

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

Tuesday, 04 June 2024

Programme Approvals

Is the paper exempt from the press and public? No

Reason why exempt: Not applicable

Purpose of this report: Funding Decision

Is this a Key Decision? Yes

Has it been included on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions? Yes

Portfolio: Travel & Transport

Portfolio Holder: Mayor Oliver Coppard

Lead Chief Executive: Martin Swales

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Gareth Sutton, Executive Director Resources and Investment

Report Author(s):

Charli Taylor, Head of Funding, Monitoring and Reporting

Charli.Taylor@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Sue Sykes, Assistant Director of Funding, Monitoring and Reporting

Sue.Sykes@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report seeks approval from the MCA board for progression of five investment schemes subject to conditions set out in the Assurance Summaries, and acceptance of three grant awards.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

This report is seeking approval for five investments and to accept three grant awards, and to enter into contracts for each investment proposal, which will support the MCA's aspirations.

Recommendations

That the Board approves:

1. Progression of "CRSTS19/2 Realtime Detection Priority" from Business Justification Case to full approval and award of £0.39m grant to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary A;
2. Progression of "T0008/2a Magna Tinsley" from Full Business Case to full approval and award of up to £4.48m grant to Sheffield City Council subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary B;
3. Progression of "D0073 Tech SY" project application to full approval and award of £0.85m to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary C;
4. Progression of "E-cycle Pilot Fund" Business Justification Case to full approval and award of grants to each of the Local Authorities subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary D;
5. Delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with Mayor Ros Jones - in her position as the Portfolio Lead for Housing & Infrastructure - for consideration of the following:
 - "Progression of "D0053 Fishlake Flood Risk Management Scheme" from Business Justification Case to full approval and award of £0.1m to City of Doncaster Council as detailed in section 1.5;
6. Acceptance of £3.35m grant from Active Travel England for the Active Travel Fund 4 Extension;
7. Acceptance of £0.49m grant from Active Travel England for the Capability Fund 2022/23 Extension;
8. Acceptance of £0.98m grant from Active Travel England for the Capability Fund 2023/24, progression to full approval and award of grants to each of the Local Authorities as detailed in section 1.9;
9. Delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the points above.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Programme Board	22 November 2023
Programme Board	24 April 2024
Programme Board	08 May 2024
Programme Board	22 May 2024

1. Background

- 1.1 This report seeks approval from the MCA board for progression of five investment schemes subject to conditions set out in the Assurance Summaries, and acceptance of three grant awards.

1.2 Further details are provided on the proposals in the main body of the report.

Full Approvals

1.3 **Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council**
Realtime Detection Priority (CRSTS19/2)
City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme
Progression to Full Award

This project seeks £0.39m at an intervention rate of 100%.

The project will deliver a selective detention system that provides priority at signals to individual vehicles, in this instance buses.

The latest systems utilise GPS technologies and other on-board systems. The traffic signal controller then manages the sequence of the lights to assist the movement of the bus through the junction. This can be by extending a green phase, skipping a stage or shortening the green phase for other traffic in order to give the bus a green signal earlier than would otherwise be the case.

The desired outputs for the Bus Signal Improvement Programme (BSIP) relevant to the Yunex Bus Priority Solution (YSPB) are:

- 25% reduction in late running services
- Increase Bus Priority Measures –improvements to 97 traffic signalled junctions to provide bus priority measures.
- Integrate services with other transport modes – the YBPS aligns with the recently created junction improvements and Active Travel routes in the area.
- Improve pinch point junctions at identified locations of greatest delay – the bus priority measures will allow buses priority access thus providing journey time benefits.
- Create a cultural shift towards making public transport a natural choice for commuting.

Appendix A provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

1.4 **Sheffield City Council**
Magna-Tinsley Phase 2 (T0008/2b)
Transforming Cities Fund
Progression to Full Award

This project seeks up to £4.48m towards total costs of £4.59m, with £1.48m of the funding being subject to conditions as detailed in Assurance Summary B, therefore the intervention rate is 100%.

£1.59m has previously been secured for Magna Tinsley Phase 2a.

