council continued to face significant financial pressures relating to unprecedented high levels of inflation, cost of living crisis, supply chain disruption and contractual delivery risks.

These factors were coupled with increased demand on Council services, both as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and wider health and social care system pressures. Collectively, this continued to bring a significant amount of financial challenge for 2022/23 and ongoing uncertainty for the two new Unitary Councils and Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service.

The Deputy Leader then took members through the report, in detail.

The Quarter 3 forecast outturn as at 31 December 2022 was a net £1.358 million overspend position, which was a slight improvement of £0.010m from the £1.368 million overspend reported at Quarter 2.

The number of high cost and bespoke care packages in Children's Services had increased to five during Q3 but with intense work undertaken by the service this had now reduced to two cases from 1 January 2023.

Other cost pressures had arisen from increases in demand-led services such as SEND and Home-to-School Transport where not only was the number of exceptional routes and journeys increasing each month but

the price being paid for these journeys was also increasing as a result of a lack of competition in the market.

Notwithstanding these pressures, the Council had been able to allocate some £5m of additional funds to alleviating the financial pressures felt by those most in need in the community, especially the young. This included:-

- £1.500m provided to schools to support their most vulnerable young people and ensure that breakfast clubs are available to all.
- £0.500m earmarked for the provision of free school meals during the Easter holidays in 2023
- £1m public health money to support community-based initiatives such as the development of warm hubs
- £0.500m to extend the school's clothing grant scheme
- £0.500m to enhance the free school meals offer during school holidays
- £0.500m for direct community support delivered through Area Teams
- £0.500m for support direct to vulnerable households through the Council's Ways to Welfare Service.

To support the fragile social care market, at a time of peak financial pressure and significant winter service demand, the Council had once again, provided additional financial support to independent providers across the sector. An in-year uplift of varying levels had been applied to all contracts from 1 October 2022 linked to the Real Living Wage increase and other inflationary factors.

The original approved net revenue budget for 2022/23 was £455.496 million. After taking account of adjustments to General Grants and transfers to and from reserves, the revised net budget was £482.928 million at 31 December 2022. The net forecast outturn was £484.286 million, an overspend of £1.358 million (0.3%).

The Deputy Leader informed members that this report was seeking agreement to increase Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 by £4.518 million. At Q3 this gave a revised total budget of £426.318 million (excluding Accountable Bodies) over the life of the current Capital Programme and a revised budget of £152.629 million for 2022/23.

The net deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant Balance had increased from £14.692 million as at 31 March 2022 to £21.214 million in Q3, an increase of £6.523 million since the start of the year, and an increase of £0.126 million since Q2.

The forecast delivery of approved savings for 2022/23 was £14.792 million against a total target of £16.231 million (91.1%).

The Deputy Leader then moved the recommendations.

The Leader commented that although the County Council was responsible for the budget until 31 March 2023, the officers in the finance team had worked incredibly hard to ensure that we were passing on a stable budget.

He referenced the High Needs element of the budget and the issues faced by the lack of resources for this much needed service. He implored the Government to make more funding available.

The Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning agreed with the statement and felt if more money was provided services could be improved, which would then lessen the burden on this budget.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet

- (1) notes the revised Revenue Budget at the provisional outturn for monitoring purposes of £482.928m as a result of the agreed transfers to and from reserves (set out in Appendix 1 of the report).
- (2) notes the forecast Revenue Budget outturn as at Quarter 3 is a projected overspend of £1.358m which would result in a General Fund Balance position at year end of £23.698m if unmitigated in the final quarter.
- (3) notes that Corporate Management Team is working collectively to identify and take further actions to mitigate the financial pressures to ensure a balanced budget position is achieved at year end resulting in a maintenance of the General Fund Balance at year end of £25.056m.
- (4) notes the forecast delivery of approved savings for 2022/23 is £14.792m against a total target of £16.231m (91.1%).
- (5) approves a Revenue Contribution to Capital (funded from an Earmarked Reserve) of £0.636m relating to:
 - £0.484m to Prioritised Capital Maintenance Projects/schools Maintenance for works including asbestos removal works.
 - £0.152m to Corporate Property Planned Maintenance and Improvement corporate asbestos removal works into the Corporate Capital Maintenance Fund.

- (6) approves amendments to the Capital Programme, financed by external grant (Table 16 of the report) and internal revenue contributions (Table 17 of the report), which result in a total increase of £4.158m.
- (7) approves virements, within the approved Capital Programme, as set out in Table 19 of the report.
- (8) notes the forecast outturn for the Capital Programme 2022/23 of £121.017m against a current capital budget of £152.629m (excluding Accountable Bodies) resulting in a net underspend of (£31.612m) being reported at Q3, as set out in Table 20.

53 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 3 2022/23

Cabinet had before it a report from the Interim Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) which provided them with a final report for Cumbria County Council's corporate performance in advance of local government reorganisation.

This report reflected on the Council's achievements and delivery of the Council Plan 2018-2023 and highlighted a number of key successes in delivering the four Council Plan outcomes in 2022/23, despite a context of unprecedented global and local challenges.

The report focused on the position of the Council Plan Delivery Plan at Quarter 3 2022/23, covering the three-month period from 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022.

