

REMAKING THE RIVER WYE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Members: Councillor D Knights (Chairman of the Improvement and Review Commission) and Councillor H McCarthy (Chairman of the Remaking the River Wye Task and Finish Group).

Officer: Jemma Durkan, 01494 421635

Wards affected: Abbey

PROPOSED DECISION

To note on the work of the Remaking the River Wye Task and Finish Group and to comment on its recommendations if required.

Reason for Decision

The Task and Finish Group set up by the Improvement and Review Commission (“IRC”) has completed its work and investigations into the feasibility of remaking the River Wye through the town centre from Westbourne Street and the Archway roundabout in High Wycombe. The High Wycombe Town Committee is being offered the opportunity to consider and comment on the work of the Task and Finish Group.

Corporate Implications

Cabinet will make the executive decision upon which projects to support for the forthcoming financial cycle, having regard, amongst other things, to the findings of the Improvement and Review Commission, which undertakes the Council’s scrutiny function. At its request, the High Wycombe Town Committee is also being provided with the opportunity to consider and comment on the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group on this matter.

Executive Summary

The Remaking the River Wye Task and Finish Group provided its recommendations to the Improvement and Review Commission at its meeting on the 12 September 2018 for discussion. As part of the consultation and due to the location of the proposed project the High Wycombe Town Committee is being offered the opportunity to comment on the work of the Group.

The IRC’s final report will be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 17 December 2018.

Background and Issues

Draft recommendations were presented to the Improvement and Review Commission on 12 September for discussion. These are attached at Appendix A. It was noted that the High Wycombe Town Committee would be offered the opportunity to comment on the draft recommendations of the Group and would be provided with a presentation from the Chairman, Councillor Hugh McCarthy at its meeting on 13 November. The Improvement and Review Commission will then further consider the matter at its meeting on the 28 November before submitting recommendations to Cabinet.

Options

None.

Conclusions

That High Wycombe Town Committee consider the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group.

Next Steps

Comments from the High Wycombe Town Committee meeting on 13 November, along with the Task and Finish Group's recommendations, will be considered by IRC on 28 November. The final recommendations report from IRC will be considered by Cabinet on 17 December 2018.

Background Papers

Summary Report of the Remaking the River Wye Task and Finish Group (IRC agenda 12 September 2018)

Improvement and Review Commission Minutes of the meeting 12 September 2018 (minute 15)