

**3 December 2021**

**REPORT SUMMARY SHEET**

**BRISTOL TEMPLE MEADS EASTERN ENTRANCE - FUNDING**

**Purpose**

To seek approval for the inclusion of full funding for the Temple Meads Eastern Entrance in the Investment Fund programme.

**Summary**

Bristol Temple Meads Eastern Entrance represents an essential component of the infrastructure that will help facilitate successful delivery of the urban regeneration of land around Temple Meads rail station. The scheme will also overcome existing and future operational issues at Bristol Temple Meads railway station. The station has passenger capacity constraints, regularly reaching capacity during peak periods, and this problem is likely to be exacerbated in future years as demand for rail travel grows as a result of significant investment in an improved station, and new passenger rail services (for example through the introduction of MetroWest services). The Outline Business Case for the Eastern Entrance was approved by the Combined Authority Committee in June 2019.

This report seeks approval to include the full cost of £23.65m for the Bristol Temple Meads Eastern Entrance in the Investment Fund programme.

**Recommendation**

To approve the inclusion of the full cost of £23.65m for the Bristol Temple Meads Eastern Entrance in the Investment Fund programme.

**Contact officer:** Kathryn Vowles

**Position:** Interim Director of Infrastructure

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**REPORT TO: WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY  
COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 3 December 2021**

**REPORT TITLE: BRISTOL TEMPLE MEADS EASTERN ENTRANCE -  
FUNDING**

**AUTHOR: KATHRYN VOWLES, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Purpose of Report**

1. To seek approval for the inclusion of full funding for the Temple Meads Eastern Entrance in the Investment Fund programme.

### **Impact of Covid-19 pandemic**

The Combined Authority continues to review the deliverability, and priority, of its investment programme in response to Covid-19

**Recommendation: To approve the inclusion of the full cost of £23.65m for the Bristol Temple Meads Eastern Entrance in the Investment Fund programme.**

### **Bristol Temple Meads Eastern Entrance**

2. Bristol Temple Meads Eastern Entrance represents an essential component of the infrastructure that will help facilitate successful delivery of the urban regeneration of land around Temple Meads rail station. The scheme will also overcome existing and future operational issues at Bristol Temple Meads railway station. The station has passenger capacity constraints, regularly reaching capacity during peak periods, and this problem is likely to be exacerbated in future years as demand for rail travel grows, as a result of significant investment in an improved station, and new passenger rail services (for example through the introduction of MetroWest services). The Outline Business Case for the Eastern Entrance was approved by the Combined Authority Committee in June 2019.
3. As reported to the Committee in June 2021, following a previously granted delegation to the Combined Authority Chief Executive in consultation with the Chief Executives of the constituent Councils, the Full Business Case for the Temple Meads Eastern Entrance was approved in January 2021. Following approval, detailed design commenced in March to enable the use of the existing blockade this summer to extend the subway. It was hoped that alternative funding for this scheme would become available whilst the Investment Fund cash flowed this work, but in the absence of any decision on other funding, the scheme is now

being included in the Investment Fund programme in full, at a cost of £23.65m from the 'tail' of funding previously allocated to this project.

4. Phase 1, delivery of the subway and tunnel access for the Eastern Entrance to Temple Meads Station has now completed. The Phase 2 planning application was submitted to Bristol City Council on 23 June 2021. There are Phase 2 delays due to design consideration that are being addressed between partners and key stakeholders. The postponed opening date of the University of Bristol Enterprise Campus in 2025 creates the need for early access and public realm to the entrance to be considered and delivered with the opening of the entrance in 2023 (new proposed phase 3).

### **Consultation**

5. Project development and delivery has been undertaken with the involvement of key stakeholders including Network Rail, Bristol City Council, Historic England, the University of Bristol and Great Western Railway

### **Other Options Considered**

6. An Options Assessment Report has been produced as part of the Business Case.

### **Risk Management/Assessment**

7. A Quantified Risk Assessment has been undertaken which forms part of the Business Case.

### **Public Sector Equality Duties**

8. Network Rail and the proposed station operator, Great Western Railways are both bound by the Equality Act. They apply the regulation through an independent assurance process, the Built Environment Accessibility Panel (BEAP). Phase 3 will engage stakeholders through the development of accessibility options prior to BEAP.

### **Finance Implications**

9. The funding for this project can be accommodated within the Investment Fund programme.

Advice given by: Malcolm Coe, Director of Investment and Corporate Resources

### **Legal Implications**

10. There are no additional legal implications arising from this report.

Advice given by: Shahzia Daya, Monitoring Officer, West of England Combined Authority

### **Climate Change Implications**

11. Forecast increases in the demand for rail travel, as a result of shorter journey times provided by the scheme, will decrease the distance travelled by road and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Land /Property Implications**

12. Agreement needed with University of Bristol Enterprise Campus for land needed for the early access and public realm considerations of the Eastern Entrance.

### **Human Resources Implications**

13. There are no direct human resource implications arising from this report.

**Appendices:** None

**Background papers:** None

### **West of England Combined Authority Contact:**

Any person seeking background information relating to this item should seek the assistance of the contact officer for the meeting who is Ian Hird tel. 07436 600313; email: [democratic.services@westofengland-ca.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@westofengland-ca.gov.uk)