
Report to: Litherland and Ford Area Committee **Date of Meeting:** 30th January 2013

Subject: Litherland 'At Grade' Bridge -

Report of: Director of Built Environment

Wards Affected: Litherland

Is this a Key Decision? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan?

No

Exempt/Confidential

No

Purpose/Summary

To advise the Area Committee of the delays and revised date of installation of the proposed 'at grade' Litherland bridge, in accordance with the requirements of the planning consent for the development of the Tesco Store, Hawthorne Road.

Recommendation(s)

That the Area Committee note the content of the report.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		X	
2	Jobs and Prosperity	X		
3	Environmental Sustainability	X		
4	Health and Well-Being		X	
5	Children and Young People		X	
6	Creating Safe Communities	X		
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	X		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy		X	

Reasons for the Recommendation:

To explain the reasons for the delay in installing the proposed 'at grade' Litherland bridge.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) **Revenue Costs:** None

(B) **Capital Costs:** None

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal	
Human Resources None	
Equality	
1. No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery: None

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT (FD2064/13) has been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into this report.

The Head of Corporate Legal Services (LD/1380/13) has been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Are there any other options available for consideration?

No

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Meeting

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Background Papers:

The following papers are available for inspection by contacting the above officer(s).
Report - Cabinet Member Transportation – Litherland Lift Bridge – June 12 2012

1.0 Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Tesco secured Planning consent for construction of a new store at Hawthorne Road, in 2008 (S/2008/1234 refers). In accordance with the recommendation of retail studies and the Council's UDP, the following planning conditions were imposed;
 1. The provision of a DDA compliant ('at grade') crossing of the canal.
 2. The provision of mooring facilities as necessary for boats needing to operate the new crossing.
 3. Removal of the existing ramp running down from Church Road to the head of Bridge Road and refurbishment or replacement of the adjacent steps.
 4. Removal of the existing footbridge over the canal and the diversion of services or the construction of a new support for services currently attached to the footbridge.
- 1.2 Discussions between British Waterways Board (now called Canal and River Trust – C&RT) and Tesco's representatives have ensued over a lengthy period with the Council's support.
- 1.3 Various agreements and leases are legally required between all three parties to facilitate the installation of the new bridge and these have been complicated and unfortunately, drawn out because of the complex technical nature of the proposal. Such discussion as to what agreements are required, were eventually drawn to a conclusion around December 2012.
- 1.4 The contractor Vinci has been appointed by Tesco to install the bridge and remove the existing bridge which crosses the canal. C&RT have a limited period to permit any works on or near to the Leeds – Liverpool Canal and this period commences in October through to April. There are no exceptions to this for operational reasons.
- 1.5 Whilst all attempts were made to commence the works in January 2013, unfortunately it proved impractical to put the legal agreements in place in the limited timescale available. The contractor was also left with a limited period to deal with any unforeseen eventualities during construction with such an extremely tight programme. Therefore, Tesco has confirmed that the works will now be postponed to the winter of 2013/14 and has also stated that a revised programme will be provided shortly. This will be the subject of a further update report to the Area Committee in due course and upon receipt of the revised programme.
- 1.6 The Council has received a commuted sum payment from Tesco to maintain the bridge in accordance with the planning consent and whilst it is unfortunate that the works cannot commence in January 2013, this will now provide more time for discussions with C&RT over the longer term maintenance of the bridge which have yet to be finalised.
- 1.7 Members can be assured that officers will endeavour to support Tesco in the delivery of this important piece of infrastructure and regular progress reports will be provided.