



Democratic Services

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**To: COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS' SERVICES**

**COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

c.c. All Members of Residents' Services Select Committee
c.c. Helena Webster, Place Directorate
c.c. Perry Scott, Corporate Director for Place
c.c. Ward Councillors for Ickenham and South Harefield, Ruislip and South Ruislip

Date: 24 May 2022

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT MAY 2022

HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23

DEPARTMENT: Place Directorate

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23 Capital release - Transport & Town Centre Projects

RELEASE NO: 1

Dear Cabinet Member

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Wednesday 1 June 2022** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

James Jones
Democratic Services Apprentice

Title of Report: HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23 Capital release - Transport & Town Centre Projects **RELEASE NO:** 1

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

SignedDate.....

Cabinet Members for Residents' Services/ Cabinet Member for Finance

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT MAY 2022

HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23

DEPARTMENT: Place Directorate

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23 Capital release -
Transport & Town Centre Projects

RELEASE NO: 1

Cabinet Members	Councillor Martin Goddard Councillor Eddie Lavery
Cabinet Portfolios	Cabinet Member for Finance Cabinet Member for Residents' Services
Officer Contact	Helena Webster, Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A with capital release request

HEADLINES

Summary	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the release of capital funds for HS2 Amenity Projects.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports the Council objective of strong financial management.
Financial Cost	This report seeks the release of £313.5k from the 2022/23 HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative for public footpath improvements and public art at two bridges along the HS2 route. The works will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion by March 2023.
Relevant Select Committee	Residents' Services Select Committee
Ward(s) affected	Ickenham & South Harefield, Ruislip, and South Ruislip

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Residents' Services:

- 1) Accept a HS2 Amenity Fund £182.5k grant to transform the pedestrian experience for local residents at two bridges along the HS2 route (South Ruislip and Ruislip Gardens) through public art with additional lighting enhancements at Ruislip Gardens.

- 2) **Accept a HS2 Amenity Fund £131k grant to facilitate much improved access to open green space and countryside for residents by improving four popular footpaths in Harefield, Ickenham and Ruislip, facilitating off-road walking and cycling throughout the year.**
- 3) **Approve the following capital release request of £313.5k from the HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23 programme budget for the funding of Footpath improvements and public art at South Ruislip and Ruislip Gardens bridges (Appendix A).**

Reasons for recommendation

HS2 Amenity Funding has been successfully negotiated to benefit communities within the borough most impacted by HS2 construction works. The recommendation will facilitate improvements to public footpaths to facilitate walking and cycling throughout the year and the proposed public art will enhance the environment at South Ruislip and Ruislip Gardens bridges.

Alternative options considered

The Cabinet Members could decide not to agree to the release of the funding in which case either one or none of the proposed improvements to benefit residents most severely impacted by the HS2 construction works would not go ahead, and the benefits fully realised.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

HS2 Ltd has agreed to make phased contributions to the London Borough of Hillingdon, known as the Local Amenity Fund, up to a maximum of £2 million to enable measures to benefit the local community in the areas of the borough most effected by the impacts of HS2 construction works to be initiated.

The London Borough of Hillingdon has agreed to report to HS2 Ltd on a quarterly basis on the cost, implementation and effect of measures funded by the Local Amenity Fund. The jointly agreed criteria for eligible projects is that the:

- Focus of projects should serve the communities impacted by HS2, principally Harefield, Ruislip and Ickenham. Projects serving communities outside these areas will be considered on a case-by-case basis where links to the impacts from HS2 are accepted and agreed by both parties.
- Projects must benefit local residents and/or businesses.
- Where possible, projects should seek to:
 - Serve a range of user groups and communities (this may be across multiple projects)
 - Mitigate against the loss of public amenity caused by the construction or operation of HS2
 - Be sustainable and long-term (include consideration of operational costs)

Two projects, enhancing locations and benefitting a range of communities have been approved by HS2 Ltd., as summarised below:

1. Footpaths to Fitness

This project aims to achieve much improved access to open green space and countryside for residents in Harefield, Ickenham, and Ruislip, facilitating off-road walking and cycling throughout the year, including the wetter autumn and winter months.

The proposed surfaced circular route and other identified improvements offers residents not just a local route but also connects to further trails such as the Celandine Route and Hillingdon Trail as well as routes into Harefield and beyond. The four specific routes for improvements are as follows

- Bridleway U42 connecting Breakspear Road South and New Year's Green Lane
- Footpath U37 connecting New Year's Green to U35 Harefield
- Footpaths R143 and R144 Hillingdon Trail Ladygate Lane to Lantern House, Ruislip
- Footpaths R145, R147 and U44 Ruislip Golf Course (Hill Lane to U43 Breakspear Road South)

Cost estimates have been provided by O'Hara Bro's the Council's highway term contractor which include 10% contingency and 10% highway engineer fees have been allowed for.

