

Taking pride in our communities and town

Date of issue: Wednesday, 11 April 2018

MEETING	CABINET		
	Councillor Swindlehurst	Leader of the Council and	
		Cabinet Member for	
	Councillor Hussain	Regeneration & Strategy Deputy Leader of the Council	
		and Cabinet Member for	
		Transformation & Performance	
	Councillor Anderson	Environment & Leisure	
	Councillor Carter	Planning & Transport	
	Councillor Mann	Regulation & Consumer	
		Protection	
	Councillor Nazir	Corporate Finance & Housing	
	Councillor Pantelic	Health & Social Care	
	Councillor Sadiq	Children & Education	
DATE AND TIME:	MONDAY, 16TH APRIL, 20	018 AT 6.30 PM	
VENUE:	THE CURVE - WILLIAM STREET, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL1 1XY		
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER:	NICHOLAS PONTONE		
(for all enquiries)	01753 875120		

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

The following Papers have been added to the agenda for the above meeting:-

* Items 6, 7 and 8 were not available for publication with the rest of the agenda.

PART 1

AGENDA ITEM	REPORT TITLE	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>WARD</u>
6.	Additional Highways Repairs/Maintenance (Potholes) following Recent Severe Weather	1 - 4	All
7.	Leisure Facilities Reprovision Programme Update	5 - 12	All
8.	Heathrow Express Depot Update	13 - 16	All



This page is intentionally left blank

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet	DATE: 16 th April 2018
	vice Lead Planning and Transport and Leader – Highway Maintenance and Asset
(01753) 875810 and	I (01753) 875628
All	
e .	rt – Councillor Carter & Housing – Councillor Nazir
	Sanjay Dhuna - Ser Sing-Wai Yu Team Management (01753) 875810 and All Planning & Transpo

<u>PART I</u> NON-KEY DECISION

ADDITIONAL HIGHWAYS REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE (POTHOLES) FOLLOWING RECENT SEVERE WEATHER

1 <u>Purpose of Report</u>

The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval to make available additional funding to repair potholes and to undertake additional planned maintenance resurfacing works on the highway network following the recent severe weather.

2 <u>Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action</u>

The Cabinet is requested to resolve:

- (a) That the allocation of the additional funding as per the detail contained in the table below be approved to enable the highway maintenance team to undertake the works as required.
- (b) That samples of the pothole repair locations and other resurfacing work locations be published for public access onto the Council's website.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities -

Priorities:

- Health: A well maintained highway network ensures residents can access the health services they need.
- Economy and Skills Continue to provide residents with access to essential services by maintaining the good condition of road surface and pavements and making journeys safe between work, home, leisure, school and making alternatives to the car more attractive.
- Regeneration and Environment; A well maintained highway network is a prerequisite to safe and efficient bus services to increase the use of sustainable forms of transport.

- Housing: A well maintained highway network is essential to keep public transport links to the area, with quicker journey times for the bus routes serving the area and giving greater choices for residents as to where they can live and access work and facilities.
- Safer Communities: A well maintained highway network will reduce traffic congestion; improve the environment for residents, business communities and visitors and make our borough feel safe to live and visit. Cross-Cutting themes:

Civic responsibility: By ensuring that residents of Slough feel safe in using the highway network by driving, cycling or walking, Slough Borough Council acting as the Highway Authority will be discharging its statutory responsibility.

Improving the image of the town: By enhancing the appearance of the highway network thus ensuring sustainable transport links to Heathrow Airport, London and beyond, improving access and reducing journey times of local bus services and general commuter traffic.

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

By carrying out additional highway repairs and maintenance will support the following key actions of the Five Year Outcomes that are also represented in the Transport and Highways Service Plan 2016/17.

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful because their journeys to schools and other leisure activity centres will be made much safer.
- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs because a well maintained highway network will encourage them to take more exercise by walking and other outdoor activities.
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay because a well maintained highway network will enhance the appearance of the town to make people feel safe, less traffic congestion and welcomed as well as properly managed.
- Our residents will live in good quality homes because a well maintained highway network is crucial in ensuring the infrastructure for public utilities is well managed which in turn ensures the supplies to the homes are secured with less interruption.
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents because a well maintained highway network is a reflection of a Borough being well run and managed.