The Council had continued to achieve financial sustainability whilst improving services for our customers, a transformed digital offer, and introducing more effective and efficient ways of working. This had been achieved against the background of responding to an unprecedented cost of living crisis and inflationary pressures that had impacted all areas of the Council, recovery from the global Covid-19 pandemic and the significant challenges in responding to the local government agenda and associated uncertainties about the shape of service delivery in the future.

The Leader highlighted that the Single Point of Access digital service project was nearing completion as a key element of continuing service improvement, culture change and new ways of working. The initial phase of the library workforce and infrastructure development was completed and improvements to Carlisle and Kendal libraries on track. This built on the successful transformation of the new library in Barrow.

He also mentioned that Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service had worked to ensure that measures were in place to deliver against the Grenfell Tower inquiry outcomes and legislative changes.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet notes overall performance relating to delivery of the implementation of the four Council Plan outcomes and context indicators, focusing on the indicators identified in the Council Plan Delivery Plan 2022/23 for the Quarter ending 31 December 2022.

54 EXTENSION TO THE APPRENTICESHIP FRAMEWORK

Members considered a report from Assistant Director – Strategic Commissioning which sought permission to extend the Apprenticeships Framework for a period of one year until 31 March 2024.

In compliance with the Direction issued under section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, consent was obtained from Cumberland Shadow Authority's Executive on 16 February 2023 Minute No 85- Section 24 Extension to Apprenticeship Framework and Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority's Cabinet on 24 February 2023 Minute No 94- Section 24 Extension to Apprenticeship Framework.

All large employers with an annual pay bill of over £3 million are required by the Government to pay an 'apprenticeship levy' of 0.5% of their total annual pay bill. The Apprenticeships Framework enabled the Council to spend this levy on apprenticeships and training and kept these funds in Cumbria and to invest in its workforce and supported the wider aims of the Council Plan.

The Apprenticeship Framework commenced on 1 April 2018 for 4 years until 31 March 2022. There were 2 optional 12-month extensions available, one of which had already been utilised, to 31 March 2023. The last end date using both extensions would be 31 March 2024.

The Framework was fit for purpose and would be suitable to meet the short-term needs of the two new local authorities and Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service.

Cabinet noted that there were currently circa 391 apprentices accessing training via the Framework, and they were delighted to hear this.

The Cabinet Members hoped that the two new authorities would ensure this scheme carried on, and saw it as essential to helping young people from within Cumbria to succeed.

Members asked how many of the apprentices were successful in obtaining permanent paid employment at the Council.

The Cabinet Member for Highways informed members that within the Highways Service circa 90% of the apprentices went on to gain paid employment with Cumbria County Council.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet authorises the extension to the Apprenticeship Framework for a period of one year from 01 April 2023 until 31 March 2024, with an indicative annual value of £4m.

55 CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS

The Leader presented a report which provided Cabinet with a summary of the actions taken by Cumbria County Council to support Cumbria's most vulnerable residents during the current cost of living crisis.

The cost of living crisis posed a significant threat to public health. In response to this the UK Government had put in place a number of support measures, including the Household Support Fund and household fuel support payments. But, monitoring the impacts locally, led Cumbria County Council to want to do more.

The Leader outlined the actions taken in response to this:-

- In June 2022 Cumbria County Council created a £2 million Cost of Living Reserve, to give additional support to Cumbria's most vulnerable residents.
- In September 2022 Cumbria County Council also passed a motion to take steps to –
 - o Build on the work of the cost-of-living crisis fund.
 - o To call on Scrutiny to convene a task and finish group to ensure no child goes hungry.
 - o To lobby government to review their Free School Meal guidance.
- Following the Scrutiny task and finish group the recommendations of the 'No Child Goes Hungry' report were agreed by Cabinet in December 2022 resulting in a further £2m being made available to implement them. This included £1.5m which was distributed to all schools in the county, including academies and free schools, including funding to enable schools to access the national breakfast club scheme, and a further £500k to allow the two new

unitary councils to continue the holiday food programme over the 2023 Easter holidays.

- In October 2022 a further £1m was allocated from the public health budget to provide support to organisations working to alleviate food poverty.

Each of these decisions culminated in a total spend of £5m, which was further broken down below:

Each of these decisions culminated in a total spend of £5m, which is further broken down below:

- £1.5m of funding direct to all schools, including free schools and academies, to ensure that no Cumbrian child goes hungry. This included £50k of match funding support to enable schools to access the Government's National Breakfast Club Programme.
- £0.5m to double the amount of the County Council's school uniform grant to £50 for Primary age children and £100 for Secondary age children.
- £1m of support for free school meal recipients during the school holidays - this covered all the holidays, including half terms, from summer 2022 and will include provision for this coming Easter holiday in 2023.
- £0.5m top up into the County Council's Ways to Welfare fund – this is a long running fund that supports those in severe financial hardship, which has seen unprecedented demand during this cost of living crisis.
- £1.5m to allow other organisations to continue to provide support and advice in the face of unprecedented demand on their services, including Cumbria's Citizens Advice Bureau Consortium, Cumbria Carers' Association, and Cumbria Community Foundation.