The project will deliver a package of measures to facilitate walking, cycling and wheeling within the Magna, Tinsley and Meadowhall area. This includes:

Sheffield Road cycle tracks

- New separated cycle tracks on Sheffield Road between the Sheffield/Rotherham district boundary and Blackburn Meadows Way
- Improvements to footways on Sheffield Road

Blackburn Meadows Way

- Upgrade of the existing shared use footway/cycleway to provide traffic free, separated and safe infrastructure for both pedestrians and cyclists along this road

New toucan crossings

- Provision of seven new toucan crossings to provide safe crossing points and reduce levels of severance resulting from the physical and built environment including:
- Sheffield Road – new crossing from Tinsley Village to the canal towpath. This will allow access to a traffic free route to the opportunities at Meadowhall and accessible from Meadowhall South tram stop
- Meadowhall Road/Meadowhall Way – signal controlled crossings across the six traffic lanes. This will help remove a severance issue for the National Cycle Network and improve access on foot or by bicycle to Meadowhall Interchange

Tinsley right turns

- Introduce the ability to turn right into Tinsley Village from Sheffield Road. This will improve access into Tinsley and help to remove a safety concern of vehicles u-turning on Sheffield Road

The desired outputs for the project are to:

- Increase the number of cycle trips undertaken along the Sheffield Road and Blackburn Meadows Way corridor by 62% five years after scheme opening;
- Increase the number of walking trips undertaken along the Sheffield Road and Blackburn Meadows Way corridor by 10% five years after scheme opening;
- Reduce the number of vehicles travelling along the Sheffield Road and Blackburn Meadows Way corridor; and,
- Reduce the number of collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists along the Sheffield Road and Blackburn Meadows Way corridor.

The project is seeking to encourage modal shift from car by creating a more attractive and safer route for walking and cycling. This will help to reduce congestion in the Magna, Tinsley and Meadowhall area and encourage trips to be undertaken actively, helping create a more healthy and productive population. The direct benefits of the project will therefore be measurable.

Appendix B provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

**1.5 Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Tech SY (D0073)
Gainshare
Progression to Full Approval**

This project seeks £0.85m grant to support the full cost of activity. The project was previously agreed by the former Business Growth and Recovery Board and has been in development since this point. Funding is derived from the resource set-aside from Gainshare revenue for Renewal Action Plan activity.

The project will deliver a two-year programme to help scale up the South Yorkshire tech and digital economy by focussing on three interrelated pillars of activity:

1. Strategy and Engagement;
2. Positioning; and,
3. Product.

Tech SY will be delivered by a new team at Barnsley Council on behalf of the SYMCA with governance provided by all four local authorities alongside SYMCA.

Project outputs include:

- 45 enterprises receiving grant support; and,
- 110 enterprises receiving non-financial support.

Appendix C provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

**1.6 E-cycle Pilot Fund
Active Travel England
Progression to Full Approval**

The programme seeks £0.5m grant to support the 4 Local Authorities to deliver a 2-year pilot programme which will support the promotion and advancement of e-cycling in South Yorkshire.

SYMCA submitted a bid in February 2024 with the support of the Portfolio lead for Transport and the South Yorkshire Local Authorities, and secured MCA approval to accept any funding should the submission be successful. In March 2024 £0.5m was awarded, to be split as follows:

Barnsley	£67,400
Doncaster	£85,200
Rotherham	£73,800
Sheffield	£152,600
MCA	£121,000

Funding allocations should support development and delivery of longer-term local authority-led e-cycle initiatives, including purchase subsidies and targeted e-cycle share schemes. Revenue grant funding for 2023/24 is based on a fixed allocation of £250,000 per authority, with an additional indicative allocation of £250,000 per local authority for 2024/25.

Appendix D provides a summary of the programme assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

Delegated Approval

1.7 City of Doncaster Council Fishlake Flood Risk Management Scheme (D0053) Gainshare

This project seeks £0.10m grant towards total costs of £0.18m, at an intervention rate of 86.95%.

Woodhouse Ings is a functional floodplain on the left bank of the river Don, adjacent to the village of Fishlake. Fishlake is primarily protected by a riverside embankment. When Woodhouse Ings operates to the west, the village is protected from the Ings by a secondary line of defence called Fishlake Barrier Bank. Despite the level of protection, the Ings has filled several times over the past 5 years.

This project is to provide a pump pad so that temporary pumps can be deployed following the filling of the Ings, the water would be pumped out at greater capacity, reducing the timeframe whereby road closures and diversion routes are in place and the impact that has upon the residents, businesses and existing highway infrastructure will therefore be minimised.

