



DECISION OF COUNCILLOR PETER BRYANT

THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

**WITH ADVICE FROM
THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT**

DECISION NO 16/17 DE 239

THIS DECISION REPLACES 16/17 DE 236

SUBJECT: Advance purchase of materials and site set up costs for Town Square enhancements works.

Background:

An opportunity for grant funding from the LEP to undertake significant enhancements and refurbishment of Town Square has occurred, however to access the grant the project must be delivered this financial year. In order to comply with this requirement, long lead time materials must be ordered by the 14th December and prior to final confirmation of funding. Mobilising contractors for an immediate start on site will also be necessary, and require a commitment in advance.

As this is an urgent decision which has not been advertised on the Forward Plan and we have not complied with the normal five days advance notice the Council's urgent decision process has therefore been followed.

DECISION: That an order for the supply of long lead time materials, to the value of approximately £300,000 plus a commitment to £60,000 mobilisation costs be placed.

Reasons:

In order to undertake the construction work this financial year long lead in materials must be ordered and mobilisations commenced immediately.

Other Alternatives Considered:

To delay the procurement of long lead in time materials would put delivery of the project at significant risk.

Alternative materials potentially could be used however these would not be of the same quality and would not achieve the objectives of the project and the project outcomes required by the funder.

Risk Assessment:

The scheme has the support of the Investment Board and the LEP Board. The LEP Board was attended by all the members of the SLB. While we cannot guarantee support of the SLB, the risk of the recommendation being rejected seems very low.

Financial Implications:

The first phase (2016/7) of the enhancement works is planned to be £1.286m, with further funding of £800k also sought for a further phase.

The £360k of funding requested in advance of the grant confirmation is at (very low) risk. However the materials received could be sold on to recoup the costs if for some reason grant funding was not confirmed.

Implications for Future Years:

None, this is a capital item.

Ongoing maintenance has been an important part of the design to ensure that future maintenance can be undertaken within the existing budget for the space.

Background Papers:-

none

Signed Executive Member for Environment

Dated 19/12/2016

Confirmation of Advice Given

Signed Director of Development & Environment

Dated 19/12/16