Cabinet acknowledged that funding had also been provided from the local committees to use during this crisis.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet

- (1) notes the actions taken by the County Council in 2022/23 to provide additional support to residents of Cumbria during the current cost of living crisis;
- (2) notes the role of the County Council in co-ordinating a wide range of interventions across a large geographical area and the

support the Council has put in place to ensure that the Cumberland and the Westmorland & Furness Councils have resources in place to tackle the cost of living crisis from vesting day;

- (3) notes that there is further work required to balance ongoing emergency support with developing and implementing medium and long-term strategic plans to reduce poverty and inequalities in both Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness.

56 DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION - USE OF DEPARTMENT FOR LEVELLING UP HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES GRANT

Mrs Burns left the meeting at this point.

The Cabinet Member for Health and Care Services presented a report which asked Cabinet to agree the proposed spend for 2023/2024 in line with Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) Guidance.

In 2022/23 DLUHC announced a one year funding settlement for Cumbria County Council to fulfil its statutory duties under the Domestic Abuse Act.

In broad terms, these grants were used to underwrite the cost of staffing to liaise with the functions associated with Domestic Abuse, funded the work between Cumbria County Council, monitoring the grant agreement along with data returns. It also supported the operational and management functions associated with Temporary Accommodation Units held by all District Councils.

For the year 2023/24, in line with Local Government Reform, DLUHC had combined the Tier 1 and Tier 2 grants and then disaggregated them to the new councils. This had resulted in a grant to Cumberland Council to the value of £663,085 (54%) and Westmorland and Furness Council to the value of £565,068 (46%)

The report detailed how this money would be allocated to the new councils, and proposals for the spend.

The Leader thanked the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities and the Cabinet Member for Children's Services who had both been champions for the Domestic Violence cause.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet

- (1) approves the use of the DLUHC supported accommodation grant as outlined in paragraphs 13 and 14 of the report;

(2) notes that Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness Councils will need to do the following:

- i. Enter into a grant agreement with Barrow Women Community Matters (Westmorland and Furness Council)
- ii. Approve spend against existing contract for Eden Housing (Westmorland and Furness Council)
- iii. Enter into grant agreements, one with each of the organisations to provide community-in-reach support services as set out in paragraphs 13 and 14 (both Councils)
- iv. Enter into a grant agreement with the OPCC to deliver service being provided by Victim Support (both Councils)
- v. Continue to fund the DA Survivors Network via contract (both Councils)
- vi. Continue to fund Springfield via contract (Westmorland and Furness)

Mrs Burns returned to the meeting at this point.

57 AWARD OF FRAMEWORK CONTRACTS FOR DAY OPPORTUNITIES IN CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND AND FURNESS COUNCIL'S ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

Mrs Tibble left the meeting at this point.

Cabinet had before it a report from the Executive Director – People which sought approval to appoint providers who had met or exceeded the minimum standards required to the Framework Agreements for Day Opportunities from 1 April 2023 for a period of 2 years. These were Framework for Day Opportunities in Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council.

The current Flexible Framework for Independent Day Services, which adopted an Any Qualified Provider approach to procurement, came into operation June 1 2017 and would run until 31 March 2023.

Day Opportunities played a key role in supporting disabled and older people to maintain and develop new skills, prevent social isolation, support inclusion and presence in their local communities and provide a break from caring and support for unpaid carers ensuring they can continue to offer ongoing support.

The Independent Day Services Framework included 22 independent sector providers across a range of locations in the footprint of Cumbria County Council with a current annual commitment £2.848m.

All were commissioned on a 'spot' purchase basis and there was no spend committed/guaranteed against either of the frameworks. The values stated in this report were based on current and predicted activity. These frameworks do not commit the new Local Authorities to this level of spend.

As the new frameworks would start on 1 April 2023, consultation had taken place with the relevant Cabinet Members for both new local authorities who supported the award for the frameworks.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet

- (1) approves the establishment of the Framework for Day Opportunities in Cumberland Council's administrative area from 1 April 2023 for a period of 2 years;
- (2) approves the appointment of the providers referenced in Appendix 1 of this report;
- (3) delegates approval of the appointment of all future providers who are eligible to gain access to this flexible Framework, throughout the term of the Framework, to the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing;
- (4) approves the establishment of the Framework for Day Opportunities in Westmorland and Furness Council's administrative area from 1 April 2023 for a period of 2 years;
- (5) approves the appointment of the providers referenced in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (6) delegates approval of the appointment of all future providers who are eligible to gain access to this flexible Framework, throughout the term of the Framework, to the Director of Adult Social Care.

Mrs Tibble returned to the meeting at this point.

58 CARLISLE STATION GATEWAY

The Leader presented a report which outlined the Carlisle Station Gateway project (the Project). This was a strategic regeneration project included in the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal to revitalise Carlisle City Centre and wider Borderlands area. The Project would strengthen Carlisle's position on the national rail network, improve access and connectivity to Carlisle and the Borderlands region as well as contribute to decarbonisation by encouraging more journeys to be taken by rail.

This report sought approval from Cabinet to progress a number of changes to the originally approved scheme to facilitate project delivery.

The project was split into four components-

- Northern Gateway,
- Southern Gateway
- Station Interior and
- Enabling Streets and junctions.

Fundamental to the success of the project was the relocation of car parking and vehicular traffic, including rail replacement bus services, from the Northern Gateway to the Southern Gateway and Cumbria County Council had been working in partnership with Carlisle City Council, Network Rail and Avanti West Coast to enable delivery of the Project and relocation of the car park.

