

Cabinet  
Council

4 October 2016  
11 October 2016

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor Innes  
Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration – Councillor O’Boyle

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Executive Director for Place

**Ward(s) affected:**

All

**Title:**

Local Growth Deal - Public Realm Phase 4 & Infrastructure Projects

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**Is this a key decision?**

Yes expenditure is in excess of £1m

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**Executive Summary:**

Since 2011 the Council has delivered over £33M public realm improvements in Coventry City Centre. Schemes such as Broadgate, Council House Square, Gosford St and the route from Bull Yard to the railway station have transformed the city’s environment, providing more green space and creating a more attractive city for residents, businesses and visitors to enjoy. Phase 3 of the public realm improvements was completed earlier this year, using European Regional Development Fund and Local Growth Deal grant, along with some private investment to deliver improvements including to the route between Coventry University campus and the city centre, Far Gosford Street, Lidice Place, Belgrade Plaza and Whittle Arch.

The impact of this work has been significant, attracting developers to invest in the city such as Shearers Property Group who cited the improvements to Broadgate as part of the reason they took the decision to invest to transform Cathedral Lanes into a vibrant restaurant quarter, with plans for further investment for phase 2 which is set to commence shortly Broadgate continues to host popular events, from farmers markets to concerts and exhibitions which attract visitors into the city centre. An increasing number of the city’s bars and restaurants are taking the opportunity to provide more outdoor seating areas to enable people to sit out and enjoy the newly improved urban and green spaces. Footfall in the City Centre during the evening is up 23%, well above the national average.

The Council has successfully secured £1.9M Local Growth Deal funds from Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) to deliver Phase 4 of city centre public realm improvements. The investment will focus on delivery of high quality schemes as per previous schemes in the city centre within the funding available.

To ensure that the public realm programme can be delivered within the available budget, this report proposes a priority order for the schemes. A pipeline of public realm schemes has been established in priority order for investment:

- Transformation of Greyfriars Lane, Pepper Lane and relocation of the Coventry Cross to help unlock phase 2 of the Cathedral Lanes redevelopment and improve links to the Cathedral, through the creation of high quality attractive route;
- Improvements to the public realm in Fairfax Street;
- Funding to undertake feasibility studies for improvements at J4 and J5 of the ring road;
- Introduction of more public art into the city centre, including the reinstatement of local pieces in locations to be decided;
- Improvements to West Orchards Car Park Access, which will be match funded by West Orchards.

And if funding allows:

- Work to improve city centre coach parking facilities;
- Improvements to the cobbles in Cuckoo Lane, following on from the previous Hill Top improvements;
- Enhance the area on Corporation Street opposite the Student Village building through installing new paving to match with previous public realm works in this area;
- Improvements to city centre cycle infrastructure to improve consistency of routes;
- Enhancements to the pedestrian access in Greyfriars Green to complement the new pedestrian boulevard.

Separately, Local Growth Deal has also been awarded for infrastructure improvements to the A45/Leamington Road and A46 Stoneleigh Interchange. £0.75M has been awarded to the A45/Leamington Road to reduce road traffic congestion during peak periods and improve safety for all road users at the busy road junction on the A45 Kenpas Highway at its junction with the B4113 Leamington Road and B4113 St Martin's Road. A further £1.1M has been awarded for scheme development for the A46 Stoneleigh Interchange improvement. The scheme, being led by delivery partner Warwickshire County Council with support from Warwick District Council will improve access to the University of Warwick and the adjoining science and business parks, as well as provide a basis to access a number of proposed major developments in the area including HS2.

Taken with the investment reported in the Highways and Transport Capital Programme reports, the total additional investment in the city for 2016/17 is over £23M. The public realm works will help bring forward future investment in the city centre. This investment will also help strengthen the case for Coventry's City of Culture 2021 bid.

In addition two business cases have been submitted for Local Growth Deal 3 (LGD3) funds to deliver a further package of major public realm improvements and infrastructure improvements, which include further developing and delivering schemes which have been reported to Cabinet previously including de-culverting of the River Sherbourne at Palmer Lane and improvements to a number of ring road junctions to improve connectivity between the city centre and outer ring road.

A strategic outline business case is being prepared for the next package of public realm and infrastructure projects. This development work is being funded by the Integrated Transport Block Scheme Development Fund. Bids are being submitted to the West Midlands Combined Authority for Devolution Deal funding and Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership for Local Growth Deal funding.

