

Report Name	External Transportation Links to Aberdeen South Harbour – Progress Report
Lead Officer	John Wilson
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Date of Report	10 May 2024
Governance	City Region Deal Joint Committee

## 1: Purpose of the Report

At the Aberdeen City Region Deal of 8 September 2023 the committee instructed:

i. that regular update reports be provided in respect of the timescales and project finance costs to each future meeting of the Joint Committee;

The purpose of this report is to update the Joint Committee on timescales and the project finance costs.

#### 2: Recommendations for Action

It is recommended that the Joint Committee:

 Note, in line with the Aberdeen City Region Deal Joint Committee meeting of 8 September 2023, the current update on the timescales and project finance costs including the Appendix 1 – ASHLR Stage 3 Exhibition Panels - April 2024.

# 3: Summary of Key Information

i. Following consideration of the Aberdeen South Harbour Link Road Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Stage 3 Scheme Assessment and Updated Outline Business Case to the Joint Committee on 9 February 2024, they have now been submitted to the governments. The detailed design for the project continues to progress.

### **Public & Stakeholder Engagement**

ii. An online public exhibition of the DMRB Stage 3 design, outlining the changes between DMRB Stage 2 and Stage 3, and giving a video flythrough has been

## 3: Summary of Key Information

advertised, this exhibition started on 8 April 2024 and continues until 6 May. An in person event was held at the Torry United Free Church on 15 April with landowners, tenants, stakeholders directly invited. Posters advertising the event were displayed in Cove, Altens and Torry. Social media posts were also used to highlight the exhibition. Copies of the Exhibition Panels used are included in Appendix 1.

### **CPO / Land Acquisition**

- iii. The land required for the scheme has been identified as part of the DMRB Stage 3 and the detailed design of the Project. Aberdeen City Council owns most of this land, however, it is necessary to acquire third party land in order to deliver the scheme.
- iv. Letters have been issued to owners and tenants of land required for the scheme, advising of the need to acquire land and offering the opportunity to progress discussions on the voluntary acquisition of land. The District Valuer has been appointed to provide support with this process.
- v. Due to the total number of plots, it is unlikely that voluntary acquisition will be possible for all. As a result, compulsory acquisition is considered reasonable and proportionate to ensure that they can be acquired and within an appropriate timescale. At its meeting of 17 April 2024 Aberdeen City Council resolved to make a Compulsory Purchase Order, to implement the statutory procedures following on from the making of the Order and continue to pursue voluntary acquisition in parallel with the compulsory purchase process. It is intended that the order be made in the coming weeks.

#### **Planning Application**

vi. Following the submission of a pre-application and subsequent feedback on that process a full planning application for the scheme has been progressed and is due to be submitted in the coming weeks.

#### **Programme and Milestones**

vii. The milestones remain as follows:

Project Milestones	Current Date
Structure – Technical Approval (ACC and Network Rail)	07/11/2024
Submission of Planning Application	10/05/2024
DMRB Stage 3 Public Exhibition	06/05/2024
Complete Detailed Design	01/11/2024
Post Design Public Exhibition	01/11/2024
Supplier Selection – Complete SPD	11/09/2024
Conclusion of statutory processes	20/12/2024
Final Business Case	01/04/2025

# 3: Summary of Key Information

Major Milestone: Road Infrastructure Open for use 12/02/2027

## 4: Finance and Risk

- i. Ongoing global factors are having a significant impact on the supply of construction materials with associated impact on overall scheme costs, as such the Project Team will regularly review the scheme cost estimate.
- ii. Following award of the construction contracts the financial profile for the project will be updated and the Joint Committee will be updated as part of the regular progress updates.
- iii. Timescale risks associated with the statutory approvals and the acquisition of third party land remain.

Appendix 1 - ASHLR Stage 3 Exhibition Panels - April 2024.