
Progress Report – Tonbridge Interchange Improvements

To: **Tonbridge & Malling JTB, 11th June, 2018**

Main Portfolio Area:

By: Tim Read – Head of Transportation, KCC

Classification: **For Information**

Summary:

An update on project progress for the Tonbridge Station project.

1.0 Introduction and Background

Funding of £500,000 has been allocated from the West Kent Local Growth Fund (LGF) to improve the Transport Interchange at Tonbridge Station. The aim is to improve interaction between users at the station, provide more space for pedestrian movements and to create an interchange suitable for one of the busiest stations outside of London.

2.0 Body of the report

2.1 Design

- Since the JTB recommendation on the 12th March there has been a lot of work on the detailed design – which will be published before construction commences.
- Liaising with the anti-terrorism police, there will be anti-ram bollards placed near the station forecourt to protect users (exact locations to be determined)
- BT have approved removing 2 of the 3 phone boxes in the area (leaving 1 near Lidl). This will open up the area for pedestrians and remove street clutter.
- Barden Road – Southeastern's proposed cycle hub on Barden Road has resulted in design work being required on the junction with Vale Roundabout. Separate works may be required to ensure cyclists remain safe while accessing the hub including a proposed contraflow cycle lane.

Materials

- The intention is to use the Ketley Bricks used in the high street outside the station. Other footway resurfacing will be new blacktop. Ketley bricks can be maintained and create a nice finish. Other paving options were considered and rejected due to maintenance liability and risk of units having to be replaced with black top in years to come.
- A meeting has taken place with TMBC officers to agree locations of street furniture (finger posts, monoliths etc) and to discuss aspects of the build.

Construction

- It is intended that construction will begin at the start of the summer holidays 2018 (25th July) so as to minimise disruption to traffic flow. The majority of the difficult works would then take place over the 6 week holidays and then any works to finish

will be managed throughout the following months. The works will be designed so as to keep traffic flowing as best as possible.

- A meeting has been held with the bus companies to help plan the works to mitigate impact on their customers accessing the bus stops.
- At this stage we do not have a fully realised programme for construction.
- A communication plan has been created to fully inform, members, the public and local businesses in advance of the works taking place.

Future Meeting if applicable: Future JTB for updates	Date: 24 th September, 2018
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