

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Executive Decision Record**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
<b>Date:</b>	5 November 2013
<b>Title:</b>	Project Appraisal: A27 Western Way Bus Lane, Fareham
<b>Reference:</b>	5293
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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**1. The decision:**

1.1. That, approval be given to procure and spend and enter into necessary contractual arrangements to implement the relocation of the existing A27 Western Way bus lane and the implementation of a second traffic lane on the approach to the A27 Western Way Station Roundabout (subject to approval of the Traffic Regulation Order) at an estimated cost of £840,000.

**2. Reasons for the decision:**

2.1. Since the implementation of the bus lane and the loss of a general traffic lane on the A27 Western Way westbound approach to the A27 Station Roundabout in April 2012, the performance of the *Eclipse* BRT bus journey times has improved. However, there is still concern regarding the impact of the bus lane and the loss of capacity and delay to general traffic on the A27 Western Way. By relocating the existing A27 Western Way westbound bus lane southwards, an additional general traffic lane can be implemented and two traffic lanes provided on the A27 approach to the A27 Station Roundabout, thereby improving capacity, journey time reliability, safety and traffic management improvements for all road users, including *Eclipse* BRT bus services. Further improvements are proposed on the A27 network, to relieve congestion with this scheme forming part of a phased improvement strategy set out for the short, medium and long term.

2.2. To enhance and build upon the success of the *Eclipse* BRT Bus way from Redlands Lane to Tichborne Way, expansion into a wider network is critical to improve connectivity with Gosport and other areas of the sub-region. The scheme will further improve the reliability of bus journey time for *Eclipse* BRT buses leaving Fareham Bus Station and travelling to the start of the *Eclipse* Bus-way, via the A27 Western Way, located on Redlands Lane.

2.3 Approval of the scheme will contribute towards the Corporate Strategy:

- (i) 'Making Hampshire safer and more secure for all' by providing improvements to the bus, cycle and pedestrian network that will help those more vulnerable to access local facilities;
- (ii) 'Maximising well-being' by improving opportunities and the ease with which people can access local facilities and services; and
- (iii) 'Enhancing our quality of place' by improving access in this area of Gosport and enhancing bus services.

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

**3.1 A27 Western Way Bus Lane**

Six options and layouts for improving traffic capacity and to maintain the existing bus lane on the A27 Western Way westbound approach to the A27 Station Roundabout, were considered. The recommended Option meets most objectives, in terms of improving capacity for general traffic, thereby reducing delays to buses and other traffic, without having a significant environmental impact, or resulting in the loss of the footbridge, or trees.

It will provide a new off line bus lane, parallel to the existing A27 Western Way, for a length of 240 metres, but will result in the loss of on street parking on the service road highway.

There are currently two lanes on the A27 eastbound carriageway to the Quay Street Roundabout. However, this will be reduced to one lane for a short section from the Station Roundabout. This should not have a detrimental impact on the traffic flows.

The recommended option was agreed at the BRT Board Meeting, in February 2013.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None.

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

7.1. At the invitation of the Executive Member, Councillor Chris Wood spoke in support of the recommendations set out in the report.

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**5 November 2013**

**Executive Member for Economy, Transport and  
Environment  
Councillor Seán D T Woodward**

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