4 <u>Other Implications</u>

(a) <u>Financial</u>:

Slough Borough Council has both revenue and capital budgets for highway maintenance and planned preventative road maintenance works. The Budgets for 2018/19 are as follows:

Revenue – Reactive/Routine Highway Maintenance	£296,000
Capital – Planned road maintenance works	£500,000

A planned work programme has already been prepared to spend this money and is currently being discussed with members.

It appears the recent severe weather has resulted in additional work required to fix potholes and undertake further highway maintenance. It is anticipated that up to £500k may be required to maintain the highways and ensure that the condition is at the expected level. At Cabinet on 19th March 2018 it was agreed that Cabinet will have up to £210k capital funding and £210k revenue funding to further outcomes during 2018/19. It was also agreed that any unused funding from 2017/18 be rolled forward into 2018/19 and allocated on the basis of cabinet requests in line with the scheme. Therefore it is recommended that these allocations will be used to fund any additional works as required.

(b) <u>Risk Management</u>

Recommendation from section 2 above	Risks/Threats / Opportunities	Current Controls	Using the Risk Management Matrix Score the risk	Future Controls
To approve the allocation of the additional funding as per detail contained in the table below enable highway maintenance team to undertake the works as outlined	Increased risk of injury to pedestrians, other road users when travelling on our highway network. It will result in higher insurance claims	Annual condition surveys. Safety inspections routine and reactive maintenance works and planned maintenance works.	8 (Heath & Safety Risk – Marginal impact. Significant probability)	More preventative /planned maintenance works to be carried out if budget allowed. New Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance to be adopted.

(c) <u>Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications</u>

There are no legal or Human Rights Act implications relating to the content of this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

An EIA is not required as the highway authority is already providing this service as a statutory requirement.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 Slough Borough Council is the Highway Authority for Slough which carries the statutory responsibility for the up-keep of its highway network.
- 5.2 The Council manages the following key highway assets:

- 324km of roads
- 647km of footways/cycleways
- 56 bridges and structures
- 12300 street lights
- 1850 illuminated signs and bollards
- 130 traffic signals
- 5.3 The Council has dedicated an annual revenue budget for highway maintenance which for reactive/routine maintenance and also a capital budget for planned preventative road maintenance works.
- 5.4 The Council relies on central government's local transport capital funding for its planned capital highway maintenance works part of which contains the Pothole Action Fund, the budget for Pothole fund for 2017/18 was £66K and in Feb 2018, the government has made additional £45K Pothole Funding available to us.
- 5.5 Slough Borough Council has a very good track record in spending the funds on highway maintenance and is regarded as one of the best run highway authorities in this country with the overall condition of the highway network recognised to be one of the best in this region, our insurance claim record on highway accident related injuries is also one of the lowest in the country.
- 5.6 Whilst the Council is keen to maintain the good quality standard previously set for the highway network, the recent severe winter weather has caused deterioration in the condition and appearance of our road surface and pavements, potholes are beginning to appear in many locations as a result.
- 5.7 The highway team together with Council's DSO are working hard together in treating and filling the potholes after the recent severe weather conditions. We have already organised a dedicated team for pothole treatments around the Borough, however, due to the rate of the pothole occurrence, it is anticipated that we will require additional funding to tackle the problem properly and to prevent further condition deterioration on our roads and pavement.
- 5.8 The highway team have already prepared the resurfacing list for 2018/19; this list has been circulated to all ward councillors for consultation. The additional £500K of funding to be allocated for the pothole repair works can be absorbed into the resurfacing programme as well as being undertaken by our DSO under separate work instructions.

6 <u>Comments of Other Committees</u>

This report has not been considered by any other committees.

7 Conclusion

The Cabinet is requested to approve the suggested identification of additional funding to enable the any required pothole repair and additional highway maintenance works to be carried out as soon as possible.

