

AGENDA ITEM 4

Report to Accountability Board	Forward Plan reference number: N/A
Date of Accountability Board Meeting:	24th June 2016
Date of report:	14th June 2016
Title of report:	Business Case Approval
Report by:	Adam Bryan
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to make the Board aware of the value for money assessment of business cases for schemes having been through the Independent Technical Evaluator (ITE) process to enable funding to be devolved to scheme sponsors (county and unitary councils) as part of our capital programme management.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Subject to confirmation of approval of the project from Network Rail with no additional cost implications, the Board is asked to **APPROVE** funding the following scheme which presents high value for money with low to medium certainty of achieving this.

- **Sturry Link Road (£5.9m)**

3. Background

- 3.1 This report brings forward, for release of funding, projects that have successfully completed the Independent Technical Evaluation process, a condition of our Assurance Framework agreed with Government.
- 3.2 The Sturry Link Road scheme, as currently assessed, presents high value for money, but there is uncertainty regarding the cost and deliverability of the scheme due to the necessary interaction with Network Rail. The ITE has recommended that with confirmation from Network Rail that they have approved the scheme and that their approval, and any further necessary involvement, would not cause an increase in costs, the scheme should be funded. Without this confirmation being provided, the advice from the ITE is that the scheme currently presents too high a risk and that the approval of the scheme be deferred until such time that such assurances can be provided by Network Rail.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Approval can be provided to the scheme in principle as it meets the requirements of the agreed SELEP Assurance Framework. However, funding beyond 2016/17 is subject to confirmation from Government of future years' Local Growth Fund allocations.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 None at present.

6. Staffing and other resource implications

- 6.1 None at present.

7. Equality and Diversity implications

- 7.1 None at present.

8. List of Appendices

- 8.1 None.

(available at www.essex.gov.uk if not circulated with this report)

9. List of Background Papers

- 9.1 In support of this paper is the Report of the Independent Technical Evaluator and Sturry Link Road Business Case.

(Any request for any background papers listed here should be made to the person named at the front of the report who will be able to help with any enquiries)

Role	Date
Accountable Body sign off	
Lorna Norris	16 June 2016
On behalf of Margaret Lee	