

Change Request Form

CHANGE EVENT OF:

Increase in total of Price

Delay Completion

Delay meeting a Key Date

No
YES
No

Notification Date	02/07/2021
CE Ref Number	
Event Date	02/07/2021

Brief Description of the Event: (single line only)

The Project Specification & Milestones of the St Neots Masterplan for Growth Phase 1 Agreement identified a number of activities that were to be initiated in 2020 through to 2021. The immediacy and extent of the Covid 19 pandemic undermined a number of the assumptions of the various proposed interventions and activities.

Detailed Description of the Event: (be as full and descriptive as you can)

The Government Lockdown of March 2020 and the subsequent curtailment of most economic and social activities across the country. Various forms of lockdown have been in place for almost fifteen months and in that period the market towns of St Neots, St Ives, Ramsey and Huntingdon have seen unprecedented decline in footfall and sales.

Cause of the Event:

The event was caused by the Covid 10 Lockdowns and their impact on society generally and specifically such impact on the trading / viability of small business in town centres that were already in decline.

Effects of the Event:

The effects of these events are many but the most obvious are i. major decline in footfall within the town ii. decline in sales in the retail and hospitality sectors iii. large numbers of people 'furloughed', thereby limiting the 'disposable' income, especially amongst those who normally gain part-time employment in such sectors i.e. students, part-time workers iv. decline in the physical appearance and vitality in buildings, streetscape and built environment within town centres v. loss of confidence amongst many in the retail and hospitality sectors - and this will remain the case until 'stability' become the norm, perhaps not until 2022/23 vi. the need for 're-imagining' town centre in the post-Covid 19 pandemic. This latter issue represents a fundamental challenge to national, regional and local government policy to provide a support infrastructure that would assist in the transition to a 'New Era' in town centre regeneration and vitality. This series of events has meant that the original proposals for St Neots i.e. BID programme, Marketing and Communication Strategies could not be delivered in the original timeframe and as per original plan. Rather these regeneration efforts need to be reviewed and different efforts / interventions re-deployed to tackle two phase a. emerging from Covid phase and b. New Era for traditional towns.

Options Considered/Mitigation Measures deployed:

Two options were considered i. continue with original plan ii. Reprofile expenditure so that the programme will be delivered to March 2023 and not proceed with the development of the BID at this stage and reallocate the remaining funding allocated (£218,610) to other activities that are supported and promoted by The St Neots Masterplan Steering Group and Town Council and that of the District Council.

Why Option chosen was selected:

Option ii was chosen since it made 'best use of resources' and in a practical sense all other options were constrained by the reality of the various 'Lockdowns' in 2020/21.

Delay in Time / Delivery? (highlight appropriate business case if applicable)

Feasibility SOBC OBC FBC Construction / Delivery

Issued by:		Date:	
Total CE Cost	£ -		
Signed Project Manager - Delivery Partner		Date:	
CPCA Project Manager		Date:	
CPCA Project Director		Date:	
CPCA Director (SRO)		Date:	