GRAVESEND TRAIN STATION – Proposed Cycle Hub & additional cycle storage provision

To: Gravesham Joint Transportation Board, 16th September 2015

Main Portfolio Area: KCC – Growth Environment and Transport

By: Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste

Classification: Unrestricted

Ward: Pelham Division: Northfleet and Gravesend West

Summary: The report outlines the proposed improvements to Gravesend train station cycle facilities, to include a new Cycle Hub offering cycle storage provision for 280 cycles and a bespoke building offering maintenance, training and advice.

For Information

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Kent County Council (KCC) and Southeastern Railway are intending to carry out improvements to Gravesend train station to provide improved access for all transport types and an improved user experience at the station. The proposed improvements will take place within an unused section at the bottom of the staff station car park area.

1.2 The scheme is to be funded from the DfT cycle-rail fund programme and the successful Kent Thameside – Integrated Door-to-Door Journeys Local Growth Fund (LGF) bid. The DfT added £100m to the LGF pot in order to fund Local Sustainable Transport Fund Style schemes. KCC subsequently submitted four LSTF capital bids 1) East Kent – A network for Growth, 2) Kent Thameside – Integrated door-to-door journeys and 3) West Kent – Tackling Congestion. The fourth was for Tonbridge Town Centre Regeneration, which included a highway improvements scheme in the Lower High Street as well as additional LSTF style measures. The objective of all of the capital bids is to boost economic growth by decreasing carbon emissions and reducing congestion.

1.3 The Kent Thameside, West Kent and Tonbridge Town Centre Regeneration bids were all successful. The East Kent capital bid was unsuccessful. The Gravesend Cycle Hub is one of the schemes to be delivered in 2015/16 from Kent Thameside – Integrated Door-to-Door Journeys.

1.4 The principal scheme aim of the Gravesend Cycle Hub is to reduce congestion and improve accessibility through the delivery of a fully integrated sustainable transport network allowing the user to transfer seamlessly between modes and making sustainable transport a real alternative to the private car. There is significant development planned for the surrounding areas, and it is envisaged that providing improved cycle facilities at the station it will encourage users to choose sustainable modes to travel to and from the Station for commuting purposes or leisure travel.
2.0 Discussion

2.1 The scheme proposal has been discussed in detail with Gravesham Borough Council officers and a GRIP 4 design is in progress.

2.2 The new Cycle Hub will increase the number of cycle storage spaces at Gravesend Station from 90 to 280. 220 cycle storage spaces will be secure, accessed via a fob system which will be allocated to passengers. 60 spaces will be accessible to all passengers without the requirement for a fob. The Hub will significantly enhance the cycle facilities at the station by providing secure storage, CCTV coverage, charging points and storage provision for electric bikes as well as a bespoke building from which cycle maintenance, safety checks, free cycle training and general advice will be offered.

3.0 Financial

3.1 The scheme delivery is being funded by the DfT Cycle-Rail fund programme and the Kent Thameside – Integrated Door-to-Door Journeys Local Growth Fund (LGF) bid. It is proposed that the scheme proceed as outlined on the plan shown in Annex 1.

4.0 For Information

4.1 Funding has been secured, and the scheme is proposed to proceed to consultation. Any objections received as part of the consultation process will be investigated and if required bought back to the Board in November.

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<td>Annette Bonner, Transport Planner 03000 418181</td>
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Annex List

| Annex 1 | Scheme Proposal / Plan |