The closure of the existing public car park on the northern side of the station operated by Avanti and the creation of a new public car park on the southern side by the County Council, required Avanti to surrender their lease for the existing car park. However, it had not been possible to achieve this without paying compensation to Avanti or identifying replacement provision. Neither of these requirements could be met by the Council.

Due to this impasse, Network Rail had proposed an alternative approach, with Network Rail facilitating the current car park relocation, owning the site and taking responsibility for the management and operation of the new station car park instead of the Council.

The alternative approach removed the need for the Council to provide capital funding but required agreement by 31 March 2023. It also required the approval of Cumberland Council at its meeting on 27 March 2023 in order for the County Council to proceed with signing of contracts.

RESOLVED, that Cabinet

- (1) notes the changes to the total project cost and that funding for this scheme is now £20m from Borderlands and £7.915m from Network Rail and that there is no longer a contribution required from the local authority (Cumberland Council);
- (2) subject to Section 24 consent from Cumberland Council on 27th March 2023, delegates authority to the Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure to finalise the detailed terms and enter into the necessary legal agreements with Network Rail for the sale of the Station Retail Park and The Pools site (excluding

the James Street Baths) before 31 March 2023 as aligned with the Heads of Terms documented in appendix 1 of the report;

- (3) subject to Section 24 consent from Cumberland Council on 27 March 2023, delegate authority to the Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure, to finalise the detailed terms and enter into a Lease for the Station Retail Park and The Pools site (excluding the James Street baths) with Network Rail before 31 March 2023 as aligned with the Heads of Terms documented in appendix 1 of the report;
- (4) delegates authority to the Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure to finalise the terms of and enter into a Contribution Agreement with Network Rail to increase the funding received to support project delivery as aligned with the Heads of Terms documented in appendix 1 of the report;
- (5) delegates authority to the Executive Director - Economy and Infrastructure, to agree with Northumberland County Council a variation to the Borderlands Grant Funding Agreement for the Carlisle Station Gateway Project in line with the Change Control documented in appendix 2 of the report;
- (6) acknowledges the Capital Receipt for the disposal of the Station Retail Park and The Pools site will be reinvested back into Carlisle Station Gateway Project and agrees the inclusion of additional funding received through the Contribution Agreement into the Capital Programme.

The meeting then broke at 11.45am and reconvened at 11.55am

59 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MAIN CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR CARLISLE SOUTHERN LINK ROAD

The Leader updated on the situation in relation to the Award of Contract for the main construction works for Carlisle Southern Link Road.

A funding decision was still awaited from Homes England, and it had not been received in time for a decision to be taken at this meeting.

It was therefore,

RESOLVED, that the meeting be adjourned until 27 March at 10am in Cumbria House, Carlisle.

The Leader ended the meeting by asking that the Cabinet Members' thanks be recorded to all the officers that have supported the Cabinet during the past 10 years. He also thanked all the Cabinet Members for their support.

He especially mentioned the three Leadership Support Officers who had played a vital role for members of all the political groups to ensure the smooth running of the democratic process.

Finally, he praised the support of the Democratic Services Officer who was also integral to the smooth and efficient running of the democratic process.

The Deputy Leader then paid tribute to the Leader of the Council on behalf of all the Cabinet Members.

The meeting adjourned at 12.00 pm

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Committee: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 27 March 2023 (reconvened from 16 March 2023)

Title of Report: Award of design and build contract to construct Carlisle Southern Link Road and approval to execute Deed of Variation to Grant Determination Agreement with Homes England

Report by: Angela Jones, Executive Director, Economy and Infrastructure

Cabinet Member: Cllr. Keith Little – Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

What is the Report About? (Executive Summary)

1. The report seeks approval to consider the award of a design and build contract for the construction of Carlisle Southern Link Road (CSLR).
2. The report recommendation follows a restricted tender procurement process carried out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
3. The report also seeks approval of an amendment to the Grant Determination Agreement (GDA) between the Council and Homes England for the construction of the CSLR to confirm the revised project funding and delivery milestones.
4. The report also notes the necessary amendments to the capital programme 2022-27 to reflect the remaining full project costs and funding including the additional Homes England Funding
5. The recommendations are all subject to confirmation of the requested funding decision from Homes England. At the time of publication, written confirmation of the funding decision has not been received. Members will be updated at the reconvened meeting on the 27th March 2023.
 - If the funding has been received the recommendation will be to award the contract.
 - If the funding decision has not been received the recommendation will be to delegate the final decision to award to the Executive Director, Economy and Infrastructure in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport, Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer following receipt of funding confirmation.
6. If the funding decision is not received by the 31st March 2023 the decision to award the contract will transfer to Cumberland Council.
7. Award of the contract is critical to ensuring that the overall project programme is maintained in line with the amended GDA.

