

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Officer Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Director of Universal Services
Title:	Project Appraisal: Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 Brookley Road, Brockenhurst

Contact name: Maisie Burrows

Email: Maisie.burrows@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Director of Universal Services approves the Project Appraisal for Active Travel Fund (ATF) Tranche 2 Brookley Road, Brockenhurst, as set out in this report.
- 1.2. That the Director of Universal Services approves an increase in value of the approved Capital Programme from £69,000 to £280,000, to be funded by Active Travel Fund Tranche 2, New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA), Brockenhurst Parish Council and Hampshire County Council Integrated Transport Block (ITB) fund.
- 1.3. That the Director of Universal Services gives approval to procure, spend and enter into necessary contractual arrangements, in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, to implement this scheme.
- 1.4. That the Director of Universal Services and the Head of Legal Services progress orders, notices, statutory procedures and secure and enter into all appropriate agreements, licences, consents, permissions, rights or easements necessary to enable implementation of the scheme.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. To gain approval to deliver the ATF Tranche 2 Brookley Road, Brockenhurst, including approval to spend and procure at the value of £280,000 to achieve the outlined scope. **The increase in cost of the scheme is due to identified opportunities to develop and enhance the objectives of the scheme, with contributions from other funding sources.**
- 2.2. The scheme will encourage people to walk or cycle in the Brookley Road area by providing a more accessible and attractive urban realm environment, as well as providing a suitable area for community events to take place. The improvements will help to reduce vehicle speeds and shift the priority towards people walking and cycle in this busy village centre area.

2.3. The scheme strongly aligns with the new Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4 by encouraging a shift away from vehicles, towards planning for people and places, as well as promoting more active lifestyles.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Following the success of the temporary footway widening measures, the original proposal was to deliver permanent build-outs and cycle parking at the same locations. However, this was not supported by the public or Parish Council following engagement in February/ March 2021. Further public and Parish Council consultation has influenced the new design, taking into account requests for a scheme that was less disruptive on existing infrastructure and parking.

3.2. Another option reject was to do nothing. This was rejected due to the opportunities the scheme presents to allow construction of facilities that will support LTP4 objectives and enhance Active Travel opportunities in Brockenhurst. The scheme is supported by the Parish Council and County Councillor.

3.3. The option to deliver a reduced scheme was also assessed, however, the scope of works deliverable within a reduced budget were not supported by the Parish Council and did not support LTP4 and Active Travel as well as the current scheme proposal does.

4. Conflicts of interest:

None.

5. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service:

None.

6. Supporting information:

None.

Approved by:

Patrick Blogg

Director of Universal Services

Date:

9 December 2024

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Director of Universal Services
Title:	Project Appraisal Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 Brookley Road, Brockenhurst

Contact name: Maisie Burrows

Email: Maisie.burrows@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to gain approval to spend and procure works to deliver an Active Travel Scheme in Brookley Road, Brockenhurst which encourages walking and cycling; enhances the public realm and is a strong strategic fit with Local Transport Plan(4). There is strong local support and funding from a range of partners.
- 1.2. The scheme aims to construct a raised area of carriageway to link the existing widened footways in Brookley Road to provide a consistent surface level and a better crossing environment for pedestrians. The continuous raised area will also facilitate community events in the village. New traffic bollards will define the vehicle route through the raised area. The scheme will also make footway improvements, including continuous footways over two junctions in the vicinity of the raised table to further enhance the walking experience.

2. Background

- 2.1. Following the announcement of the ATF bid, Hampshire County Council was successful in securing £3.28million (capital and revenue mix) for a programme of measures to promote walking and cycling.
- 2.2. Previously a temporary scheme was implemented in Brookley Road by the Parish Council supported by the County Council. This scheme widened the footways at key locations and assisted pedestrian and cyclist movements in the area. The Parish Council wished to explore whether this measure could be made permanent.
- 2.3. A scheme has now been developed which provides a significantly improved environment for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as creating a focal point in the village centre.
- 2.4. Following pre-construction surveys on site to investigate the existing construction environment, an opportunity has also arisen to undertake drainage maintenance prior to the construction of the ATF scheme, which will be funded separately by Asset Management. This will mitigate future risk to

the project if subsequent drainage repairs would have required the new construction to be excavated.

- 2.5. Drainage works are proposed to commence during early 2025, with the Active Travel scheme following on thereafter.