The Growth Deal 3 funding announcement timescale has not been confirmed, although an announcement is anticipated in the autumn. Consequently there is an element of at-risk expenditure for business case development. This is estimated to be no more than £0.1M. It should be noted that none of this work will be abortive as it will be helpful to have 'schemes on the shelf' ready for future bidding opportunities. If unsuccessful these costs would need to be underwritten by Highways and Transport Capital Programme. If successful, a further cabinet report will be submitted for approval of the detail of these schemes.

## **Recommendations**

Cabinet is requested to:

1. Grant permission to enter into Local Growth Deal funding agreements for:
  - a) £1.9M to deliver Public Realm Phase 4;
  - b) £0.75M for A45/Leamington Road; and
  - c) £1.1M A46 Stoneleigh Interchange scheme, including £0.6M contribution from the Department for Transport
2. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place, following consultation with Cabinet Members for City Services and Jobs and Regeneration, to agree the detailed works for schemes in Coventry City Centre Public Realm Phase 4, as set out in Table 5.1 and their prioritisation for implementation.
3. Grant permission to enter into future Local Growth Deal 3 funding agreements if bids are successful for public realm city centre and infrastructure improvements and approve the submission of Strategic Outline Business Case to the WMCA to match fund these schemes.
4. Recommend that Council:-
  - a) Authorise the new and additional programme of works, as set out in Table 5.1, for Public Realm Phase 4 totalling £1.9M, A45/Leamington Road £0.75M and A46 Stoneleigh Interchange scheme £1.1M to be added to the approved capital programme for 2016/17 and 2017/18 as per the priority order set out in this report.
  - b) Grant permission to enter into Local Growth Deal funding agreements if bids are successful for public realm city centre infrastructure improvements and approve the submission of Strategic Outline Business Case to the WMCA to match fund these schemes.

Council are asked to:

1. Authorise the new and additional programme of works, as set out in Table 5.1, for Public Realm Phase 4 totalling £1.9M, A45/Leamington Road £0.75M and A46 Stoneleigh Interchange scheme £1.1M to be added to the approved capital programme for 2016/17 and 2017/18 as per the priority order set out in this report.
2. Grant permission to enter into Local Growth Deal funding agreements if bids are successful for public realm city centre and infrastructure improvements and approve the submission of Strategic Outline Business Case to the WMCA to match fund these schemes.

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix A – Plan showing location of Phase 4 schemes

Appendix B – Plans of proposed Phase 4 schemes

**Background Papers:**

None

**Other Useful Documents:**

1. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Phase 1 – Council report of 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011
2. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Phase 2 – Council Report of 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2012
3. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Phase 2 Update – Council Report of 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013
4. The Coventry Warwickshire First Wave Growth Deal – Council report of 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014
5. Coventry City Centre Public Realm Phase 3 – Council Report of 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014
6. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Open Call for Extension to Projects – Council report of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015
7. Public Realm 3a – Council Report of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No

**Will this report go to Council?**

Yes, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016

## **Report title: Public Realm Phase 4**

### **1 Context (or background)**

- 1.1 The background to the original Coventry Public Realm Project was covered in a report to Cabinet on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011. Phase 1 was completed in summer 2012; the success of these works led to Phase 2 being approved by Cabinet on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2012, with a revised programme subsequently approved 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013, and Phase 3 being approved on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014, with a revised programme (Phase 3a) approved in March 2015 following the award of additional ERDF funding. The previous reports included approval to undertake works at Greyfriars Lane, which are planned to now commence in October 2016.
- 1.2 Phase 3a is now complete, which includes improvements to Belgrade Plaza, Lidice Place, and Whittle Arch. The work has achieved several national and regional awards and is in the running for a number of others. The success of previous phases of public realm also led Coventry University to contribute funding towards improvements to Gosford Street and their campus, which was successfully delivered in partnership at the end of 2015.
- 1.3 The Public Realm programme has been extremely successful to date, with the programme having already regenerated over 16.5 hectares of brownfield land within Coventry city centre, and levered in more than £31.7 million of additional public sector funding and £2.3 million private sector investment.
- 1.4 Public realm has already attracted £5M Growth Deal funds to date, which were used to match fund ERDF grant to deliver the Phase 3a programme.
- 1.5 It is proposed that £0.1M is used from the funding allocation to fund works to complete the Public Realm Phase 3a programme, which includes finishing off works at Far Gosford Street, Belgrade Junction and Lidice which the ERDF funding and programme timescales did not allow for.
- 1.6 Public Realm Phase 4 comprises the following schemes in priority order:
  - Greyfriars Lane: further to the proposals set out in the March 2015 Report, the scheme will improve the link between Salt Lane Car Park and High Street and Pepper Lane. The high quality design will tie in with the previously regenerated High Street in terms of materials, and will include the installation of trees and Carnaby Street-style suspended catenary lighting to create an attractive and vibrant route.
  - Pepper Lane: currently hosts an unattractive service yard; the scheme would see this frontage improved by creating a visual barrier through attractive fencing and planting to the service area which would provide a far more pleasant vista to enable outdoor seating at ground level and balconies on first floor level of Cathedral Lanes. Alterations to the highway are proposed to raise the carriageway to create a level pleasant space for pedestrians and vehicles, while the surface will be treated with the same high quality materials palette as the adjacent High Street.
  - Coventry Cross: there is an aspiration to open up space in Cuckoo Lane with its magnificent vista of both the Cathedral and Holy Trinity Church by relocating the Coventry Cross Monument to nearby Cross Cheaping. The Cross takes up a lot of space and currently acts as a constraint for extension of the developments in the area. Opening up this land to an alternative use for restaurants and bars in this area

