



**PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE**

**INDIVIDUAL DECISION BY THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PLANNING AND ACCESS**

**TOPIC – St James Lane to Airlie Road Footpath improvement.**

The Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 4, Section 22 of the Council's Constitution provides for a decision to be made by an individual member of Cabinet.

In accordance with the Procedure Rules, the Corporate Director (Governance), the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance are consulted together with Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Principal Scrutiny Committee and all Members of the relevant Scrutiny Panel (individual Ward Members are consulted separately where appropriate). In addition, all Members are notified.

Five or more of these consulted Members can require that the matter be referred to Cabinet for determination.

**Contact Officers:**

**Case Officer:**

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**Committee Administrator:**

Ellie Hogston. Tel: 01962 848155. Email: ehogston@winchester.gov.uk

**SUMMARY**

A route between Airlie Road and St James Lane, Winchester, is well used by residents of Stanmore and University students to travel from Stanmore to the University and the City Centre. Although this route has been used for many years it has no official status as a public footpath and is in a poor state of repair and runs across private property under 3 different ownerships (Ministry of Defence, A2 Housing and Network Rail). The City Council has been working with the land owners to secure agreement to undertake improvement works to the path, to transfer the A2 and Network Rail owned land along the route to the City Council so that the footpath can be maintained in the future and to dedicate the land to the County Council so that it can become a public right of way. Discussions are still on going with the MoD and therefore no decisions have yet been made as to whether the land will be dedicated or transferred.

The City Council has allocated £20,000 from the capital programme towards the cost of the scheme. In addition £20,000 has been secured from the County Council and a further £2,000 from the University of Winchester.

The scheme is currently being designed and matters such as street lighting and surface treatments are being considered. These matters are under discussion with the ward councilors and the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access.

The scheme will contribute to the City Councils Corporate Strategy in relation to a High Quality Environment and Safe and Secure Communities. It will also improve accessibility for residents and Students.

**DECISION**

- (a) That the release of the capital programme provision of £20,000 be approved under Financial Procedure Rule 6.4 and
- (b) the Head of Legal Services be given approval to enter into the necessary agreements with the land owners and
- (c) , that the Head of Access and Infrastructure is given approval to procure and undertake the improvements works.

**REASON FOR THE DECISION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

A decision is required now to proceed with the scheme as the Head of Legal Services will need to enter into the necessary agreements with the land owners in advance of the works on the footpath starting.

Options only relate to the scheme design and these are being discussed with local Ward Members and the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access.

**FURTHER ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE**

None

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY THE DECISION MAKER OR A MEMBER OR OFFICER CONSULTED**

n/a

**DISPENSATION GRANTED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

n/a

**Approved by: (signature)**

**Date of Decision**

**Councillor Allgood - Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency**

Signed 16 April 2009

**Councillor Wood - Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access**

Signed by Cllr Beckett (Leader, in Cllr Wood's absence) 9 April 2009