



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

JAMES PALMER
CAMBRIDGESHIRE &
PETERBOROUGH MAYOR

Agenda Item No: 2.5

St Ives Strategic Outline Business Case

- To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Transport and Infrastructure Committee
- Meeting Date: 10 March 2021
- Public report: Yes
- Lead Member: Mayor James Palmer
- From: Paul Raynes
Director of Delivery & Strategy
- Key decision: No
- Forward Plan ref: N/A
- Recommendations: The Transport & Infrastructure Committee is recommended to:
- a) Agree the proposed programme of work on a St Ives Strategic Outline Business Case, subject to recommendation (b);
 - b) Recommend to the CPCA Board the reallocation of revenue budget savings of £137,000, made through the efficient tendering of the A141 SOBC project, to fund the Strategic Outline Business Case associated with St Ives
- Voting arrangements: For Item (a), a simple majority of all Members
- For Item (b) A vote in favour by at least two thirds of all Members (or their Substitute Members) appointed by the Constituent Councils, to include the Members appointed by Cambridgeshire County Council or Peterborough City Council, or their Substitute Members

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To report on the actions taken to proceed with the Strategic Outline Business Case for St Ives.

2. Background

- 2.1 In April 2018, the A141 Huntingdon Capacity Study (commissioned by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority) and the St Ives Area Transport Study (commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council) commenced as a joint delivery study to consider the capacity challenges in the area.
- 2.2. In March 2019, the Combined Authority subsequently approved the commissioning of a Huntingdon Third River Crossing feasibility study to also consider how that proposal might address the capacity challenges in the area.
- 2.3. At this stage emerging findings from the A141 Huntingdon Capacity Study and St Ives Area Transport Study suggested that they needed to take into account the wider growth issues in the Huntingdon and St Ives area. It was therefore agreed by the January 2020 Transport and Infrastructure Committee and Combined Authority Board that this work be extended to include the Huntingdon Third River Crossing work. A programme of St Ives improvements was also identified that included pedestrian and cycle accessibility improvements, junction improvements and further traffic management initiatives.
- 2.5 The outcomes of the previous study concluded and subsequently reported at the August 2020 Combined Authority Board. Evidence demonstrated that an A141 bypass was the better performing option for addressing current and future congestion and growth. The Board decided to take that option to SOBC stage for the A141.

3.0 St Ives The Strategic Outline Business Case

- 3.1 In August 2020 at the Combined Authority Board a decision was taken that £500,000 from the Capital budget will be allocated for developing a Strategic Outline Business Case for St Ives. This was to be spent and progressed by the Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 3.2 Following discussions with the County Council the Combined Authority has decided that there is a better way forward to progress the work associated with St Ives. The project team have been able to find efficiency savings from our revenue budget to fund the St Ives study, which means we can commission the work directly from the Combined Authority. This will enable us to commence work in March and complete in October 2021.
- 3.3 We are engaging with the public and key stakeholders on the strategic options for the A141 SOBC. It is expected that engagement of a similar kind will commence in May 2021 for St Ives. Following the outcomes from both these engagement exercises will assist in the development of the overall strategic vision for both the A141 Huntingdon area and St Ives.

- 3.4 This approach also provides the added benefit that the programme for St Ives can be lined up with the planned end-date for the A141 business case to enable the best overall solution is developed for the wider area.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 The programme indicates that we shall start work associated with St Ives in March 2021. It is expected that engagement will commence May 2021 for St Ives. Following both engagement exercises have completed the options will assist in an overall strategic vision for both the A141 Huntingdon area and St Ives.
- 4.2 The programme to complete the St Ives SOBC will be completed and brought back to Committee in October 2021, aligning with the outcomes of the A141 study.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Officers have identified savings of £137,000 sufficient to fund the St Ives Strategic Outline Business Case work. This saving is from the initial revenue funding of £350,000 approved at the August 2020 Combined Authority Board. The Committee is invited to recommend to the CPCA Board approval that the remaining revenue budget is used to fund the additional work associated with St Ives.
- 5.2 The programme and costs for the package of improvements for St Ives is to be developed further by Cambridgeshire County Council and brought back to the Combined Authority Committee and Board for approval. These will be funded through a capital grant.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 No notable legal implications.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 August 2020 Combined Authority Board Paper

[CA Board Paper August 2020](#)