

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET12 October 2017Report by Director of EnvironmentCONTRACT STANDING ORDERS:  
GLEN STREET BRIDGE, BARRHEAD REPLACEMENT**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Cabinet of a variation to the contract for the replacement of Glen Street Bridge in Barrhead in accordance with Council Contract Standing Orders and to seek approval for further expenditure of £29,000.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. It is recommended that the Cabinet:
- a) Note the circumstances which have arisen that will lead to a variation to the original contract;
  - b) Note that £46,000 of additional expenditure has been approved under delegated authority to date; and
  - c) Approve additional expenditure of £29,000 to provide additional cover to Scottish Power's ducted cable to maintain public safety and additional landscaping works as detailed within the report.

**BACKGROUND**

3. The Glen Street, Barrhead Bridge is more than 80 years old and constructed from steel plate girders. The bridge failed a structural assessment in 1993 and since that date there has been a 7.5Tonne weight restriction in place due to the bridge's failing condition. Originally it was proposed to only replace the bridge deck, however, after extensive investigation it was found that the abutments were not solid and this resulted in a complete change to the original plan as piling works and additional foundations were required.

4. A replacement bridge has been an aspiration of the Council for many years.

5. It should be noted that once the project started on site in March 2017 there was pressure on the Council to complete the replacement bridge as soon as possible to reduce disruption to the surrounding residents and businesses.

6. The contract for the replacement structure was awarded to Diack & MacAulay for the sum of £319,111. Work commenced on site on 6 March 2017 to replace the structure and to date it is substantially complete. The replacement of the existing structure with a concrete pre-cast structure has removed the weight restriction and has also resulted in a future life of 120 years for the new bridge.

7. It should be noted that at its meeting on 28 June 2017 the Council approved an increase to the project cost for this scheme to £393,000 within the General Fund Capital Programme for 2017/18 as it was anticipated that overall additional resources would be required for the project.

## REPORT

8. This has been a difficult project given the age of the bridge and associated infrastructure. Once works commenced on site in Glen Street a number of unforeseen circumstances arose which resulted in additional work and associated costs being incurred. These issues (termed compensation events) are detailed below.

9. CE1 - Scottish Water services pipeline  
Additional protection works to the Scottish Water services pipeline were required once on site as the exact location of the pipeline could not be determined beforehand. The drawings provided by Scottish Water showed that the pipeline was behind the old bridge abutment, at a considerable depth of around 5m and at a skewed angle. When the material behind the abutment was removed and a detailed survey carried out, it found that the skew on the pipe from the manhole was tighter than shown on the Scottish Water drawings resulting in additional works required to protect the pipeline from disruption / vibration during piling works in order to comply with Scottish Water's infrastructure protection guidelines.  
Costs = £ 6,723.

10. CE 2 – Undetected and abandoned services  
An undetected and abandoned services pipe situated within the bridge deck had to be removed. This was not shown on utilities drawings or bridge records. This resulted in additional and unforeseen costs.  
Costs = £ 2,258.

11. CE 3 - Design changes to piling works  
Design changes to the pile head and how it is fixed has had to be altered once on site as the original design was difficult to achieve on site.  
Costs = £ 17,122.

12. CE 4 – Additional crane hire  
The storage of precast beams on site (but in the only location suitable) required an additional crane hire to move beams into position as required rather than being stored off site and brought directly to site as required.  
Costs = £ 3,897.

13. CE 5 - Unforeseen obstructions  
Unforeseen obstructions and at varying depths within the ground conditions at three pile locations resulted in additional time spent at each location. This is not uncommon during large groundworks projects despite extensive boreholes being carried out prior to the works on site.  
Costs = £ 16,000.

14. Given the situation on site and the need to complete the project these 5 compensation amounting to £46,000 were authorised by the Director of Environment in terms of contract standing orders paragraph 14 which states;

“Any contract variation under £50,000 must be authorised in writing by the Director of the procuring department or other officer nominated in writing for that purpose by that Director. In such cases, any variation over £30,000 or 15% of the original contract value (whichever is greater) must be reported to Cabinet as soon as practicable.

Variations over £50,000 must be reported to Cabinet for approval prior to the variation being instructed. If the variation is urgently required, approval may be given by two members of Cabinet. The variation should be reported to Cabinet as soon as practicable after such approval.”

15. The maximum that can be authorised by the Director is £50,000 of which £46,000 has already been incurred. However, further works are necessary as shown below.

16. CE 6 – Scottish Power Cable Cover.

There are an 11,000V cable and an adjacent Low Voltage cable from the substation that has to cross the river. When inspected by Scottish Power they determined that insufficient cover had been provided to protect the ducting provided. Therefore an alternative has to be redesigned and provided to Scottish Power’s satisfaction to maintain public safety.

Costs = £ 21,500.

17. CE 7 - Additional accommodation works

Additional accommodation works in the form of landscaping and surfacing were not anticipated at tender stage and did not become apparent until the project had progressed significantly.

Costs = £ 7,500.

18. Cabinet approval is therefore required to proceed with the duct protection and fencing/landscaping works at a cost of £21,500 and £7500 respectively. These works are considered as essential to complete the project satisfactorily. The proposed projected outturn of the contract will be £394,111.

## **FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY**

19. Provision has already been made by the Council in June 2017 of £393,000 in the General Fund Capital Programme for 2017/18.

## **CONSULTATION**

20. The implications of this on the Capital Programme has been discussed with colleagues in Accountancy.

## **PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

21. No partnership working was required.

## **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

22. The variation can be contained within the capital budget. There are no implications in terms of staffing, property, legal, IT, equalities and sustainability.

**CONCLUSIONS**

23. The replacement of the existing structure with a composite pre-cast structure has removed the weight restriction and has also resulted in a design life of 120 years for the new bridge. A number of unforeseen circumstances (not surprising considering the age of the bridge) has increased project costs. However, they can be contained within the existing capital provision.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

24. It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- a) Note the circumstances which have arisen that will lead to a variation to the original contract;
- b) Note that £46,000 of additional expenditure has been approved under delegated authority to date; and
- c) Approve additional expenditure of £29,000 to provide additional cover to Scottish Power's ducted cable to maintain public safety and additional landscaping works as detailed within the report.

Director of Environment

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