

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	ENTERPRISE, PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE
DATE	19 March 2013
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh
TITLE OF REPORT	The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative Public Realm Streetscape – Additional Works
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/13/043

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the approval of the Committee to carry out footway improvement works on Guild Street, Market Street and Adelphi Lane. These works will be funded by the Green Townscape Heritage Initiative.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee approves the resurfacing of footways on sections of Guild Street, Market Street and the Adelphi Lane, replacing the existing concrete paving slabs with granite, with the work to be paid for by funds from The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative (a partnership between Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen City Heritage Trust, The Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland and Scottish Enterprise) still has funds available, for improvement works that meet the Initiative's selection criteria.
- 3.2 The THI Board considered options to carry out additional footway improvement works at their meeting of 16th January 2013 and supported the proposals, with an additional requirement that as far as practicable the works are concluded (or at the very least well underway) within the lifetime of the THI i.e. by 30th October 2013.
- 3.3 Cost estimates for the programme of additional footway improvements, as shown in the Appendix to this report, are as follows:

Guild St. from Carmelite St. to Market St.	£ 125,000
Market St. from Guild St. to Union St.	£ 133,000
Adelphi Lane from Market St. to Adelphi	£ 63,000

- 3.4 An analysis of the estimated balance of available funds remaining from the Green THI Streetscape Works indicated that there are sufficient funds to deliver the above footway improvements in full. Therefore the proposed works do not carry any direct capital or revenue implications for Aberdeen City Council, other than to provide a benefit by delaying the possible need for footway maintenance work by ACC in future years.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is proposed that the additional footway works will be carried out by direct award to Aberdeen City Council Roads Services in Asset Management & Operations, with supervision by personnel from Planning & Sustainable Development. If the work is not awarded this way a consultant would need to be appointed to prepare tender documents for issue to contractors. The time that this would take, with the additional delay of a tender process, would prevent the work progressing in the timescale required by the THI board.
- 4.2 Health and Safety issues will be dealt with by adherence to the Aberdeen City Council Guide To Managing Health & Safety, and any relevant Health & Safety legislation e.g. the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations.
- 4.3 There are no other implications as a result of this report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative Public Realm Streetscape Works Project has provided a significant improvement to Aberdeen city centre.
- 5.2 Apart from one small section of Guild St. from Stirling St. to Exchange St., none of the surrounding streets have been resurfaced as part of the Green Streetscape project.
- 5.3 With funds remaining after the completion of the Green Streetscape construction contract, it is desirable to extend the area that has benefitted from the improvements to incorporate surrounding footways that do not have the same standard of surface finish. It is proposed that the existing concrete slabbing on the following footways be replaced with granite:

Guild Street north footway between Carmelite St. and Market St

Market Street west footway between Guild St. and Union St

Adelphi Lane from Market St. to Adelphi

- 5.4 Extending the footway works to these additional areas will not only provide improved surfaces leading to and from the Green but also for pedestrian movements along the Guild Street and Market Street corridors, thus encouraging and enhancing the use of these routes by pedestrians and for access to public transport.
- 5.5 Guild Street and Market Street are major corridors for both pedestrians and vehicles, therefore a significant amount of traffic management will be required during the construction phase. Consideration is being given to constructing the majority of the Guild Street and Market Street works during evening periods this summer. By avoiding periods of peak demand this should reduce the impact of the works on shops, pedestrians and vehicles.

6. IMPACT

- 6.1 Within the Community Plan, City Centre re-development is identified as a strategic priority, and within the Single Outcome Agreement, two national outcome objectives identified are that “We live in well designed, sustainable places” and “We value our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations”.
- 6.2 This report is likely to be of interest to the public as a result of the project’s public profile during construction. Some pedestrian and traffic management will be necessary during the construction phase. Completion of the works should provide a highly visible improvement to the surface finish of the footways.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no relevant background papers.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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