
WEBSTERS WAY ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the Websters Way environmental enhancement scheme and final details of the proposed improvements.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council was successful in bidding for a grant of £700,000 towards this enhancement scheme through the Thames Gateway. The programme for implementation of the scheme is a tight one and initial details were reported to Members on 2 December 2004.
- 2.2 The scheme has now been worked up in detail and tender documents sent out with return and award of contract at the end of March.

3 SCHEME DETAILS

- 3.1 A copy of the scheme plan has been placed in the Members' Library. The key principles are as previously reported and include:
- improved footways - paving and kerbs
 - new street lighting
 - new puffin crossing
 - enhanced link to the High Street
 - new boundary walls to car park
 - revised signage
 - bus stop telemetry
 - comprehensive CCTV coverage.
- 3.2 The consultants have also examined options for improving Websters Way car park and a new layout has been prepared that is considered to be more user friendly and increases the number of spaces from the current 351 to 367.
- 3.3 In addition to increasing the number of spaces, the consultants have also been able to include a new slip road access that will enable cars travelling south along Websters Way to enter the car park before the roundabout. It is anticipated this revision will improve traffic flows along Websters Way.
- 3.4 The revised layout to the car park will incorporate new street lighting and CCTV coverage. A raised walkway will cross the car park and link with the access to King George's Playing Fields.

4 TIMETABLE

- 4.1 It is anticipated that the lead time and construction period for the scheme will be 55 days, with most work being completed between April and June.
- 4.2 As Members will appreciate, the works to the car park are quite extensive and a programme will be prepared to phase the works to allow as much of the car park to continue to be used by the public. Inevitably though, there will be some disruption. Signs providing details of the scheme and arrangements for construction will be prominently displayed and leaflets explaining the scheme will be distributed.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The revisions that have been possible to the layout of the car park will contribute towards a significant improvement of usability and safety, as well as slightly increasing the overall number of available spaces.

6 RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Resource Risk

The resources for implementing the scheme have been provided through a grant from ODPM. The grant is conditional on the works being completed as soon as possible.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The proposed scheme includes the provision of CCTV cameras on Websters Way and within the car park.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The scheme will dramatically improve the visual appearance of this part of the town centre.

9 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The funds have been provided by ODPM as a Thames Gateway South Essex scheme.

10 RECOMMENDATION

- 10.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the principles of the enhancement scheme and the arrangements for implementation be agreed.

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Background Papers:-

Plan of Websters Way Enhancement Scheme

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