

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
CABINET – 4 OCTOBER 2016  
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR (FINANCE AND OPERATIONS)

RELEASE OF BUDGET ALLOCATION TO REPLACE A RETAINING WALL AT  
LOCKLEY CRESCENT, HATFIELD

**1 Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the release of the approved budget of £30,000 to cover the cost of rebuilding a retaining wall supporting part of the car park Lockleys Crescent.
- 1.2 Multiple options for resolving the issues at this site were considered and the proposed rebuilding is proposed to be the most efficient solution.

**2 Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves the release of the approved capital budget allocation of £30,000 for the purpose proposed.

**3 Explanation**

- 3.1 The wall has deteriorated over time due to water ingress which has occurred due to a failure or absence of a suitable damp proof membrane to protect the bricks.
- 3.2 A simple repair is not an option as the lack of a damp proof membrane needs to be addressed to stop the problem from recurring.
- 3.3 The wall and supported area could be removed, this is a more expensive option which would result in a sloped car parking area. Whilst this would result in lower ongoing maintenance costs for the future, the cost to excavate and remove the supported spoil and reinstate the car park on a slope is estimated to be in excess of £40k.

**Implications**

**4 Legal Implication(s)**

- 4.1 Collapse of the wall under supported cars could result in reputational damages and claims. The wall has been reported to us by a member of the public.

**5 Financial Implication(s)**

This is an approved capital allocation of £30,000 in the approved 2016/17 capital programme to undertake these works.

**6 Risk Management Implications**

6.1 The risks related to this proposal are:

6.1.1 There is a risk of the wall failing which could result in injury to passing pedestrians, damage to vehicles parked near the wall and to reputational damage to the Council. Likelihood high, impact medium.

## **7 Security & Terrorism Implication(s)**

7.1 None

## **8 Procurement Implication(s)**

8.1 None, the work will be carried out by the Council's minor works framework contractor.

## **9 Climate Change Implication(s)**

9.1 None

## **10 Link to Corporate Priorities**

10.1 The subject of this report is linked to the Council's Corporate Priority (Work with Partners to maintain a safe community),

## **11 Equality and Diversity**

11.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has not been carried out in connection with the proposals that are set out in this report as this report solely deals with the release of funding.

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Date                                    (*01 July 2016*)

Background papers to be listed (if applicable)

Appendices to be listed