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO:	Cabinet	DATE: 16th April 2018
CONTACT OFFICER: (For all enquiries)	Alison Hibbe	d – Community and Leisure (01628 696099)
WARD(S):	All	
PORTFOLIO:	Environment	t and Leisure – Councillor Anderson

PART I NON-KEY DECISION

LEISURE FACILITIES REPROVISION PROGRAMME UPDATE

1 <u>Purpose of Report</u>

1.1 This report details the progress to date on the council's ambitious leisure capital development programme, part of the council's five year leisure strategy for the town, ratified by Cabinet in March 2014.

2 Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

2.1 The Cabinet is requested to resolve that the report and the good progress being made in delivering the leisure strategy be noted.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

All the actions within the Slough Leisure Strategy will contribute towards achieving the overarching vision of the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy and will make significant contributions specifically to the health and wellbeing of Slough residents.

Protecting vulnerable children - new leisure facilities will be safe environments for children and will target those who are disadvantaged

Improving mental health and wellbeing – It is well established and accepted that taking part in regular sport and physical activity contributes greatly to better mental health and general wellbeing

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful taking part in regular sport, physical activity and other related positive leisure activity is proven to improve the physical health and mental wellbeing of children and young people, along with educational attainment and confidence and self esteem
- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs addressing the rates of inactivity in our adult population is a key priority for the council. Improved leisure facilities that are accessible and cater for a range of abilities will be a key area for turning the tide on this inactivity.

- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay attractive and accessible leisure facilities will attract people to the borough to live, work and visit.
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents good quality, accessible leisure facilities are attractive to employers to ensure a healthy workforce which is imperative for a businesses success.

4 <u>Other Implications</u>

(a) <u>Financial</u>

There are no financial implications in regard to this report. All budgets for the capital schemes, which have a total value of \pounds 62 million, have been approved by Cabinet and to date are on budget and programme.

(b) Risk Management

The leisure strategy capital development team keep a detailed up to date risk register for all the council's major leisure schemes. The risk register is reported to the Leisure Strategy Board fortnightly and a monthly highlight report is produced for CMT. The leisure risk register is available on request.

(c) <u>Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications</u>

There are no Human Rights implications in regard to this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessments have been prepared for Ice and Salt Hill. An EIA is currently being drafted for comment in reference to the new leisure centre development.

(e) <u>Workforce</u>

There are no workforce implications in regard to this report

(f) <u>Property</u>

Within the portfolio of leisure facilities all buildings have management arrangements in place.

Arbour Park Community Sports Stadium is managed by the council's corporate facilities teams and Slough Ice Arena, Salt Hill Activity Centre, Langley Leisure Centre and the new leisure centre on the Farnham Road will be managed by the Council's leisure provider Everyone Active when their construction is completed and the facilities are handed over to the council.

(g) <u>Carbon Emissions and Energy Costs</u>

All new leisure facilities will be more efficient in regard to energy costs with improved mechanical and electrical systems, which aim to reduce carbon emissions.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 In March 2014 Cabinet agreed the council's five year leisure strategy which detailed the requirement to make large scale improvements to the council's leisure facilities. Subsequently investment was approved by Cabinet for the following schemes:
 - A new community sports stadium at Arbour Park
 - A replacement leisure centre for Montem
 - A refurbished ice arena
 - A refurbished Langley Leisure Centre
 - A refurbished Salt Hill leisure facility
- 5.2 The strategy also recommended a series of improvements to facilities at a local neighbourhood level, mainly in the town's parks and open spaces, to include MUGA (multi use games area) and green gym developments.

5.3 Major Facility Programme

5.4 The leisure capital development programme commenced in 2015 with the Arbour Park Community Stadium development, which resulted in the award winning stadium being fully completed in May 2017 along with the major improvement works to St Joseph's Secondary School.

5.5	The four remaining major development schemes are on programme for completion
	and handover as detailed in the table below.