will help support the restaurant quarter and city's night time economy and make better use of this prime location for the people of Coventry and visitors to enjoy.

- Fairfax Street Phase 2: improvements were carried out at Whittle Arch and part of Fairfax Street in 2015 as part of the Public Realm Phase 3a. This scheme will address the public realm in adjacent area to the scheme on Fairfax Street, improving access to the Cathedral and Transport Museum for visitors by removing the taxis and bus bay to create a wider footway to allow for restaurants and cafes to provide outdoor seating to create a more cosmopolitan feel to this bustling part of the city centre. High quality materials will be used and trees planted to create a far more attractive public space.
- Scheme Development – The city has aspirations to undertake some major infrastructure works to transform Junctions 4 and 5 of the ring road to unlock development space and improve walking routes to the city centre. To facilitate these projects extensive feasibility studies are required utilising professional engineering consultancy services. These sites are instrumental to unlock development land particularly for Coventry University and the Whitefriars Monastery at J4 and the Techno Park at J5.
- Public Art Trail – Coventry has a rich cultural heritage which is currently not promoted as widely as it could be to attract visitors to the city centre. Public art adds another dimension of attractiveness to a city from a cultural perspective, post-war there was a lot of public art installed in the city centre which has since declined. The Council wish to see some of the original public art re-instated and better promote the city's heritage. It is proposed to refurbish and reinstate some of the city's most loved sculptures, locations to be determined.
- West Orchards car park access – improvements to the car park access for to create a more attractive and accessible setting for visitors. Note this will be match funded by West Orchards.
- Coach Parking Improvements – Coventry has a significant number of visitors that come via coach to the city every year. The main coach park is White Street in the north near the Cathedral. However there is a need for more drop off and pick up points around the city centre close to other attractions such as the Belgrade Plaza, Spon Street and The Herbert to encourage visitors to explore more of the city centre. Work will include creating new coach bays and improved signage. If the city becomes the 'City of Culture' it is anticipated that there will be a significant increase in visitor numbers.
- Cuckoo Lane: the cobbled streets of Cuckoo Lane and Hay Lane are key routes to Cathedral Quarter and are currently in a bad state of repair; the scheme would repair and replace cobbles as necessary to complete the recent improvement to the Hill Top area. Works comprise carefully lifting existing cobbles, constructing a concrete supporting layer and relaying the cobbles with new mortar surround in Pepper Lane and Cuckoo Lane.
- Corporation Street paving – much of Corporation Street has been transformed under the Belgrade Plaza scheme which was delivered under the City Centre Access scheme. However, there is one section of paving which remains in poor condition opposite the AXA building, which is a key route to the Transport museum. The scheme will upgrade the paving using high quality materials to complete the link on this important city centre route.