Table 1: Cost Plan for Footpaths to Fitness project

Location	Item	Cost
	Information boards	360
Bridleway U42	800 x 3m excavation of existing material and new surfacing	42,528
Footpath U37	320 x 1.5m excavation of existing material and new surfacing	8,941
Footpaths R143 and R144	R143 267 x 1.5m and R144 208 x 1.5m Coxwell gravel with timber edge	28,304
Footpaths R145, R147 and U44	R145 100 x 1.5m and R147/U44 560 x 1.5m Coxwell gravel with timber edge	38,958
	Sub total	119,091
	Highway fees (10%)	11,909
	HS2 Amenity Fund contribution	131,000

2. Public Art Bridge Enhancement

The proposal is to transform the pedestrian experience for residents at two bridges along the HS2 route (South Ruislip and Ruislip Gardens) through public art with additional lighting enhancements at Ruislip Gardens. Both areas are within the communities most greatly impacted by HS2 construction and will achieve significant aesthetic benefits for local residents and businesses.

Permission to install the public art has been agreed with London Underground Ltd. The cost plan for each of the Public Art Bridge Enhancement project proposals is set out below including funding sources. As the bridges where the murals are to be installed are owned by Transport for London the cost estimate for the fabrication and installation of the vitreous enamel panelled murals have been provided by Links Signs Ltd the Transport for London framework signage contractor, as

requested by TfL themselves. Links Signs hold the necessary TfL licences to undertake work on their infrastructure. The cost provided includes project management fees and contingency.

Estimated traffic management costs have been included for both locations. There is an 18-week lead in for fabrication of the mural panels.

Table 2: Cost Plan Public Art Bridge Enhancement project

Location	Item	Cost	Other funding sources	HS2 Contribution
South Ruislip Bridge	6 Panels fabricated at 1400mm x 1980mm with artwork steel frame and installation	£30,000	£22,000	£8,000
	Traffic management	£10,000		£10,000
	<i>South Ruislip Bridge Mural cost</i>	£ 40,000	£22,000	£18,000
Ruislip Gardens Bridge	20 Panels fabricated at 1100mm x 2400mm with artwork, steel frame and installation	£140,000		£140,000
	Street lighting design and implementation including fees	£9,500		£9,500
	Traffic management	£15,000		£15,000
	<i>Ruislip Gardens Bridge Mural cost</i>	£164,500		£164,500
HS2 Amenity Fund contribution				£182,500

Financial Implications

HS2 Amenity Fund Revised Budget £313.5k, Previously Released £NIL, Capital Release Requested £313.5k – Appendix A

HS2 Limited have agreed to make contributions to the Council up to £2,000k to bring forward measures in its area to benefit the local community having regard to the impacts of the HS2 project, called the Local Amenity Fund.

Applications from this fund have been submitted to HS2 in respect of the Footpaths to Fitness (£131k) and Public Art Bridge enhancements (£182.5k) projects and these have been approved by their internal governance. The recommendations request acceptance of the HS2 grant for these projects which will facilitate the capital release. The grant acceptance decisions will be reported to a subsequent Cabinet meeting for formal ratification and to ensure transparency.

The Footpaths to Fitness project cost estimate is £131k based on quotes from the highways term contractor O'Hara Brothers, and also includes 10% internal highways engineers fees. The Public Art Bridge enhancements project is estimated to cost £182.5k based on quotes from Links Signs Ltd from the TFL procurement framework which is required to be used for TFL bridges. Links Signs Ltd have a D&B credit rating of minimum risk (financial strength 1A).

Further applications to the HS2 Amenity Fund for other projects in development will be reported to Cabinet Members and subject to capital release.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities

The HS2 Amenity Fund, Footpaths to Fitness project proposal will invest in improving footpaths and local linkages in four key areas to greatly improve the potential for recreational walks, dog walking and cycling and benefitting local communities most directly impacted by HS2 construction. The proposal also accommodates improvements to a bridleway accommodating horse riders as well as walkers and cyclists.

South Ruislip and Ruislip Gardens bridges are within the communities most greatly impacted by HS2 construction and will achieve significant aesthetic benefits for local residents and businesses. Public art will highlight local connections of interest to residents instilling civic pride as well as brightening the pedestrian route under both bridges and creating a landmark feature.

Consultation carried out or required

No statutory consultation is required. Both projects have been prioritised by ward councillors themselves on behalf of the local residents and businesses which they serve.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate finance notes that the two projects detailed in this report are fully externally funded from the £2,000k HS2 Amenity Fund to mitigate the impacts of the HS2 project in areas affected by the construction works.

Legal

The Borough Solicitor confirms that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to Section 56 of the High-Speed Rail (London- West Midlands) Act 2017. Thus, there are no legal impediments to the capital release being authorised, although any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.

APPENDIX A – CAPITAL RELEASE REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

HS2 Amenity Fund Initiative 2022-23 Capital release No. 1

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Ickenham & South Harefield and Ruislip	Footpaths to Fitness	Improvements to four public footpaths to improve connectivity	131			
South Ruislip	Public Art Bridge Enhancement	Public art at South Ruislip and Ruislip Gardens bridges	182.5			
Total seeking release			313.5			
Previously released			0			
Budget			313.5			
Remaining budget			0			