



TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

REPORT AUTHOR	Susan Miles, Assistant Town Clerk/Colin Hill Town Clerk
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Date	16th December 2019
SUBJECT	Network Rail Update Meeting 20 November 2019

PURPOSE:

1. To update Members on the current status of the Accessibility Improvements project for Todmorden railway Station
2. To seek agreement from members to re-establish an earmarked reserve of £25,000 as part of capital contribution towards the West Yorkshire contribution of £319,500

BACKGROUND:

1. A Network Rail update meeting was held on 20 November 2019 where they advised that they had been successful in securing an allocation from different bodies of £2.4m to install two lifts at Todmorden Railway Station.
2. The project is to be submitted to the Department of Transport (DFT) early in December 2019 for review. Assuming this is approved, the next stage would be to develop the selected option, noting that it would be 18 months/2 years before the work would start on site. Working through the procedures stipulated by the regulatory framework to ensure health and safety was a lengthy process.
3. Updates on the project when threshold decisions/actions are taken will be channelled through the Town Clerk.
4. Budget allocation payments will be requested at the 'back end' of the project rather than being paid up front.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

5. An Earmarked Reserve of £25,000 was established in respect of our contribution to this project, in Partnership with Calderdale Council and initially viewed as meeting part of the cost of the feasibility study.

6. On seeking to clarify whether now required, Calderdale initially responded that the cost of the survey was less than anticipated and therefore the contribution was no longer required and the Earmarked Reserve subsequently removed.
7. West Yorkshire Combined Authority, clarified their position in that the original bid stated **Breakdown, Scale and Availability of Match Funding**

Total £319,500

Breakdown:

West Yorkshire Combined Authority – Total £154,500:

£4,500 Funded GRIP 2 Option Selection Report in 2014

£150,000 Local Transport Plan (LTP) capital towards the delivery of accessibility improvements at Todmorden.

Todmorden Town Council - Total £35,000:

£5,000 towards GRIP 3 Option Selection Report. Agreed an additional AfA bid contribution figure of £30,000 from the Town Council precept in a meeting of November 2018.

Todmorden Development Board (subsidiary of Calderdale Council) – Total £25,000

£25,000 towards GRIP 3 Option Selection Report.

Calderdale Council – Total £45,000

£45,000 towards GRIP 3 Option Selection Report.

The total funding made available by Todmorden Town Council, Todmorden Development Board and Calderdale Council to fund the GRIP 3 Option Selection Report was £75,000, the report cost £39,607. The balance of £35,393 will be capital towards the delivery of the accessibility improvements at Todmorden.

Network Rail – Total £60,000

£60,000 To fund Water Proofing of Station Underpass in CP6 Year 1.

8. Based on this advice we have contacted Calderdale Council for clarification but believe from this that £25k will still be required from Todmorden Town Council as part of a capital contribution, and therefore prudent to still hold this as an Earmarked Reserve.

RECOMMENDATION:

9. That Members note the positive status of the project.
10. That Full Council Resolves to Agree to re-establish an Earmarked Reserve of £25,000 in respect of contribution towards this project.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

11. To provide the authority to establish an Earmarked Reserve.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

12. None arising from this report.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

12. This improvement will improve accessibility to a wider group of users able to travel by train, thereby reducing dependency on the use of cars.

IMPACT EQUALITY ASSESSMENT:

13. This will increase accessibility at Todmorden Railway Station.

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

14. None arising from this report.

For further information, please contact: Susan Miles