- City Centre Cycle Improvements – the Cycle Coventry project has delivered over £7m cycle route improvements around Coventry. The project has now ended, however the works have left a number of missing links at key strategic city centre locations which require interventions to create consistent high quality routes connecting across the city centre. The Council's partner Sustrans has undertaken an extensive survey and have come up with a mixture of low and high cost interventions at 15 city centre locations. The interventions all relate to the public realm, and include items such as improved signage, installation of dropped kerbs and removal of street clutter.
  - Greyfriars Green/Warwick Row Link – this scheme involves realignment of the main footway from the railway station to city centre from Warwick Road via Greyfriars Green through to Warwick Row, to complement the Friargate pedestrian boulevard and create a more direct route. At present the footway isn't on the desire lane, resulting in pedestrians walking over the landscaped area which is not Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant and is damaging the recently improved green space. The new footway would be high quality paving to complement the Friargate boulevard.
- 1.7 More details about these schemes can be found in appendices A and B. Greyfriars Lane, and Pepper Lane have been designed, the rest will follow as part of the Phase 4 programme.
- 1.8 Overall, this additional investment will support job creation and promote the regeneration of the city centre and further improve accessibility to employment, retail and tourist attractions. Increasing the city's public art offer will add another dimension to help strengthen the case for Coventry's City of Culture 2021 bid. Improved walking routes, cycling and coach facilities will enhance connectivity in the city centre and provide a more attractive visitor experience.
- 1.9 The objective of the A45/Leamington Road scheme is to reduce road traffic congestion during peak periods and improve safety for all road users at the busy road junction on the A45 Kenpas Highway at its junction with the B4113 Leamington Road and B4113 St Martin's Road. The £0.75M will fund scheme design and delivery. As part of the proposals signalised crossing points will be introduced, improving accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists and better managing traffic flows. The scheme will build on significant recent and committed investment along the A45/A46 corridor, including Toll Bar and recent junction capacity schemes at Kenilworth Road, Sir Henry Parkes Road and Broad Lane.
- 1.10 The A45 Leamington Road scheme will directly support major economic investment and growth planned in the South Coventry area.
- 1.11 The A46 Stoneleigh Interchange improvement entails the construction of a second bridge over the A46 and the creation of a full roundabout to provide increased capacity. This will complement the 'pinch point' scheme implemented last year around the University of Warwick and will significantly improve access to the University and the adjoining science and business parks. This scheme will also provide basis for accessing a number of proposed major developments in the area. The £1.1M Local Growth Deal and Department for Transport contribution will fund scheme development of Phase 1 which will include a full compliant business case to the Department for Transport; as this scheme lies just outside the city boundary the lead body is Warwickshire County Council.

1.12 Procurement options for the delivery of the works have been considered, it is proposed for public realm and A45/Leamington Road improvements to use the City Council's own direct labour force (DLO), supported by the Coventry City Council's Civil Engineering Framework contract for all schemes. The Warwickshire Highways Maintenance Contract may be used for the cobble works in Cuckoo Lane. Professional services will be procured using the West Midlands Highway Alliance professional services contract, which includes scheme development for the A46 project. All works will be procured to meet public procurement and EU State Aid requirements.

## 2 Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 **Option 1 – (Preferred) The City Council approves using Local Growth Deal for the schemes as set out in paragraph 1.6, with schemes to be implemented in accordance with the priority order set out in 1.6 dependent on the availability of funding** - The Council has acted as lead applicant or accountable body for many grant-funded projects. In essence it means being responsible for monitoring spend, submitting grant claims to CWLEP for eligible expenditure and demonstrating that the grant has been spent in achieving the outputs of the project. By taking on this role, the City Council will administer a further £3.79M Growth Deal grant. It is recommended this option is approved to maximise funds available to deliver the full programme of public realm and infrastructure improvements to maximise impact. It is not known what funds may become available for public realm in the future, therefore it's important to continue the success of the programme to further enhance the city centre which started as part of the Coventry 2012 initiative.

**Option 2 - (Default position) Proceed without any of the Local Growth Deal external funding package** - If the works were to be funded entirely by existing resources within the capital programme there is no provision for any works to be undertaken this financial year and a review would be required to determine available resources for future years, which would result in possibly only the top one or two projects being delivered, Greyfriars Lane and Pepper Lane. Delaying the timing of the project could have an adverse impact on the development timescales for the continued redevelopment of Cathedral Lanes, as the public realm is essential for unlocking Pepper Lane.

## 2.2 Recommended Proposal

It is recommended that the Council moves forward with Option 1. The programme will be delivered in priority order within the resources available and contingency applied as set out in section 5 of the report.

## 3 Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 The New Jobs Strategy 2014 - 2017 is the Council's proposal for taking forward the economy of the city in the light of the changed circumstances experienced over recent years. Growth Deal matched against core funds for these projects is aligned to delivering the Jobs Strategy and the priorities of the CWLEP set out in their 4-year strategy based on the Local Economic Assessment and feedback from local businesses which include:

- Creating new Jobs
- Creating business growth
- Removing barriers to growth



3.2 The CWLEP has undertaken a consultation exercise with local business to determine the priorities it should focus on. The proposals and projects within this report fully align to the proposed CWLEP Strategic Economic Plan.