8. At its meeting on the 16th February 2023 Cumberland Shadow executive formally granted consent in accordance with the Direction issued under section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to Cumbria County Council consenting to the award of a design and build contract for the construction of CSLR to the winning bidder and the amendment of the GDA between the County Council, the City Council and Homes England for the construction of the CSLR.
9. Due to the delay in receiving notification about the funding decision, the report provides different recommendations depending on the circumstances prevailing at the time of the reconvened meeting. For each of the scenarios below, due to the timing of the decision in relation to LGR and the urgency required to award the contract, an exemption from call in has been sought and approved in accordance with Section 5D paragraph 16 of the Constitution.
10. The recommendations included at paras 13- 17 apply to the situation, and the decision required, should the funding decision have been made at the time of the meeting.
11. The recommendations included at paragraphs 18- 19 apply to the situation where the funding decision has not been received at the time of the reconvened meeting but would delegate authority up to 31st March 2023 to enable the County Council to make the decision.
12. If the funding decision has not been received prior to 31st March 2023, the decision to award the contract will pass to Cumberland Council.

A. Recommendations of the Executive Director (subject to written confirmation of the funding decision being received by the date of the reconvened meeting on 27th March 2023)

13. To approve the award of a design and build contract for the construction of CSLR to the winning bidder for the Target Cost submitted and as set out in Appendix 1.
14. To approve the amendment of the GDA between the Council and Homes England for the construction of the CSLR which revises the funding allocation to the amount stated in Appendix 2 and revise the agreement milestones set out in Appendix 2.
15. To note, following approval of the amendments to the GDA, the necessary amendments to be made to the capital programme 2022-27 to reflect the remaining full project costs and funding including the additional Homes England Funding.
16. To note that due to the timing of the decision in relation to LGR and the urgency required to award the contract, an exemption from call in has been approved in accordance with Section 5D paragraph 16 of the Constitution.
17. All of the above recommendations are subject to confirmation of the requested funding from Homes England. At the time of publication, the funding decision has not been received. Members will be updated at the reconvened meeting on 27th March as to any updated information received.

B. Recommendation of the Executive Director, if written confirmation of the funding decision not received by the date of the meeting on 27 March 2023

18. To delegate the final decision to award the contract to the Executive Director, Economy and Infrastructure in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport, Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer between the date of the meeting and 31 March 2023 following receipt of the funding decision confirmation.
19. To note that due to the timing of the decision in relation to LGR and the urgency required to award the contract, an exemption from call in has been approved in accordance with Section 5D paragraph 16 of the Constitution.
20. The details of the successful bidder and the Target Cost price is contained within the exempt appendices but will be provided publicly immediately prior to the final decision being made.

Background to the Proposals

21. CSLR is a key piece of strategic infrastructure required to unlock housing growth at St Cuthbert's Garden Village (SCGV) to the south of Carlisle. CSLR will provide a high-quality link between Junction 42 of the M6 and the A595, it also connects to Carlisle Northern Development Route, thereby completing an outer ring road for Carlisle.
22. In addition to unlocking the development of SCGV, CSLR will relieve congestion in Carlisle and will provide improved east-west connectivity. SCGV is planned to include the development of 10,325 new homes over the next 30 years, new employment opportunities and community facilities. Without CSLR, traffic modelling has identified that development would be restricted to just 1,000 homes.
23. This project dates back to 2015 when Cumbria County Council, working with Carlisle City Council, undertook early scheme development to identify options to meet the requirements of housing growth in Carlisle. The project has been through extensive public consultation, planning permission has been approved and significant scheme works have been undertaken through the design and enabling works.
24. Despite a number of challenges, the County Council, City Council and Government have remained committed to progressing the project, recognising that this multi-million-pound scheme is vital for the economic growth of Carlisle and to deliver the St Cuthbert's Garden Village project. This project will unlock economic inclusive growth through the creation of jobs, attracting businesses to invest, reducing congestion and creating the infrastructure to support the building of quality homes and community facilities.
25. The project is now ready for the main construction works to start. Land has been acquired, major statutory diversions are being completed, the site has been cleared, a preferred bid has been obtained from a suitable contractor to deliver the scheme within the required timescale and funding has been approved. All the pieces are in place to deliver all of the benefits of this project. Timing is critical to

both the contractor's submission and the funding offer. If this opportunity is not taken now it may be many years, if ever, before this project and the associated developments can be delivered.

26. In July 2020, Cumbria County Council and Carlisle City Council entered into the tripartite HIF Grant Determination Agreement (GDA) for £134m of funding from the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) towards the £144m CSLR project.
27. A procurement exercise was carried out for a two-stage design and build contract to deliver the Works. The Stage 1 contract was subsequently awarded to Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure Ltd (MSCI) following approval from Cabinet on 18th March 2021. Provisions existed in the tender documents for a Stage 2 construction contract to be awarded to the successful Stage 1 contractor following successful completion of the Stage 1 contract and agreement of a formal offer for the works construction.
28. The formal offer provided by MSCI included a Total of the Prices which significantly exceeded the project budget and included a number of proposed changes to the Stage 2 contract such that the economic balance of the Stage 2 contract, would have changed to an extent which is more than de minimis. As a result, the executive director was unable to recommend award of the Stage 2 contract to MCSI and a decision to not award the Stage 2 construction contract was made at the Cabinet meeting of 21st July 2022.
29. Following this decision and with the consent of Homes England a new procurement exercise has been carried out for the construction of CSLR based on the detailed design outputs from the Stage 1 contract.
30. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has confirmed funding for an additional £78 million to ensure the project can proceed and the economic and social benefits can be realised.

