**DECISIONS DELEGATED TO OFFICERS**

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| **Decision title:** | Entering into Development Services Agreement with Network Rail regarding Cowley Branch Line PACE Phase 2 |
| **Decision date:** | 29 March 2023 |
| **Source of delegation:** | At Cabinet on 14 December 2022, it was agreed to “Delegate authority to the Executive Director (Development), in consultation with the Council’s Section 151 Officer, the Head of Law and Governance, and the Cabinet Members for Health & Transport and for Finance & Asset Management to agree financial contributions and terms, and then enter into all relevant funding agreements and contracts.” Full list of recommendations and minutes [here](https://mycouncil.oxford.gov.uk/ieIssueDetails.aspx?IId=33065&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI35228).  The Council’s Constitution (Part 17.9) enables the waiving of the call-in period in respect of key decisions where the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee agrees that the decision to be taken is both urgent and reasonable and the delay caused by the call-in process would not be in the interests of the Council or the public. |
| **What decision was made?** | Oxford City Council entering into a Development Services Agreement (DSA) with Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, in order to deliver the detailed design stage of work for the Cowley Branch Line, known as PACE Phase 2 in rail industry terminology.  The estimated cost of this contract is £3,261,145 and is funded according to the terms of a Collaboration Agreement, a separate decision.  The DSA sets out the terms by which Network Rail will progress the Cowley Branch Line rail and station infrastructure to detailed design stage, with Oxford City Council as customer and oversight provided from all local funders through a Programme Panel. |
| **Purpose:** | This decision supports the target for delivery of the Cowley Branch Line rail and station infrastructure by December 2026. Subject to local and national funding for the delivery stage being received and all industry and statutory permissions, this strategically important transport project for Oxford and the south-east of England could be complete within four years. |
| **Reasons:** | This contractual approach is the standard template used by Network Rail when it undertakes work on behalf of third parties. |
| **Decision made by:** | Tom Bridgman, Executive Director (Development) |
| **Other options considered:** | There has been no prior call for competition as:  a. competition is absent for technical reasons – Network Rail have progressed the Outline Business Case and are in communication with the Department of Transport on its content and the subject matter of the  agreement is intrinsically linked to the work already undertaken; and  b. no reasonable alternative or substitute exists – the standard documentation of Network Rail has to be used. |
| **Documents considered:** | Development Services Agreement, which will be subsequently signed and sealed. **Confidential.**  Internal report setting out rationale around financial implications for the Council. **Confidential due to containing commercially sensitive information.** |
| **Key or Not Key:** | Key |
| **Wards significantly affected:** | Littlemore, Cowley, Northfield Brook, Blackbird Leys, Temple Cowley |
| **Declared conflict of interest:** | No |
| **This form was completed by:**  **Name & title:**  **Date:** | Ted Maxwell  Economy, City Centre, Green Transport Lead  29 March 2023 |

**Approval checklist**

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| ***Approver*** | ***Name and job title*** | ***Date*** |
| **Decision Maker** | Tom Bridgman, Executive Director (Development) | 29 March 2023 |

**Consultee checklist**

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| ***Approver*** | ***Name and job title*** | ***Date*** |
| **Senior officer** | Carolyn Ploszynski, Head of Regeneration and Economy  Signature Carolyn Ploszynski | 29 March 2023 |
| **Head of Financial Services** | Nigel Kennedy, Head of Financial Services | 29 March 2023 |
| **Head of Law and Governance** | Susan Sale, Head of Law and Governance | 29 March 2023 |
| **Cabinet Members** | Cllr Louise Upton, Cabinet Member for Health and Transport  Cllr Ed Turner, Deputy Leader (Statutory) – Finance & Asset Management | 29 March 2023  29 March 2023 |