3.3 Consultation with Access Groups has been ongoing throughout the delivery of Public Realm Phases 1 to 3a, and will continue for the development of Phase 4. All schemes incorporate trees and grass wherever practical in response to repeated calls for more greenery in the city centre. Consultation with access groups will also take place for the A45/Leamington Road and A46 Stoneleigh Interchange improvement schemes.

#### **4 Timetable for implementing this decision**

4.1 The Local Growth Deal schemes must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. Work has commenced on Greyfriars Lane, and the works have been phased to minimise disruption. Design work is taking place in priority order of the projects and the DLO have planned this work in their programme. An announcement is expected regarding the Growth Deal 3 bid in autumn 2016 and will be reported to Cabinet and a further cabinet report will follow.

4.2 All Growth Deal spend must be defrayed by the end of March 2018 in order to submit a final grant claim. Therefore works are to be completed by end January 2018 to enable time for final payments to be made.

#### **5 Comments from Executive Director Resources**

##### **5.1 Financial implications**

Public Realm phase 4 improvements will be funded from the £1.9m Local Growth Deal Unlocking Sites pot, which the Council has secured through Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP). A further private contribution from West Orchards will fund the improvements to car park access. The programme will be delivered in priority order to ensure that we remain within our available budget.

The first call on the Local Growth Deal funds will be £0.1m to complete the public realm phase 3a programme. This will be followed by delivering Greyfriars Lane and Pepper Lane, which are the first prioritised schemes

Also secured through CWLEP to deliver infrastructure improvements is £0.75m for A45/Leamington Road and £1.1m for A46 Stoneleigh Interchange. Note that £0.6M of the A46 Stoneleigh Interchange funding is directly from the Department for Transport but is classed as Growth Deal. Table 5.1 below shows Public Realm phase 4 programme in priority order, as well as the 2 infrastructure improvement projects:

**Table 5.1 – Public Realm Phase 4 Programme in Priority Order & Infrastructure Projects**

SCHEME	PRIORITY ORDER	GROWTH DEAL £m	PRIVATE CON'T £m	TOTAL BUDGET £m
Public Realm Phase 3a		0.1		0.1
Greyfriars Lane	1	0.5		0.5
Pepper Lane	2	0.5		0.5
Coventry Cross	3	0.2		0.2
Fairfax Street Phase 2	4	0.3		0.3
Scheme Development J4 & J5	5	0.16		0.16
Public Art	6	0.1		0.1
West Orchard Car Park Access*	7	0.04	0.04	0.08
Coach Parking	8			
Cuckoo Lane Cobbles	9			
Corporation Street Phase 2	10			
Cycle Improvements	11			
Greyfriars Green Warwick Row Link	12			
<b>PUBLIC REALM SUB-TOTAL</b>		<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>1.94</b>
A45 / Leamington Road		0.75		0.75
A46 Stoneleigh Interchange		1.1		1.1
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS SUB-TOTAL</b>		<b>1.75</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.85</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3.75</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>3.79</b>

\* includes £41k private contribution from West Orchards towards the scheme.

The public realm figures above include £0.3m contingency amongst priority order 1-7. If this contingency is not utilised this will enable budget to be released to deliver schemes 8-12, this will be reviewed throughout the programme.

## 5.2 Legal implications

Wayleaves will be required to install lighting on buildings on Greyfriars Lane and Pepper Lane.

Planning will be required to relocate the Coventry Cross statue in Cross Cheaping.

The public realm and infrastructure schemes will be delivered under the Council's general highway improvement/traffic management powers under the Highways Act 1980 except in relation to any new or amended formal pedestrian crossings/traffic regulation orders/traffic-calming measures which will be implemented following a separate statutory notice/objection process under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

## **6 Other implications**

### **6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's Plan?**

6.1.1 The Council's New **Jobs Strategy 2014-17** highlights the importance of creating jobs which the city needs. All project extensions will support job creation within Coventry and be aligned with the following two objectives of the strategy:

- Secure job opportunities through investment – businesses and investors continue to recognise Coventry as the right place for them to invest and grow
- Help people get jobs – pursuing prosperity so that in Coventry everyone who wants a job will have the opportunity to secure one that matches their skills.

6.1.2 All these schemes will indirectly or directly provide jobs across the city and sub-region. The Jobs Strategy specifically acknowledges the importance of public realm improvements in creating new jobs in the city centre. Coventry's Sustainable Community Strategy sets out the ambitions for "a prosperous Coventry with a good choice of jobs and business opportunities for all the city's residents". One of its long-term outcomes is accelerating economic growth for the city and creating a more diverse range of businesses and employment.