Procurement Process

31. A two stage restricted process procurement has been undertaken. Following issue of a Prior Information Notice on 15th August 2022 feedback was received from a number of interested suppliers which was used to tailor the tender process. PQQ documents were issued on 10th October 2022 and returns were received on 11th November 2022. Returns were assessed and a tender list of 4 competent contractors agreed. Contractors were assessed for experience and capability and a financial stability assessment was also carried by an external financial consultancy. Details of the assessment at PQQ are included in Appendix 1.
32. Tender documents were issued on 25th November 2022 with a proposed return date of 27th January 2023. Following a request for an extension of time the return date was amended to 3rd February 2023.
33. Three tenders were received. One of submissions included a number of qualifications. Qualifications are not allowed and the bidder was asked to withdraw the qualifications and confirm that they would deliver the offer for the price submitted. The bidder declined to do so and as a result the submission was disqualified. The remaining tenders were assessed on quality and price basis with 65% quality and 35% price weighting. Assessment was undertaken by a panel of experienced officers with a moderation meeting used to arrive at agreed scores

for each question for each bidder. Price submissions and supporting information was assessed by an experienced commercial team. A detailed report of the assessment outcome is included as Appendix 1.

34. Due diligence is firmly established as an element of corporate good governance in the contract award process, in order to protect the reputation of the Council and its finances, as well as the protection and reputation of the decision makers. A due diligence exercise has been undertaken in relation to this contract award and further detail is available in Appendix 1. Under the terms of the contract a Performance Bond is required and will be provided by the Contractor. The value of this Bond is 10% of the total of the Prices. Under the financial assurance the Contractor is also required to provide a Parent Company Guarantee.
35. The submission from the winning bidder was assessed as providing the most economically advantageous tender based on both Quality and Price with an overall score of 792.88 out of 1000.

Contract Terms

36. The contract to be awarded is an NEC Option C Target Cost contract. The contract is not a “fixed price” contract. The submitted price is a Target Cost. In practice this means the Contractor is paid all of the actual costs incurred in delivering the works up to the Target Cost. Actual costs are determined through open book transparency with the level of information specified in the contract and outlined in the bidder’s offer. The contractor is then incentivised to minimise the actual cost through a pain/gain mechanism set out in the contract.
37. If the actual cost is less than the Target Cost the difference is shared and both parties gain. If the actual cost is more than the Target Cost both sides share the additional cost referred to as pain. The maximum amount the Contractor can be due under the specified pain/gain mechanism is the Target Cost + 3.75%. This means that the maximum cost to the Council under the contract is limited to the Target Cost + 3.75%.
38. The Target Cost can increase or decrease subject to Compensation Events which are changes or events that have an effect on the cost or programme. Events or changes which constitute Compensation Events that would increase the Target Cost are defined in the contract. The key ones are:
 - Extreme weather conditions
 - Unforeseen ground conditions
 - Force Majeure issues e.g. War, Acts of God, Pandemics
 - Instructions which change the Scope
39. These have or will be mitigated as follows:
 - *Extreme weather conditions* – These are defined in standard terms in the contract and an additional definition has been added for flood levels in relation to the Caldew River. The risk of this is mitigated by inclusion of a project contingency within the overall budget.
 - *Unforeseen ground conditions* - extensive ground investigations have been carried out as part of the detailed design work. Further ground investigations and assessments of potential contaminated land have been carried out

during the reprogramming work. All the archaeological watching briefs have already been carried out. Residual risk is included in project contingency.

- *Force Majeure Events* – these are events outside the control of and which could not be predicted by either the Client or the Contractor. The risk of these events is included in the project contingency.
- *Instructions which change the Scope* – these are within the control of the Project Manager and are mitigated by the scheme of delegation ensuring that instructions cannot be issued without the Project Manager/ Project Director approval. Any changes and their impact will be logged and reported to Board on an ongoing basis. Changes can be used to reduce the Target Cost – i.e. descoping if required.

40. In addition to the above the conditions of contract have been set to allow the risk of inflation against Steel and Ready Mix Concrete to be held by the Client. A specific allowance has been included in the project budget to mitigate this risk. The risk is managed through the use of named indices and regular reporting on the change in the indices and the effect on the Target Cost. It should be noted that a decrease in the indices will result in a reduction in the Target Cost.

Project Budget

41. A revised overall project budget has been calculated based on the submitted tender price. The revised project budget includes an appropriate level of contingency on the tendered price and the cost of utility diversions. In addition, an additional contingency is included against inflation for Steel and Ready Mix concrete and further contingencies are included for network rail risk and opportunity risk to reflect the risk profile adopted in the tender. The project expenditure forecast and budget issued to Homes England is included in Appendix 3.

Project Governance

42. The required commercial skills and capabilities are already established within the Client team who will take a strategic, benefits and outcome view of the project. The Project Director will act as the interface for the project into the Council, managing the commercial relationship, reporting and managing performance and risks, providing any clarification needed to the senior leadership team and Members and escalating any key issues, risks and decisions required.
43. A Governance Board will be established to ensure oversight and assurance of the delivery of the Project, management of risk, assessment of ongoing value for money, to ensure communication routes are in place and to monitor the realisation of intended benefits. The Director of Place, Sustainable Growth and Transport will act in the role of Senior Responsible Officer, working closely with the Project Director, Statutory Officers and Members.
44. The existing project team will transfer to Cumberland and continue to work on the delivery of the project, ensuring no loss of knowledge occurs. The team will continue throughout the term of the project to manage the contract and ensure the delivery of the infrastructure accords with the Scope.
45. A new post will be appointed for a Construction Manager. To oversee the main works contract and act as the NEC Project Manager. The position will be for an experienced professional with a track record of delivering major construction

projects. Works supervisors and quantity surveyors will also be appointed in order to strengthen the Client's team further.

