

**REPORT TO:** Executive Board

**DATE:** 20 July 2017

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Transportation

**SUBJECT:** Authorisation to proceed with carriageway reconfiguration works on the Silver Jubilee Bridge using the SCAPE framework

**WARDS:** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to proceed to Project Order stage using the SCAPE framework for the scheme to change the carriageway configuration on the Silver Jubilee Bridge (SJB) to meet future requirements in connection with the Mersey Gateway.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Executive Board approve the use of the SCAPE framework for development of the carriageway reconfiguration scheme for SJB to Project Order stage.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 SCAPE is a public sector-owned built environment specialist which has a suite of OJEU compliant frameworks for multiple areas of works. Each of these frameworks has been competitively tendered and awarded to a single winning tenderer respectively. One of the frameworks is entitled 'Civil Engineering & Infrastructure' and was awarded in January 2015 to Balfour Beatty, which is the parent company of Balvac.

3.2 The Council has an Access Agreement to the SCAPE framework and this has been utilised successfully for the procurement of Bridge and Structures Maintenance works. In June 2016, the Executive Board noted the Chief Executive's authorisation for the entering into of a contract with Balvac, through the SCAPE Civil Engineering & Infrastructure framework, for the procurement of the LCR SJB Complex Major Maintenance programme.

3.3 The SJB spans the River Mersey between Widnes and Runcorn. It was given Grade 2 listed status in 1988 and is the largest Local Authority maintained structure in the country. Due to its age the SJB complex

requires a continual programme of works to maintain it in a steady state condition, and hence be fully available for use.

- 3.4 Major works for re-painting the SJB's steel arch superstructure and for re-configuring the carriageway to integrate SJB into the new highway layout for the Mersey Gateway scheme have been planned for implementation during a closure of SJB that will come into effect once 'Permission to Use' (PTU) has been granted for the new Mersey Gateway infrastructure. Effectively when the new bridge opens the SJB will temporarily close.
- 3.5 The period for the closure of SJB to accommodate both its reconfiguration and the major works for the re-painting of its superstructure is likely to be 12 months.
- 3.6 The carriageway reconfiguration scheme will see the formation of two lanes for motorised vehicles and a dedicated cycleway within the width of the existing carriageway. New splitter islands will separate the new cycleway and vehicular traffic lanes, and the carriageway surfacing will be renewed over the bridge deck.
- 3.7 The deck reconfiguration works will be co-ordinated with the arch re-painting and other works on SJB planned for the closure period, and are expected to take place in Summer 2018.
- 3.8 Executive Board approval is now required to formalise the contract development process with Balvac.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Procuring the specialist works that make up the proposed schemes through the SCAPE framework will ensure operational efficiency and cost effectiveness.
- 5.2 Funding to the value of £600k is being provided for the SJB carriageway reconfiguration scheme by the Mersey Gateway Crossings Board.

#### **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

##### **6.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

The highway network is utilised and relied upon by Children and Young People in similar ways to any other demographic of the population.

## 6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

It is recognised that a good transport network is essential for a successful economy and for the efficient and effective movement of people and goods through Halton.

## 6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Provision of safe, reliable and accessible routes to all destinations by walking and cycling is vital to the future of Halton's residents and the quality of its environment.

## 6.4 **A Safer Halton**

Our highways provide safe and reliable access to jobs, services, businesses and schools.

## 6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

Not applicable.

## 7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 The SCAPE Framework is a public sector owned and competitively tendered process. Pursuing alternative procurement options would prolong scheme development and implementation and involve additional cost.

## 8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Not applicable.

## 9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.**

<b>Document Officer</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Executive Board Report 16/06/16 8. NEC Short Form Contract Authorisation for Balvac works.	HBC website	Ian Jones