Development	Completion date	Opening
Slough Ice Arena	26 th March 2018	April 2018
		Soft opening 16 th April
		Official opening 28 th April
Salt Hill Activity Centre	29 th May 2018	June 2018 (date to be
		confirmed with Everyone
		Active)
Langley Leisure Centre	31 st May 2018	June 2018 (date to be
		confirmed with Everyone
		Active)
The Centre Leisure	15th February 2019	March 2019 (date to be
		confirmed with Everyone
		Active)

- 5.6 Slough Ice Arena, the next major refurbished facility to open, was handed over to the Council on 26th March, allowing Everyone Active, the operators to mobilise in preparation for the soft opening of the rink on 16th April and the formal opening on 28th April, which will be attended by celebrities Perry Shakes Drayton and Mark Hanretty.
- 5.7 Salt Hill Activity Centre will offer an innovative leisure option to the residents of Slough aimed at attracting families with a diverse programme of activity. It is proposed to open the facility to the public two weeks after the facility is handed over to the council at the end of May.

- 5.8 Langley Leisure Centre has undergone a major refurbishment programme which will enable the centre to offer the very best facilities and programmes to local residents and users over the next 20 years. In response to community feedback the re-opened centre will offer an additional ninety parking spaces for leisure centre users only. The centre will re-open to the public in June.
- 5.9 The largest development in the leisure capital programme is the replacement of Montem Leisure Centre on the site of The Centre, on the Farnham Road. The new facility will address the changing trends in leisure use by delivering state of the art, larger gym facilities and an 8 lane x 25 metre pool with a larger teaching pool. The sports hall will be the first in the country to offer an interactive LED sports hall floor, which will increase the activity scope for all the diverse user groups in Slough. The new centre will open formally in March, with Everyone Active taking over full operations and management.

5.10 Local Neighbourhood Programme

Since 2015 the leisure services team have installed over thirty outdoor fitness facilities, with a further three outdoor gyms and a MUGA refurbishment due in May 2018. A most recent development has been the installation of seven non-turf artificial cricket wickets across the borough, with external funding secured from the ECB (English Cricket Board) and all installations will be completed by May 2018. Appendix 1 of this report details all facilities.

- 5.11 Many residents in Slough now have a green gym or fitness trail within walking distance of their home, providing them with access to free physical activity in their local neighbourhood. The Active Slough team in partnership with Everyone Active offer weekly inductions to residents, showing them how to use the equipment confidently and correctly.
- 5.12 Our investment in non traditional sporting facilities including skate parks and a Parkour park illustrate our commitment to creating a wide and varied activity offer for our residents. These more alternative provisions are particularly popular with the young people of Slough.
- 5.13 The MUGAs are designed for activity in the 21st century, encouraging and facilitating a multi sport approach. Activities that take place include; football, basketball, bootcamps, handball, cage cricket and street hockey. The Manor Park MUGA refurbishment will bring what is currently a closed, outdated facility back into the community, providing access for residents and user groups.

5.14 Communications

The council and the new leisure operator, Everyone Active have developed a collaborative, partnership approach in developing a joint strategy for the marketing and publicity of the new facilities, alongside the council's existing communications plans for all developments.

5.15 Next Steps

A key priority for the council is to get local people of all ages and abilities taking part more regularly in sport and physical activity. The provision of good quality, accessible leisure facilities is acknowledged as just one step in achieving this goal. The council is aware that there needs to be a complimentary approach to encouraging people to adopt regular exercise as a habit for life and this will be achieved by working in close partnership with key stakeholders including Everyone Active and the various health agencies. 5.16 The existing Leisure Strategy Board, which has predominantly overseen the management of the leisure capital schemes over the last three years, will be reviewed, with a change in brief and membership to reflect the council's long term aim to get more Slough residents, exercising more regularly. A top priority will be to target the 30% of local residents that are classed as inactive; taking part in less than 30 minutes of activity per week.

6 Comments of Other Committees

None.

7 <u>Conclusion</u>

7.1 The council's five year leisure strategy demonstrated the need for the town's old leisure facilities to be updated under a comprehensive capital development programme, estimated to cost up to £62million. March 2019 will see the last of the major projects completed and open to the residents of Slough with the aim of getting more local people taking part in more sport and physical activity more often. A review of the existing Leisure Strategy Board will see a change in brief of the group to look at tackling in more detail the inactivity levels in Slough, which are some of the highest in the region.