46. The levels of delegated authority are proposed to remain as current subject to agreement within the new authority.

Grant Determination Agreement (GDA)

47. The revised project budget along with the contractor's submitted programme has been used to determine the required amendments to the GDA with Homes England. Changes to the GDA were reviewed at a meeting with officers from the Councils and Homes England. The amendments are merely to update the GDA to take account of the current position of the project. The aspects of the GDA to be varied are set out in Appendix 2.
48. The revised GDA combined with the proposed funding from the County and City Councils (to be the new Cumberland Authority from 1st April 2023) will provide the funding to deliver the whole project. The full proposed changes to the GDA are set out in Appendix 2.
49. On the 16th February 2023 the Cumberland Shadow Executive was informed of the indicative assessment outcome and price and formally granted consent in accordance with the Direction issued under section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to Cumbria County Council awarding a design and build contract for the construction of CSLR to the winning bidder and the amendment of the GDA between the County Council, the City Council and Homes England for the construction of the CSLR.

Options Considered and Risks Identified

Option (a)

- Approve the award of a design and build contract for the construction of CSLR to the winning bidder and approve the amendment to the GDA with Homes England. (This is the preferred option).

Option (b)

- Do not award the contract to winning bidder.

Risks – Failure to award the contract will result in delays to the programme and cost increases and could lead to the withdrawal of funding from Homes England under the GDA.

Failure to deliver the CSLR project will mean that the SCGV and the associated economic development cannot be delivered.

Reasons for the recommendation/Key benefits

- The offer provided by the winning bidder is the most economically advantageous tender.
- The project is funded through the proposed amendments to the GDA.

- CSLR will provide a key piece of strategic infrastructure required to unlock housing growth at St Cuthbert's Garden Village (SCGV) to the south of Carlisle. CSLR will provide a high-quality link between Junction 42 of the M6 and the A595, it also connects to Carlisle Northern Development Route, thereby completing an outer ring road for Carlisle.
- The project will facilitate investment of over £200m in the local area having a significant impact on the local economy and the local supply chain.
- The offer provided by the winning bidder includes social and economic legacy benefits to be included in and delivered through, an Employment & Skills Plan, a Social Value Plan and an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan. These include employment opportunities for people within Cumbria, apprenticeship opportunities and support for community projects.

Financial – What Resources will be needed and how will it be Funded?

50. The recommendation contained within this report is that subject to receipt of the funding decision, Cabinet approves the award of a design and build contract for the construction of CSLR to the winning bidder for the Target Cost as submitted and set out in Appendix 1. Should funding not be confirmed by 31st March 2023, contingency arrangement have been set out, as detailed in paragraph 12 above.
51. As highlighted in this report, tenders were evaluated using a 65:35 quality/cost ratio. It should be noted that winning bidder's bid was significantly lower than the second bidder price and the evaluation process has sought to understand why this might be the case and whether the target cost bid is sufficient to deliver the project.
52. As a result of the evaluation, officers are comfortable they understand the potential reasons for the significant difference in pricing and these are outlined in Appendix 1. Ultimately, Cumberland Council will only be liable for a maximum of 3.75% of the target cost bid as an additional cost if the bid price proves to be too low. There are, however, some compensation events which will impact the target price as set out elsewhere in this report.
53. Cumberland Council will be directly liable for inflation on steel and ready-mix concrete, The total project funding includes a significant contingency budget as highlighted in Appendix 3. Officers within the service are confident that the budget should be sufficient to cover the potential maximum risk exposure to the target cost as well as the inflation on steel and ready-mix concrete. The Finance team are relying on expert advice in this respect.
54. A parent company guarantee and a performance bond will both be provided to guard against contract non-performance. A performance bond requires a bank or similar institution to pay to the Council a pre-determined amount to enable the Council to find an alternative contractor should the winning bidder go into receivership.
55. Again, as highlighted in the main body of the report, the Target Cost itself can be increased for force majeure events but due to the nature of these events it is not possible to forecast the extent of financial risk in this respect.

56. Failure to award the contract before 31 March 2023 will lead to significant additional costs and, again, the Finance Team are reliant on expert advice in this respect.
57. Over and above the matters highlighted above, the total project costs as presented do not seek any additional funding from either the County Council or Cumberland Council going forward other than that already approved and set out in the table below.
58. In approving the amendment to the GDA, funding from Homes England would increase from £134m to the amount set out in Appendix 1.

