



<b>TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No: 2.5</b>
<b>4 NOVEMBER 2020</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

## FENLAND STATIONS REGENERATION PROGRESS REPORT

### 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1. This paper updates the Transport and Infrastructure Committee on the Outline Business Case progress for the Fenland Stations regeneration project. The paper also provides information on the changes to the delivery programme for each station improvement.

<b><u>DECISION REQUIRED</u></b>	
<b>Lead Member:</b>	<b>James Palmer, Mayor</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Paul Raynes, Director of Delivery &amp; Strategy</b>
<b>Forward Plan Ref: N/A</b>	<b>Key Decision: No</b>
The Transport and Infrastructure Committee is recommended to:  (a) Note the progress of this project.	<b>Voting arrangements</b>  Simple majority

### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Fenland Stations regeneration project was first approved for inclusion in the Transport Programme at the March 2018 Combined Authority Board meeting and is one of the twelve key projects in the Combined Authority Business Plan.
- 2.2. In April 2012, Fenland District Council gave a commitment to deliver railway station improvements in phases up until 2031. The timescales were associated with the developing proposals for each station and securing funding for scheme delivery.
- 2.3. In 2017, the Combined Authority agreed a substantial package of funding in addition to the Section 106 funding already secured for part of the schemes within each station masterplan.
- 2.4. The upgrades that are included in the Fenland Stations Regeneration project are:
- Improved footpath and lighting at Whittlesea Station

- Additional bicycle parking facilities at Manea, March and Whittlesea Station
- A second ticket machine at Whittlesea Station
- Redesign of Platform 1 buildings at March Station
- Additional car parking facilities at March Station
- Car parking facilities at Manea Station – Phase 1
- New waiting shelters for Manea and Whittlesea Stations
- Car parking facilities at Whittlesea Station – Phase 1
- Platform lengthening at Manea and Whittlesea Station including a footbridge – Phase 2

### 3.0 PROGRESS UPDATE

- 3.1. The above schemes in the project are running concurrently. The feasibility design and associated technical work for the larger elements of improvements has in part been completed for most items or is well underway.
- 3.2. The small package of projects which have already been completed include the waiting shelters at both Manea and Whittlesea Station, improvements to the footpath and lighting at Whittlesea Station and additional cycle parking at each of the stations. **Figure 1** shows some of the completed improvements.



**Figure 1: Station Improvements – Waiting Shelter and Cycle Parking**

- 3.3. The larger schemes, which include the station car parking at March, Manea and Whittlesea and Platform 1 building at March Station, have gone through the preliminary design stage. Associated costs and programmes have been provided for these.
- 3.4. The March Station improvement is being delivered by Fenland District Council and Greater Anglia. Procurement for a design and build contract has commenced. It is expected that construction will commence in January 2021.
- 3.5. The Manea Station car park is being delivered by Fenland District Council and will not be delivered by Greater Anglia as the land in question will be within the ownership of Fenland District Council. Planning permission was granted in September with associated pre-commencement conditions which will be dealt

with through the detailed design stage. Fenland District Council will commence procurement following detailed design completion at the end of October and once approval for funding has been granted, it is expected that construction on site will commence in February 2021.

- 3.6. The feasibility design and cost completed by Greater Anglia at Whittlesea Station on land adjacent to the existing car park exceeded the available budget and did not meet the value for money criteria as set out by the Combined Authority Assurance Framework. An alternative two-phased approach has been developed to progress this project. Phase one will provide improvements to the existing car park using land within the current Greater Anglia lease area for Whittlesea Station. Phase two will extend the car park further using additional land and will come forward as part of the wider aspirations of the station which includes the extended platforms and the footbridge.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1. The Outline Business Case for March and Manea Station will be submitted to the November 2020 Combined Authority Board for approval of funding for the construction phase. The Business Case including budget estimates are currently undergoing an independent review, as required by the Combined Authority assurance processes, which will be received prior to the Combined Authority Board. The business case for Whittlesea Station will be submitted to the Combined Authority Board in January 2021 for approval of funding for construction of Phase 1.
- 4.2. Following funding approval, the construction timescales are set out in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Construction timescales**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Manea Station Car Park	February 2021	May 2021
March Station – Car Park and Platform 1 Building	January 2021	December 2021

- 4.3. Phase 2 will focus on further improvements at Manea and Whittlesea. This will involve the preparation of designs and costs related to platform lengthening at Manea and Whittlesea and a new pedestrian footbridge at Whittlesea. Discussions are continuing with Network Rail on this and this phase will commence once train services on the line improves.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. The recommendations accord with CPCA’s powers under Part 3 of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 (SI 2017/251).
- 5.2. The meeting shall be conducted in accordance with Parts 2 and 3 of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of Local

Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings)(England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

## 6.0 OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

6.1. No other significant implications have been identified at this stage.

<u>Source Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>
1: March 2018 Combined Authority Board Paper	1: <a href="#">CA Board Report March 2018</a>