
RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE BUS, CYCLE, WALK WORKING PARTY

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

Date: 25 March 2021

Author: Infrastructure and Strategy Manager

[V162]

1.0 ISSUE

- 1.1 To consider a recommendation from the East Cambridgeshire Bus, Cycle, Walk Working Party.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 Members are requested to:

- i) Note the recommendation made by the East Cambridgeshire Bus, Cycle, Walk Working Party, as set out in 3.2 of this report; and
- ii) Approve the course of action set out in 4.4 of this report.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 10 March 2021 the East Cambridgeshire Bus, Cycle, Walk Working Party met to progress the development of the East Cambridgeshire Cycling and Walking Routes Strategy. It was agreed at the meeting that Finance & Assets Committee would receive a report that would consider the allocation of £30,000 towards feasibility studies for proposed new cycle routes that have been identified.
- 3.2 At the Working Party Members expressed a desire for the Finances & Assets Committee to make £30,000 available to the Working Party to fund feasibility studies for new cycle routes. It is further requested that the Working Party would have delegated authority to determine which routes could be selected for a feasibility study depending on the quotes that are returned. Sustrans (who could carry out such studies) has indicated that the cost of the feasibility work varies, dependent on the size and complexity of the scheme. Estimates for each assessment would range from £5,000 to £20,000 plus.

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The Working Party has not yet completed its work to prioritise cycling and walking routes for further development. Good progress has been made to identify evaluation criteria to enable this. Completion of the criteria will be based upon the mapping of routes that have been identified in the consultation.
- 4.2 It had previously been identified that the Council would consider what funding intervention could reasonably be made by the Council once the prioritisation exercise is complete.
- 4.3 Once the prioritisation exercise is complete the Council will be in a better position to understand what routes could be included in other organisations' strategies, for example, the Cambridgeshire County Council LCWIP and what can reasonably be considered for funding through Section 106 Agreements and Community Infrastructure Levy funding. Further, the Council will need to be reasonably assured that it can maximise the limited funds, that it may apply, that can be utilised to achieve maximum benefit to the delivery of any scheme identified.
- 4.4 It is recommended that the Committee awaits the results of the prioritisation work to ensure that the prioritised routes are capable of progression. In addition, quotes for a number of route feasibility studies should be requested from Sustrans to ensure that any funds utilised can be maximised and a report be presented to a future Finance & Assets Committee meeting.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 Equality Impact Assessment is not required
- 5.3 Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) not required.

6.0 APPENDICES

- 6.1 None

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
None	Room 13 The Grange, Ely	Sally Bonnett Infrastructure and Strategy Manager (01353) 616451 E-mail: Sally.bonnett@eastcambs.gov.uk