Funding streams	Existing £m	Proposed £m
Homes England	134.0	See Appendix 1
Cumbria County Council	5.0	5.0
Carlisle City Council	5.0	5.0
Potential receipt from sale of land at Cummersdale		3.4
Total Funding	144.0	See Appendix 1

59. Subject to approval of the amendment to the GDA and therefore the increase in funding to be included in the Capital Programme then the contract award can be funded from the total funding for the Carlisle Southern Link Road project. Should Cabinet decide not to approve the amendment to the GDA, the contract award cannot be made as there would be insufficient funding identified to support it.
60. There is currently £29.966m included in the Councils Capital Programme 2022-2027 following the decision to remove the stage 2 funding as part of the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring paper to Cabinet on 22nd September 2022. Therefore the funding removed, and the additional funding secured from Homes England to deliver Stage 2 will need to be included in the Capital Programme 2022-2027 which will then be disaggregated to the Cumberland Council from 1st April 2023. The £3.4m of funding remains subject to the sale of land at Cummersdale.

Legal Aspects – What needs to be considered?

61. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables local authorities to enter into contracts in order to deliver their functions. The Council, with the support of external legal advisers, ran the procurement in accordance with its own rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, which included the disqualification of the tendered who provided the qualified tender.
62. Due to the value of the proposed contract the decision to award is a Key Decision and, accordingly, the necessary advertisement requirements have been followed. Cabinet is authorised to make the award of the contract by virtue of paragraph 2.1(i) of Part 2B of the Council's Constitution.
63. The risks associated with this decision arising from the Council's obligations in the GDA for the CSLR were set out at the time the Council entered into the GDA.

The proposed amendments to the GDA are only to ensure that those obligations are in line with the current position of the project. The Council can only construct the CSLR, and comply with its main obligation under the GDA, through an award of a construction contract for the project, as has been recommended to Cabinet in this report.

64. Due to the timing of the decision in relation to LGR and the urgency required to award the contract, an exemption from call in has been approved in accordance with Section 5D paragraph 16 of the Constitution. **LGR Implications**
65. On the 16th February 2023 the Cumberland Shadow executive was informed of the indicative tender assessment outcome and price and formally granted consent in accordance with the Direction issued under section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to Cumbria County Council awarding a design and build contract for the construction of CSLR to the winning bidder and the amendment of the GDA between the County Council, the City Council and Homes England for the construction of the CSLR.
66. On 1st April 2023 the contract and GDA will by operation of law, using the provisions in section 16 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, transfer to Cumberland Council

Health and Safety Aspects – What needs to be considered?

67. The County Council has a responsibility under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and associated Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable that there are arrangements in place to ensure a healthy and safe working environment for all services and activity for which it has responsibility.
68. The recommendation for Cabinet to approve the award of a design and build contract for Carlisle Southern Link Road will be subject to Construction & Design Management (CDM 2015) regulations.
69. In the context of this report, this places a joint responsibility on the County Council as lead for the overall CSLR programme as well as the appointed contractor delivering the design and build works to ensure the highest possible health and safety standards are in place including for example risk assessments, safe methods of work and specialist PPE in place where required. This approach should ensure all legislation and safe ways of working are followed in line with the commitments outlined in the County Council Annual Health & Safety Policy Statement last agreed by Cabinet in July 2022.
70. From 1 April 2023, Health and Safety responsibility for the CSLR project will transfer from Cumbria County Council to Cumberland Council as part of the Cumbria Local Government Reorganisation and the project will then be subject to the health and safety governance arrangements in place for Cumberland Unitary Authority.

Council Plan Priority – How do the Proposals Contribute to the Delivery of the Council’s Stated Outcomes? (Outcomes - People in Cumbria are Healthy and Safe, Places in Cumbria are well connected and thriving, the Economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone)

Carlisle Southern Link Road will have an important role in supporting the delivery of the Council Plan objectives:-

- The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone – The CSLR will unlock the St Cuthbert’s Garden Village and improve east-west connectivity, therefore promoting economic growth in Cumbria.
- Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving – the CSLR will improve east-west connectivity and promote thriving communities and businesses.
- People in Cumbria are healthy and safe – the CSLR will promote healthy travel choices including walking and cycling provision along its entire length with links into existing cycling and walking networks.

What is the Impact of the Decision on Health Inequalities and Equality and Diversity Issues?

71. None. The tender process included an assessment of the bidders compliance with the Equality Act.

Appendices (Part 2)

Appendix 1 – CSLR tender assessment scores (Part II – copy enclosed for members only).

Appendix 2 – proposed amendment to the Grant Determination Agreement with Homes England (Part II – copy enclosed for members only)

Appendix 3 – Project budget and expenditure forecast (Part II – copy enclosed for members only)

Key Facts

Electoral Division(s): Wetheral, Dalston and Burgh

Executive Decision	Key Decision Included in Forward Plan	Exempt from call-in	Exemption agreed by scrutiny chair	Considered by scrutiny, if so detail below	Environmental or sustainability assessment undertaken?	Equality impact assessment undertaken?
Yes	No	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Approved by the relevant Cabinet Member/s on 23 March 2023

Previous relevant Council or Executive decisions

Award of Contract – Stage 1 Design Carlisle Southern Link Road – 18 March 2021

Carlisle Southern Link Road – Land Acquisition, Compulsory Purchase Order and Side Roads Order – 27 August 2020

Carlisle Southern Link Road – Housing Infrastructure Fund Grant Determination Agreement – 23 July 2020

Decision not to award contract for Stage 2 construction works for Carlisle Southern Link Road – 21 July 2022

Consideration by Overview & Scrutiny

None

Background Papers

None

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