

Forward Plan reference number: N/A

Report title: Rochford Local Highway Panel Scheme Requiring Budget Adjustment for the Financial Year 2019/20	
Report to: Councillor Kevin Bentley, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure	
Report author: Andrew Cook, Director for Highways and Transportation	
Date: 15/07/2019	For: Decision
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County Divisions affected: Rochford	

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. For the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure to consider a budget adjustment required for a scheme which has been recommended unanimously by the Rochford Local Highway Panel for the 2019/20 programme of works.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. For the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure to approve and sign off the budget adjustment required in consultation with the Director for Highways & Transportation.

3. Summary of Issue

- 3.1. The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure has already signed off schemes to the value of £184,750 recommended by the Rochford Local Highway Panel within their available budget of £214,000 at the start of the financial year.
- 3.2. The below identifies the scheme requiring a budget adjustment. The Rochford Local Highway Panel have been consulted and are in support. In summary, an additional £7,000 is required for this scheme.

Scheme requiring a budget adjustment to existing budget and included in the 2019/20 Rochford Local Highway Panel Programme

Ref	Scheme location	Budget				Scheme Stage		Reason
		Original	Adjustment		New	Original	New	
			Plus/Minus	Value				
LROC182013	Old London Road, Rawreth	£11,500	Plus	£7,000	£18,500	Total scheme	Total Scheme	The Design Engineer has advised that a large section of vegetation could be cleared which would greatly increase sightlines and greatly improve the effectiveness of the scheme.

4. Options

- 1) Agreement to the proposed budget adjustment.
- 2) Do nothing and deliver this scheme without the vegetation clearance element.

5. Issues for consideration

- 5.1. **Financial Implications** – If option 2 is chosen, there will be a greater chance that the Rochford LHP will underspend this financial year.
- 5.2. If option 2 is decided then the scheme will not be as effective in improving road safety.
- 5.3. The funding required for the budget adjustments is within the existing Rochford LHP capital budget allocation.
- 5.4. **Legal Implications** – All schemes are in line with Essex County Council policies, strategies and guidelines or have undergone the required CMA process to approve their progression.

6. Equality and Diversity implications

- 6.1. The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions and this is covered by the equality impact assessment dated 12 April 2019.

The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:

- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
- (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

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- (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- 6.2. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).
- 6.3. The equality impact assessment indicates that the proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic.
- 6.4. Each Local Highways Panel scheme varies from a speed survey to the installation of a traffic sign. Each local highway improvement scheme is in line with local and national policies which have already been subject to EqIA and no equality and diversity issues have been identified.
7. **List of appendices – EQIA**
8. **List of Background papers**

Scheme Request Forms and pertaining documentary evidence, Validation Reports, Proposal Scheme Lists are all available on request.

I approve the above recommendations set out above for the reasons set out in the report.	Date
Councillor Kevin Bentley, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure	31.07.2019

In consultation with:

Role	Date
ECC Director for Highways and Transportation	16.07.2019
Andrew Cook	
ECC Executive Director Finance and Technology (S151 Officer)	Consent not required
Nicole Wood	
Essex Highways, Traffic Manager	Consent not required
Liz Burr	
ECC Director, Legal and Assurance (Monitoring Officer)	Consent not required
Paul Turner	
Essex Highways, Highways Head of Design	16.07.2019
Vicky Presland	

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