

Chief Executive Report

Summary: This report summarises the current position in respect of a number of important projects and events. Members are asked to note the report and in particular this match funding commitment for the bid to the Department for Transport

1 Bridges Update

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Angie Leeper/ NA5

- 1.1 Trowse Bridge – Following unsuccessful testing that took place on 28-29 September 2014, Network Rail inform us that they now believe that the lifting equipment will need to be replaced. Currently we are not aware of any plans or timing regarding the required future works. After consideration of our request, Network Rail feels they are unable to offer any further manual opening times.
- 1.2 Consultation Document - Anglia: Route Study, Long Term Planning Process. This document currently out for consultation sets out the strategic vision for the future of the network over the next thirty years. This Route Study is amongst the first of a new generation of studies which will go on to inform choices for funders in the years from 2019 to 2024, as well as to set out how future growth in the very long-term to 2043 could be accommodated. The public consultation of this Draft for Consultation closes on 3rd February 2015.
- 1.3 A link to the consultation document can be found here.
<http://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/imagelibrary/downloadmedia.ashx?MediaDetailsID=8378&%3BSizeId=-1>
- 1.4 The Broads Authority were not made aware of this document or given advanced notice of this documents release and its important reference to Trowse Bridge (Page 84). The Chief Executive has consequently raised this and other issues in a letter to Richard Schofield, Route Managing Director, Anglia. A high level liaison meeting between the organisations took place on 5 December 2014.
- 1.5 Potential issues and the content of a response to the consultation were discussed at the Navigation Committee. The Broads Authority officers have subsequently attended a meeting regarding the consultation on the 7 January 2015 although no further information has been received regarding the potential issues regarding Trowse Bridge.

2 Cycling Ambition in National Parks: Request for Funding - Three Rivers Way - Hoveton to Horning

Contact Officer/Broads Plan Objective: Adrian Clarke/ TR1.1

- 2.1 Members will recall that in early 2014 the Authority, in partnership with Norfolk County Council, applied for funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) for Cycling Ambition Grant in National Parks to fund the development of the first section of the proposed 3 Rivers Way cycle route linking Wroxham/Hoveton and Horning. Unfortunately that application was unsuccessful but late in 2014 the DfT recovered a portion of the funding that was previously allocated to another bidder as they were unable to deliver the scheme for which they had been allocated funding within the required timescales. On 15 December 2014 the DfT invited the Broads Authority and Norfolk County Council to reapply for funding for the 3 Rivers Way project and officers have since been working with Norfolk County Council on a revised bid for submission to the DfT by the new deadline of 14 January 2015.
- 2.2 The revised bid covers the construction of the route which is on existing highway land adjacent to the A1062, associated signage, safety features and links to new cycle hire opportunities at Wroxham/Hoveton. The total cost of the scheme is £1.02m and the Broads Authority is being asked to contribute £65k to the match funding element of the scheme. Members had previously agreed to this element of funding when the scheme was last submitted for consideration in 2014. In view of the opportunity to draw down the significant funding on offer a bid has been submitted to the DfT and an announcement is expected by the end of January. If the bid is successful it would be possible to cover the required contribution to the match funding from the Planning Delivery Grant reserve.

3 National Park Grant

Contact Officer/ Broads Plan Objective: John Packman/ Multiple

- 3.1 The Authority normally receives news of its National Park Grant for the following year before Christmas. This year we have been informed that the decision is likely to be made by Ministers towards the end of January.

Background papers:	None
Author:	John Packman
Date of report:	5 January 2015
Broads Plan Objectives:	NA5/ TR1.1
Appendices:	None