3. Strategic Case

- 3.1. The scheme strongly aligns with LTP4 core policies.
- 3.2. The scheme will provide an area of raised carriageway which will slow driver speeds thereby making it easier for pedestrians to cross the road. As well as reducing the severance created by two-way vehicular traffic through the village centre which is an area that should have greater priority for pedestrians. This encourages sustainable travel behaviour and supports local living, with a reduced demand on transport, by encouraging active modes of travel.
- 3.3. On occasion, the new raised area will be used by the Parish Council and other organisations for public gatherings and celebration, utilising road closures as necessary. This provides a greater prominence of the village centre as a place, to encourage more community and pedestrianised activities. Which aligns with the aspiration to put people and places at the heart of schemes.
- 3.4. The benefits of the scheme when completed will be measurable by the increased number of pedestrians crossing the road at this location, the vehicle speed reduction, and the general satisfaction from people using the area.
- 3.5. The proposed new continuous footways across the entrances to both the Tesco and Brookley Road Car Parks on either side of Brookley Road will provide priority for pedestrians using the footways. Furthermore, they will further encourage drivers to reduce their speed and give way to those more vulnerable. This accords with the user hierarchy set out in the LTP4 framework.

4. Finance

<u>Estimates</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>% of total</u>	<u>Funds Available</u>	<u>£'000</u>
Design Fee	61	22	Active Travel Fund	127
Client Fee	23	8	NFNPA contribution	18
Supervision	10	4	Integrated Transport Block	65
Construction	186	66	Brockenhurst Parish Council Funding	70
Total	280	100	Total	280

4.1. The Parish Council has contributed funding to further enhance the scheme and fund elements supported by themselves, by contributing £70,000. £50,000 will be collected immediately with a further £20,000 being transferred at the start of the 2025/26 financial year. The 2025/26 transfer will be underwritten by ITB funding until the £20,000 Parish Council fund becomes available.

4.2. Adequate contingency is accounted for in the construction cost estimate.

4.3. Client and Design Fees account for 30% of the scheme budget, this is due to the publication of revised Technical Guidance during the design stage which resulted in a new Design function being commissioned after design began. This decision was made to ensure the design fit new Technical Guidance standards.

4.2

<u>Maintenance Implications</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>% Variation to Committee's budget</u>
Net increase in maintenance expenditure	0.404	0.000%
Capital Charges (Depreciation and notional interest charges)	13.0	0.008%

5. Programme

	Gateway Stage			
	3 - Project Appraisal	Start on site	End on site	4 - Review
Date (mm/yy)	December 2024	March 2025	April 2025	April 2026

6. Scheme Details

6.1. The scheme will deliver a raised table area outside Tesco and the Terrace Café. The raised area will be constructed to match the existing carriageway surface. The raised area will be edged with tactile paving and bollards to improve the safety of pedestrians.

- 6.2. Block paving will be added outside Tesco to match the existing surface outside the Terrace Café.
- 6.3. Continuous footways will be constructed over the junction of Brookley Road with the Tesco Car Park and the Brookley Road junction with the Public Car Park. Please refer to Appendix C for layout of scheme.
- 6.4. To keep disruption to a minimum, discussions have taken place with the Parish Council and works will take place outside of important public events. Closures will be kept to a minimum and overnight where feasible.

7. Departures from Standards

- 7.1. None.

8. Community Engagement

- 8.1. This scheme has evolved from a temporary scheme promoted by the Parish Council in this area during the pandemic. The Parish Council has been fully involved throughout the process and have supported the implementation of a permanent improvement. The Parish Council is keen to explore funding and installation of street furniture including benches and cycle racks into the widened areas once the scheme is completed.

9. Statutory Procedures

- 9.1A Traffic Regulation Order is in the process of being drafted to make changes to the lining outside Tesco. The Parking bays will be replaced with a single yellow line on the edge of the raised table.

10. Land Requirements

- 10.1 None. All improvements are within the existing highway boundary

11. Maintenance Implications

- 11.1 The scheme will cost an annual maintenance fee of £227
- 11.2 The Asset Management team have been consulted on the scheme and support the proposed plans

12. Climate Change Impact Assessments

12.1 Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

12.2 The scheme has a low vulnerability rating and is unlikely to be affected by any climate variables.

12.3 The scheme aligns with all 4 strategic priorities:

- Maintaining strong and resilient economic growth and prosperity by encouraging community events and a more accessible area in the high street.
- Encouraging people in Hampshire to live safe, healthy and independent lives by improving visibility and accessibility to the area.
- Promoting a rich and diverse environment by providing an area for community events and promoting more community events.
- Helping people in Hampshire be part of strong, inclusive, resilient communities, by enabling more community events to take place in a more accessible environment.