6.1.3 The proposed extensions to the current Public Realm programme and A46 and A45 improvements are closely aligned with one of the **CWLEPs core objectives**, which is to develop Strategic Infrastructure. It is also aligned with the CWLEP's Inward Investment objective, particularly as improved public realm will help to open up new employment sites (most notably City Centre South sites), and provide compelling reasons for companies to locate into the region.

6.1.4 The CWLEP recognises the importance of a successful Coventry city centre to the sub-region as a whole in its strategy. Public Realm Phase 4 is closely aligned with the "Unlocking Growth Potential" theme of the Coventry and Warwickshire Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), specifically by unlocking the potential for development on key new city centre employment sites.

### **6.2 How is risk being managed?**

6.2.1 Arrangements are in place within the Place Directorate to deliver the accountable body role ensuring that procedures are in place to manage risk. There is a governance structure in place for the public realm and A45 Leamington Road programme whereby risks are managed by project team level and reported to project board. There is also a separate governance arrangement in place between Coventry and Warwickshire to manage the A46 Stoneleigh Interchange scheme. Regular risk workshops are undertaken on all projects to ensure active monitoring and management.

6.2.2 The financial risk associated with Local Growth Deal sits with the Council as accountable body. However the risk of claw back is minimal so long as the expenditure is defrayed against eligible activity and in the permitted timeframe. This risk will be mitigated by the

implementation of strict procedures for the project management of Growth Deal-funded work.

6.2.3 The City Council's Resources & New Projects (RNP) Team oversee all CWLEP Local Growth Deal that comes into the Council beyond just public realm. They are experienced in dealing with external funding and will ensure that suitable monitoring and governance arrangements are in place at a programme level and appropriately align to the CWLEP's governance structure.

6.2.4 The programme manager for the works is responsible for managing compliance with the funding requirements such as publicity, procurement and for monitoring progress including making grant claims to CWLEP. The highly experienced Transport & Highways division who have already successfully delivered previous phases of public realm improvements will continue to implement the public realm schemes.

### **6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?**

#### **6.3.1 HR Implications**

6.3.2 To ensure successful delivery of these large projects and the Council's ability to provide an adequate accountable body function, additional staff resources may be required and will be recruited through the council's authorised recruitment protocols. Staff are already in place from the previous public realm projects and can continue to carry out this function and take on the new projects.

### **6.4 Equalities / EIA**

6.4.1 Each of the infrastructure projects will undertake an Equality Impact Assessment as part of project development and impact. The public realm proposals will make movement around the city centre easier for everyone. This is because of the removal of unnecessary street furniture and measures to reduce the dominance of vehicular traffic. However, access by car for those that need it will be maintained. Discussions with the Access Groups and representative organisations are underway to ensure that the design of Greyfriars Lane and other areas properly reflects access needs. There have been regular meetings with the Access Development Group and the Coventry and Warwickshire Access Committee to review the impact of Phase 1 to 3 schemes and to consider the design of further schemes. In particular, the Council has worked closely with the Guide Dogs Association providing funding to help the re-training of guide dogs in the new city centre.

6.4.2 Introduction of signals will improve accessibility at the A45 Leamington Road. Access Groups will be consulted during the design of the scheme.

### **6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment**

6.5.1 The projects will have a positive impact on the environment in the city centre. More green spaces and trees will be introduced into the city centre. Improvements to cycle infrastructure will encourage more sustainable travel. The projects will improve the quality of pedestrian routes in the city centre, and encourage travel by foot. The proposed improvements for the A45 Leamington Road will reduce congestion, and also improve accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians.

## **6.6 Implications for partner organisations?**

- 6.6.1 The public realm activities at Greyfriars Lane and Pepper Lane will increase the attractiveness of adjacent sites to private sector developers, and is likely to bring new employment land forward for development. This is reflected by the fact that Shearers Property Group, the developers of Cathedral Lanes are working with the Council to ensure that the public realm works delivered complement their proposed refurbishment and expansion plans for redevelopment of the shopping centre. The improvements to Greyfriars Lane will improve a key strategic link between the city centre and proposed new Leisure Destination on the site of the current Christchurch and Spire House buildings, as well as City Centre South. The public art improvements will involve a number of local partners, including Coventry University and the team involved in the City of Culture 2021 bid.
- 6.6.2 West Orchards have proposed a scheme to improve their car park access and will work with the City Council to deliver improvements, including providing match funding towards the scheme.
- 6.6.3 Due to the A46 Stoneleigh Interchange scheme location being just outside the city boundary, Warwickshire County Council will lead the delivery of the project, working closely with Warwick District Council.
- 6.6.4 Longer term, the works proposed as part of the Growth Deal business case included improvements to ring road junctions which will increase the attractiveness of these sites to private sector developers through unlocking development land and improving connectivity, and is likely to bring new employment land forward for development. The Environment Agency are very interested in the proposals to de-culver the River Sherbourne, and if successful, further de-culverting works could take place in the future to open up the river along Fairfax Street and create a river quarter which would complement future development in this area.

