

REPORT

To: AIRDRIE AREA COMMITTEE		Subject: AIRDRIE TOWN CENTRE: GARTLEA ROAD FOOTWAY
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 10 April 2001	Ref: C/PL/42/29/& C/TM/3/13/GNM/JW	

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of the report is to update Members on the progress regarding the above.

Background

2. At the Airdrie Area Committee of the 5 December 2000 a report was considered by the Committee and the Committee was asked, inter alia, to note that the Feasibility Study to establish costs for the footbridge was complete and that the road bridge assessment for 40 tonne highway loading was also complete with the Council waiting for Railtrack to agree with the assessment.

Update

3. On 13 December 2000 the Director of Planning and Environment submitted a committee report to the Planning and Environment Committee indicating that the road bridge had failed its assessment and asking approval to introduce a 7.5 tonne weight limit. Committee also approved that costs should be estimated for widening the bridge to accommodate suitable road and footway widths, in order to compare the widening costs with the costs of providing the footbridge and thereby ascertain the most cost effective solution for provision of a suitable footway.
4. The estimates for the above have now been established as follows. The cost for the provision of a steel footbridge is £400,000 including design fees but excluding land costs, which have not been quantified. If piled foundations are required, this cost would increase to £570,000. The net cost to the Council after deducting the Safeway contribution of £150,000 would be £250,000 or £420,000 for piled foundations. The cost for widening the existing bridge during the bridge re-decking contract would be £97,500 or £267,500 for piled foundations. Widening during the reconstruction to accommodate 40 tonne loading is therefore considerably cheaper than the provision of a footbridge.
5. The costs will be reported to the Planning and Environment Committee with a view to seeking authorisation to proceed with negotiations with Railtrack in order to strengthen and widen the existing bridge deck during financial year 2003/04.

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that Committee notes the above action and supports the provision of a strengthened and widened road bridge.



David M. Porch
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
29 March, 2001

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