Carbon Impact RAG Status

Colour	Criteria	Place an X in the relevant box
GREEN (below net zero)	The main scheme objective promotes choice of modes to reduce car dependency which aligns with the County Council's climate change strategy.	X
AMBER (net zero)	The scheme contains an element of improvement to walking, cycling and passenger transport provision within its scope. However, this is not the key objective. List the elements in the box below.	
	List of elements that make this RAG amber:	

RED (above zero)	Scheme may contain elements that would increase carbon emissions.	
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Brief Explanation of Carbon RAG

The scheme promotes community events outside and makes the pedestrian environment in Brockenhurst more accessible and aesthetically pleasing which encourages more pedestrians to use the area. The construction of bollards to define the footway and carriageway to pedestrians and drivers also enhances safety for pedestrians as they are more visible, further promoting a safer and more accessible walking environment.

13. Climate Change Adaptation

13.1 The scheme has a low vulnerability rating and is unlikely to be affected by any climate variables.

13.2 The scheme aligns with all 4 strategic priorities:

- Maintaining strong and resilient economic growth and prosperity by encouraging community events and a more accessible area in the high street.
- Encouraging people in Hampshire to live safe, healthy and independent lives by improving visibility and accessibility to the area.
- Promoting a rich and diverse environment by providing an area for community events and promoting more community events.
- Helping people in Hampshire be part of strong, inclusive, resilient communities, by enabling more community events to take place in a more accessible environment.

14. Carbon Mitigation

14.1 Carbon emissions will be mitigated by sourcing construction materials locally wherever possible and prioritising the use of recycled materials where practical. The contractor also has carbon mitigation built into their design and supply chain processes. On completion, the scheme will encourage a modal shift toward active travel for journeys, bringing benefits in terms of reduced local congestion and associated air quality, and environmental benefits, including reductions in carbon emissions from vehicles.

15. Recommendations

- 15.1 That the Director of Universal Services approves an increase in value in the 2020/21 Capital Programme from £69,000 to £280,000, to be funded by Active Travel Fund Tranche 2, New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) Contributions, Brockenhurst Parish Council funding and Hampshire County Council Local Transport Plan (LTP) Integrated Transport Block (ITB) fund.
- 15.2 That the Director of Universal Services approves the Project Appraisal for Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 Brookley Road, Brockenhurst, as set out in this report.
- 15.3 That the Director of Universal Services gives approval to procure, spend and enter into necessary contractual arrangements, in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, to implement this scheme, at a total estimated cost of £280,000, to be funded from Department for Transport Active Travel Fund Tranche 2, New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) Contributions, Brockenhurst Parish Council funding and Hampshire County Council Local Transport Plan (LTP) Integrated Transport Block (ITB) fund.
- 15.4 That the Director of Universal Services and the Head of Legal Services progress orders, notices, statutory procedures and secure and enter into all appropriate agreements, licences, consents, permissions, rights or easements necessary to enable implementation of the scheme.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:	
<i>NB: Only complete this section if you have not completed any of the Strategic Plan tick boxes above. If it is not applicable, please delete.</i>	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u> Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 Programme https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s78055/Report.pdf	<u>Date</u> 29/07/2021
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u> Department for Transport Tranche 2 Active Travel Fund https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-active-travel-fund-local-transport-authority-allocations	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

Impact Assessments

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1. The proposals in this report have been developed with due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Council's equality objectives. The website contains a summary [assessment of the impacts](#) on developing Hampshire's highway network and transport systems.

1.2. Statutory considerations:

Impact	
Age	Positive – provides better accessibility for all ages to community place
Disability	Positive – Provides better accessibility and a single height area
Sexual Orientation	Neutral
Race	Neutral
Religion and belief	Neutral
Gender Reassignment	Neutral
Sex	Neutral
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral
Pregnancy and maternity	Positive – improved, single level area, provides better access for prams in the area
Other policy considerations	
Poverty	N/A
Rurality	N/A
Other factors	N/A
Geographical impact	N/A

Appendix C

