

To: BELLSHILL AREA COMMITTEE		Subject: BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 2 June 2005	Ref: HQ/TT/03/14	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the progress of the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 The previous update report on the proposed phase 1 works was presented to the Area Committee on 24 March. This explained the reasons for the delay in starting the works on the three junctions included in the first phase at Belgrave Street, North Road and Glebe Street, Bellshill.
- 2.2 The proposed roundabout and new road construction at Gartcosh Walk/Belgrave Street was taken out and designed in isolation to prevent design difficulties at the other junctions from delaying construction further. The planning application lodged for this junction improvement should be presented to the June committee of the Planning and Environment Committee. Extensive public utility diversions are required costing in the order of £900,000 for which negotiations are ongoing in an effort to reduce costs in line with the funding available. Quotes have been received for the Site investigation works which are programmed to commence shortly after planning approval is received hopefully in June. This will be followed by the diversion of services and the main construction contract with a construction period of around 6 months.
- 2.3 Design of the other two junction improvements at Hamilton Road/Glebe Street and Gartcosh Way/ North Road is continuing, with traffic signals at Glebe Street now being the favoured option. In traffic terms, the Glebe Street junction improvement cannot become operational until the Belgrave Street roundabout is complete, but a considerable amount of preparatory advanced works such as laying the cable ducts can be carried out.
- 2.4 The procedure to promote the traffic regulation orders associated with the Hamilton Road/Glebe Street works will commence in June with the statutory consultations. This will run in conjunction with the construction works to ensure orders are in place and can be made effective at the appropriate time. The orders include the conversion from one-way to two-way traffic at Glebe Street, Hamilton Road between The Cross and Glebe Street and Main Street west of the Cross as well as the stopping-up of Main Street West at the Cross.

- 2.5 As noted in the report of 24 March, difficulties were being experienced in achieving a suitable design at North Road/Gartcosh Walk to meet the traffic capacity demands due to land restrictions and escalating costs. The current Tesco application which has been submitted for the Town Centre may include for a complete redesign at this junction to achieve access to the store. Further design work by the Council's consultants has been temporarily suspended, awaiting the decision on the application.
- 2.6 The brief for the Urban Design/Public Realm Masterplan as noted in the report of 24 March is still under preparation and upgrading works to the underpass at Emma Jay Road are nearing completion.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Committee as asked to note:
- a) The ongoing status of the design works.
 - b) The efforts being made to overcome difficulties and move the project to construction stage.
 - c) The commitment to complete phase 1 in the 2005/06 year.



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DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
(23 May 2004)

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