8 Appendices Attached

'A' - Neighbourhood Leisure Capital Programme 2015 - 2018

9 Background Papers

1. Get Active Slough – a five year leisure strategy for Slough.

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 1

	Venue	Туре	Ward	Delivered	Funding Stream
1	Buttermere Avenue	Fitness Trail	Haymill and Lynchill	01/03/2017	Leisure
2	Chalvey Recreation Ground	Green Gym	Chalvey	01/10/2016	Leisure
3	Cippenham Recreation Ground	Green Gym	Haymill and Lynchhill	01/03/2017	Leisure
4	Cromwell Drive	MUGA	Baylis and Stoke	01/10/2016	Leisure
5	Crown Meadow	Fitness Trail	Cippenham Meadows	01/03/2017	Leisure
6	Eltham Avenue	Green Gym	Cippenham Meadows	01/01/2018	Leisure
7	Godolphin Recreation Ground	Fitness Trail	Elliman	01/03/2017	Leisure
8	Harvey Park	Fitness Trail	Foxborough	01/03/2017	Leisure
9	Langley Memorial Ground	Green Gym	Langley Kedermister	01/01/2018	Leisure
10	Langley Recreation Ground	Green Gym	Langley Kedermister	01/03/2017	Leisure
11	Manor Park	Green Gym	Baylis and Stoke	01/06/2018	Leisure
12	Manor Park	MUGA	Baylis and Stoke	01/06/2018	Leisure and CIF
13	Monksfield Recreation Ground	Skate Park & MUGA	Britwell	01/08/2015	Section 106
14	Rochford Gardens	Green Gym	Wexham	01/01/2018	Leisure
15	Salt Hill Park	Green Gym	Chalvey	01/03/2017	Leisure
16	Salt Hill Park	Skate Park (+ site refurbishments)	Chalvey	01/09/2016	Leisure
17	Salt Hill Park	Parkour	Chalvey	01/09/2016	Leisure
18	Springate Field	Green Gym	Langley St Marys	01/01/2018	Leisure
19	The Cherries	Green Gym	Wexham (Parish)	01/01/2018	Leisure B
20	Upton Court Park	Green Gym	Upton	01/03/2017	Leisure
21	Manor Park	Practice Cricket Nets	Baylis and Stoke	01/06/2018	CIF
22	Bloom Park	Green Gym Extension	Central	01/06/2018	CIF
23	Maplin Park	Green Gym	Langley St Marys	01/06/2018	CIF
24	Brammas Close	Green Gym	Chalvey	01/06/2018	CIF
25	Grampian Way	Green Gym	Foxborough	01/06/2018	CIF
26	Mercian Way	Artificial Cricket Wicket	Cippenham Green	20/04/2018	ECB Funding
27	Lascelles Road (x2)	Artificial Cricket Wicket	Upton	20/04/2018	ECB Funding
28	Upton Lea Rec	Artificial Cricket Wicket	Wexham Lea	20/04/2018	ECB Funding
29	Salt Hill Park	Artificial Cricket Wicket	Chalvey	20/04/2018	ECB Funding
30	Godolphin Park	Artificial Cricket Wicket	Baylis and Stoke	20/04/2018	ECB Funding
31	Bowyer Rec	Artificial Cricket Wicket	Central	20/04/2018	ECB Funding

Page 12

This page is intentionally left blank

AGENDA ITEM 8

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO:	Cabinet	DATE: 16 th April 2018
CONTACT OFFICER: (For all enquiries)	Savio DeCruz – He (01753) 875640	ad of Transport and Highways
WARD(S):	All	
PORTFOLIO:	Councillor Carter –	Lead Member for Planning and Transport

PART I NON-KEY DECISION

HEATHROW EXPRESS DEPOT UPDATE

1 <u>Purpose of Report</u>

The purpose of this report is to advise members of the decision by the Department for Transport (DfT) and HS2 that there is no longer a requirement to construct a new maintenance depot at Langley for the Heathrow Express service.