The scheme objectives are:

- Reduce the likelihood/consequence of flooding including infrastructure damage;
- Reduce frequency of road closures within Woodhouse Ings;
- Improve/reduce resource deployment during an event (staff, temporary pumps, sandbags);
- Improve water level management and reducing flooding frequency; and,
- Work in partnership with the Highway Authority, IDB and Environment Agency to deliver a scheme to mitigate flood risk.

The grant will solely be used for the construction of the pump pad.

Grant Acceptance

1.8 Active Travel England Active Travel Fund 4 Extension Acceptance of £3.35m

SYMCA has secured £3.35m funding to continue active travel capital activity across South Yorkshire.

Active Travel England (ATE) administer funding for active travel investments on behalf of the Department for Transport. One recurring programme that they are leading is the Active Travel Fund (ATF), for predominantly capital activity.

SYMCA previously secured £2.43m from ATE to deliver the 2023/24 Active Travel 4 programme. The MCA were then asked to submit an initial expression of interest for an extension to the programme, this was submitted in December 2023.

The expression of interest was successful, with a further £3.35m secured to deliver the following by March 2026:

- Bolton upon Dearne and Athersley Active Travel Links (O0215) - development and assessment of active travel options to enable preparation of pipeline schemes for future submission
- Bawtry Road Walking and Cycling Phase 1 (O0216) - a predominantly 2-way segregated cycle track on Bawtry Road between the Racecourse Roundabout to the north and Cantley Lane to the south
- Burngreave Accessibility Links (O0217) - walking improvements to enhance safety and accessibility and encourage walking in the local area contributing to increasing physical activity and in turn reducing social exclusion and improving well-being

The programme details were under strict embargo until recently, resulting in the decision not being able to be presented to the MCA Board until now.

1.9 **Active Travel England Capability Fund 2022/23 Extension - Acceptance of £0.49m Capability Fund 2023/24 - Acceptance of £0.98m**

SYMCA has secured £1.47m funding to continue active travel revenue activity across South Yorkshire.

Active Travel England (ATE) administer funding for active travel investments on behalf of the Department for Transport. One recurring programme that they are leading is Capability Fund, for revenue activity to deliver the following objectives:

1. Capability building activities focus on building the technical capability of local authorities, as well as effectively engaging with local communities, to plan good active travel infrastructure.
2. Behaviour change initiatives focus on encouraging the uptake of active travel by giving users the awareness, skills, and confidence to move to more active travel.

SYMCA were granted an initial allocation of £0.49m as a six-month extension to the current Capability Fund programme, to extend delivery from March 2024 to September 2024. There is no submission process required and the funding has been paid direct to SYMCA.

A further £0.98m has since been secured to continue Capability Fund programme activity to September 2025, to be distributed as follows:

BMBC	£160,500
CDC	£176,000
RMBC	£266,000
SCC	£239,000
MCA	£140,457
Total	£981,957

The programme details were under strict embargo until recently, resulting in the decisions not being able to be presented to the MCA Board until now.

2. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

2.1 Option 1

Approve all recommendations.

2.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Approval of the progression of the investment propositions will result in a commitment being made against the programme budget and continuation of activity.

2.3 Option 2

Reject some, or all, of the recommendations.

2.4 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

Rejection of the recommendations in this report would mean the region foregoing the forecast benefits arising from the investment and the delivery of the activity at risk.

2.5 Recommended Option

Option 1.

3. Consultation on Proposal

3.1 Discussions for these proposals has continued with the Portfolio Leads and SYMCA business partners.

4. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

4.1 Subject to the approval of the recommendations and approval by the MCA, the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer will progress to enter into legal agreements for the schemes.

5. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

5.1 All proposals presented within this report can be fully funded from available resource.

6. **Legal Implications and Advice**
 - 6.1 The legal implications of the proposals have been fully considered by a representative of the Monitoring Officer.
7. **Human Resources Implications and Advice**
 - 7.1 None.
8. **Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice**
 - 8.1 Equality and Diversity implications are taken into account as part of the proposals considerations.
9. **Climate Change Implications and Advice**
 - 9.1 Climate change implications are considered as part of the proposals considerations.
10. **Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice**
 - 10.1 None.
11. **Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice**
 - 11.1 The approvals provide positive opportunities to highlight the difference the MCA's investments will make to people and places across South Yorkshire and how Members are taking action to support the regions recovery from COVID.

List of Appendices Included:

- A. Realtime Detection Assurance Summary
- B. Magna Tinsley Phase 2b Assurance Summary
- C. Tech SY Assurance Summary
- D. E-Cycle Assurance Summary