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Director: Martin Yardley	Executive Director	Place	24/08/2016	24/08/2016
Councillor Jane Innes	Cabinet Member (City Services)		13/09/2016	14/09/2016
Members: Councillor Jim O'Boyle	Cabinet Member (Jobs and Regeneration)		13/09/2016	14/09/2016

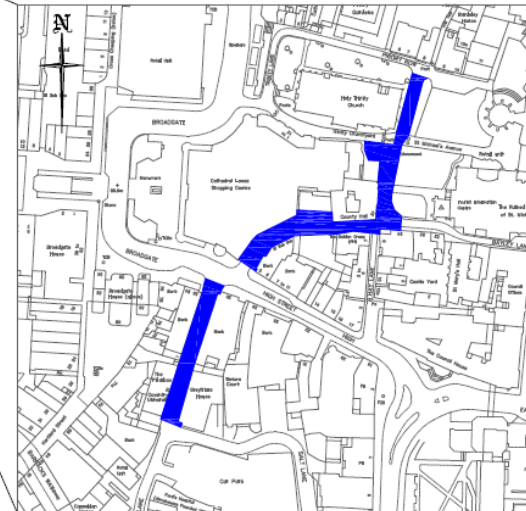
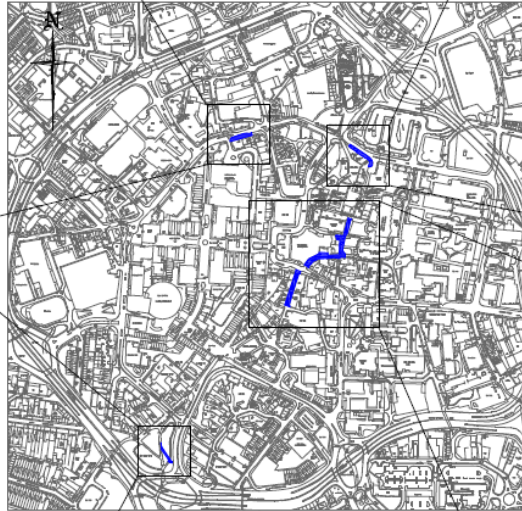
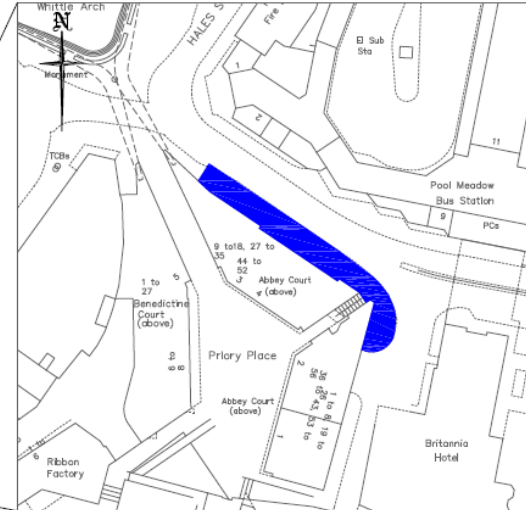
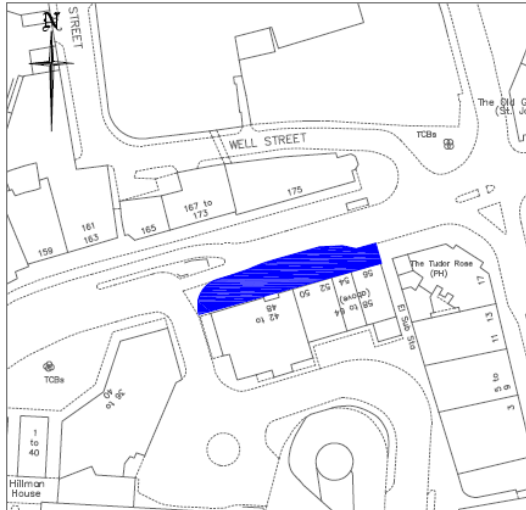
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# Appendix A – Public Realm Phase 4 Overview