2 <u>Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action</u>

The Cabinet is requested to resolve that it be noted:

- a) That following negotiations with the DfT and Great Western Railway (GWR) that there will no longer be a requirement to build a new maintenance depot at Langley.
- b) That the Heathrow Express service will continue to operate at least until 2028.
- c) That the maintenance will now be managed by GWR at Reading.
- d) That the Council will no longer be able to claim £6.25m as part of the Assurance letter.
- e) That the Council will pursue the availability of the land for housing to meet the Local Plan requirements.
- f) That the Council will pursue the reimbursement of legal fees expended through the petitioning process of the AP2 and AP4 process.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

Priorities:

- 1. Protecting vulnerable children: No impact
- 2. Increasing life expectancy by focusing on inequalities: No Impact

3. Improving mental health and wellbeing: the cancellation of the depot construction will result in less noise and air pollution through no added deliveries and construction noise.

4. Housing: There will now be an opportunity for the Council to pursue with other partners the potential to purchase or bring forward housing development on this land.

3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs: The cancellation of the depot constructions will help those in the area have a better quality of life through less construction traffic resulting in reductions in planned HGV journeys and less noise and vibration throughout the 2 year construction phase.
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay: There will now be an opportunity to review this location within the Local Plan to and increase the housing opportunity for our residents.
- Our residents will live in good quality homes: The council will be able to work with the land/lease holders to bring forward high quality housing in this area to support the demands in this location
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents: The council through the Local Plan will now be in a position to retain more commercial units to support the growth in the town and in so doing increase business rates and job opportunities.

4 <u>Other Implications</u>

(a) <u>Financial</u>

The cancellation of the build programme for the Hex Depot will mean that the Council will not be able to claim the £6.25m that had been agreed in the Assurance Letter with HS2 in 2016. The Council will pursue through legal advisors the costs associated with the initial petitioning in 2015/16 and fees incurred to date.

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities
Legal	None	
Property	None	
Human Rights	None	
Health and Safety	None	
Employment Issues	None	
Equalities Issues	None	
Community Support:	None	
Communications	None	
Community Safety	None	
Financial	None	
Timetable for delivery:	None	
Project Capacity	None	
Other	None	

(b) Risk Management

(c) <u>Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications</u>

No implications.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

No implications.

(e) <u>Workforce</u> N/A

No implications.

- (f) Property N/A
- (g) Carbon Emissions and Energy Costs N/A

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Cabinet in June 2015 were briefed that HS2 had identified the Langley area as a potential site for the relocation for the Heathrow Express depot. The relocation of the depot was a result of the changes that were proposed to Old Oak Common to facilitate the new High Speed 2 service.
- 5.2 Officers believed there to be a number of more effective ways of delivering the Depot either at other sites along HS2's route or from the Old Oak Common site. These alternatives were presented to the HS2 sponsor but these suggestions were not supported by the HS2 team.
- 5.3 Prior to appearing at the Select Committee the council agreed a mitigation package with HS2 to compensate for the loss of housing, council tax and new homes bonus, this package was £6.2m and was to be spend on community projects, transport and contributions towards a community hub.
- 5.4 The notification around 26th March 2018 by Heathrow Express and HS2 stating that the depot was no longer required has been welcomed. The Heathrow Express service will now be maintained in Reading by GWR. This site was identified by Slough as a suitable alternative back in 2015 but was not considered by Heathrow Express to be viable due to longer journey time to Reading.
- 5.6 The decision to abandon this part of the HS2 project has a number of benefits and dis-benefits. Firstly, delays to the Western Rail Link to Heathrow can now brought forward without the need to re-design the scheme around the depot potentially reducing cost and speeding up delivery. Secondly, the land that will no longer be required for the depot can be utilised for housing and the much needed car parking for the station which has over the past years over spilled into residential areas.
- 5.7 In terms of dis-benefits the council will not be able to claim the £6.25m earmarked for council projects, this will now need to be re-evaluated as part of the future capital programme. However, if the council and partners are successful in securing housing on the site there will be extra homes, council tax and business rates if commercial units are developed.

5.8 The council still has some work to do now that the decision has been made not to proceed with the depot; the first being to secure reimbursement for the legal fees expended as part of the petitioning process; this is circa £25K.

6 Comments of Other Committees

This report has not been considered by any other committees.

7 Conclusion

The Cabinet is requested that they note the information above and instruct officers to start negotiations over reimbursement of the legal fees and start the process for engagement with Network Rail with regard to housing.

8 Background Papers

None.