

Newcastle & Gateshead Joint Bridges Committee

5 December 2018

Joint Tyne Bridges Capital Budget

**Report by: Assistant Director Transport, Newcastle /
Strategic Director, Communities & Environment, Gateshead**

**Ward Implications: Ouseburn/Westgate/Benwell & Scotswood/Newburn/ Ryton,
Crawcrook & Stella/Blaydon/Dunston & Teams/Bridges**

For information		
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1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 This report outlines the progress made on the planned 2018/19 capital works programme for the Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges, unplanned works which were required during the year and recommends a capital budget to be expended on the Joint Bridges in 2019/20.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Committee is recommended to: -
- i Note the progress made on the planned capital works programme funded by the Department for Transport's Local Transport Plan (LTP) for 2018/19.
 - ii Recommend the programme of planned capital works to be carried out in 2019/20, as detailed in paragraphs 5 to 9, to the appropriate committee of each authority.
 - iii Recommend a budget provision of £200,000 for 2019/20, as detailed in paragraphs 5 to and 9 of this report, to the appropriate committee of each authority for inclusion in that committee's budget for 2019/20.

3. Introduction and background

- 3.1 Capital works undertaken on the Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges is funded from the LTP Maintenance Block allocation. In 2018/19 a sum of £375,000 was allocated to the planned works as set out below, together with a programme of proposed capital works to be carried out in 2019/20.

4. Tyne Bridge

- 4.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during 2018/19, however, following the severe winter conditions, urgent remedial repairs to the bridge expansion joints were required. These works were completed over a series of night time lane closures in May 2018.
- 4.2 The cost of these works was £168,246 and was funded from the LTP Maintenance Block allocation.
- 4.3 Design work on the major maintenance of the Tyne Bridge has been carried out. As reported to Members at the last Committee meeting it is proposed that a funding bid for the major maintenance of the bridge is submitted to the Department for Transport. However, at this time a bidding opportunity has not arisen. Officers have made direct representations to the Department of Transport with regards this project and we wait to see what opportunities arise in 2019. Officers are also investigating alternative funding options and possible phasing of the works if a single funding source for the proposed package of work cannot be secured. At this time, it is anticipated that the proposed works would not commence before 2020 and would take a minimum of 18 months to complete.
- 4.4 As a part of the project design Officers are meeting with RSPB and the Kittiwake Partnership to look at the protection and management of the kittiwake colony on the bridge.

5 Swing Bridge

- 5.1 It had been proposed to carry out permanent repairs to the Swing Bridge road deck in 2018/19. However, due to the call on the budget for the urgent works on the Tyne Bridge expansion joints, this work has been deferred until 2019/20. Officers continue to monitor the condition of the bridge until these works can be completed. The temporary repairs continue to function effectively. The estimated outturn cost for these works remains at £75,000.
- 5.2 A budget provision of £75,000 is required in 2019/20 for the proposed works.

6. High Level Bridge

- 6.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during this period.

7. Redheugh Bridge

- 7.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during this period.
- 7.2 Inspections have revealed defects to the bridge expansion joints, it is proposed to undertake remedial works to partially replace the bridge

expansion joints. A budget provision of £25,000 is required in 2019/20 for the proposed works.

8. Scotswood Bridge

8.1 There were proposals to carry out the replacement of the mechanical comb expansion joints in 2018/19. A budget provision of £300,000 has been identified for these works. The works are currently being priced, with an anticipated start on site in January 2019. It is anticipated the works will not be complete in this financial year and will extend into 2019/20. For budget purposes, it is estimated £200,000 will be spent this financial year and £100,000 will be spent in 2019/20.

8.2 There were proposals to carry out the replacement of the laminated bearing to the north west abutment in 2017/18. These works were deferred and are to be included in the works to replace the mechanical comb expansion joints. A budget provision of £12,000 was identified for these works.

9. Newburn Bridge

9.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during 2018/19.

9.2 Following a major water main burst on the north approach to the bridge in May 2018 the bridge was closed to vehicle traffic until the end of September 2018.

9.3 The cost of the repair works to the water main and the cost of reinstatement of the bridge approach will be covered by Northumbrian Water Ltd.

9.4 While the bridge was closed to vehicle traffic the opportunity was taken to carry out resurfacing and concrete repairs to the bridge deck. These works were completed during the period when the bridge was closed to vehicle traffic and were funded from the LTP Maintenance Block allocation. The estimated out turn cost of these works is £40,000.

9.5 No further works are proposed in 2019/20

10. Reasons for the decision

10.1 The programme of works and budget recommended in paragraphs 4 to 9 are the level of works required to address know deterioration on these bridges and to allow these bridges to be maintained in a safe and fit for purpose condition.

11. Alternative Options

11.1 The programme of works and budget presented in paragraphs 4 to 9 are provided as the allowance to ensure safe public use of these assets. Not undertaking these works would pose a risk to public safety and an associated liability to the Authorities.

12. What happens next

12.1 The recommended programme of works and budget presented in paragraphs 4 to 9 shall be presented to the appropriate committee of each authority for

inclusion in that committee's budget for 2019/20.

13. Background papers

Background papers held by: -

Newcastle City Council, Place Directorate, Transport, Contact Officer:
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