## PUBLIC REALM PHASE 4 PROPOSED WORKS

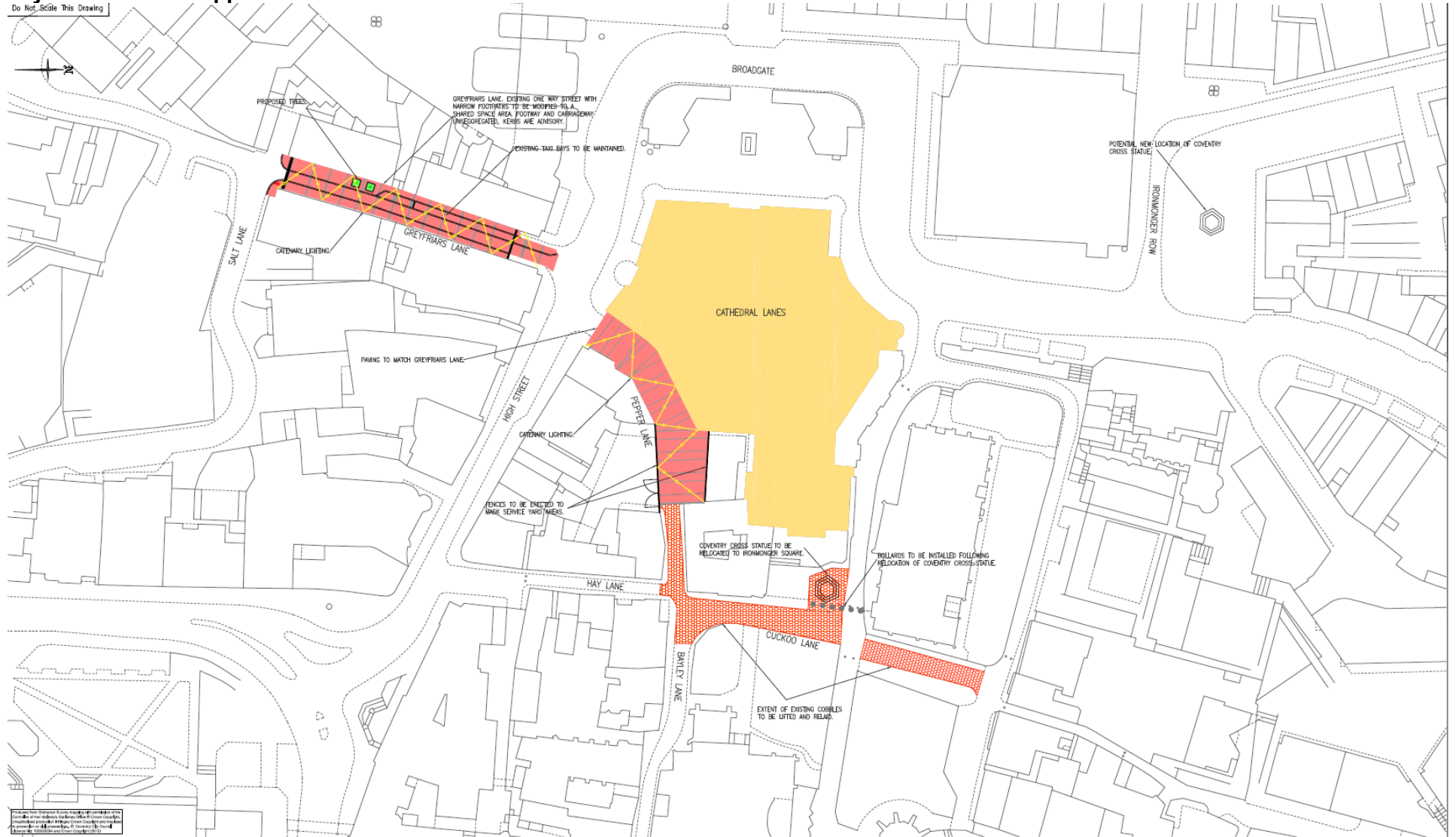


PROPOSED AREA OF PHASE 4 PUBLIC REALM WORKS.

# APPENDIX B - Proposed Phase 4 schemes

## 1) Greyfriars Lane & Pepper Lane

Do Not Scale This Drawing





## 2) Fairfax Street

Do Not Scale This Drawing



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