

Delegated Decision Front Sheet

Officer Decision

OFFICER: Tom Rhind	SERVICE AREA FUNCTION: Economic Development	DATE
DECISION NO:	DELEGATION POWER Power to approve expenditure under £150k that does not effect more than one ward and is not controversial.	CHECKS & BALANCES: Anne-Marie Johnstone – Corporate Strategy Manager
DETAILS OF DECISION: Albert Road Public Realm – To approve the Table topping of carriageway.	IS IT A KEY DECISION?	
REASONS FOR DECISION: To seek approval to proceed with the table topping of the carriageway on Albert Road between the Holiday Inn and Centre Square following the completion of an Equality Impact Assessment Level 1 and 2. The works will form part of a wider scheme of public realm enhancements in the area including new paving.		
BACKGROUND: The improvements to Albert Road which form part of a wider scheme of public realm improvements across the town centre were identified to meet some of the key objectives set out in the Council's Investment Prospectus. The success of the new £12.4m Holiday Inn Express development provided an opportunity for placemaking by capitalising on existing assets within the area. This has provided the opportunity to create a destination in which Middlesbrough's town centre offer can be diversified. In order to attract the right kind of investment it was recognised that investment in the wider public realm would be required. This investment will also complement other major projects including the redevelopment of the Town Hall and Centre Square. Prospective investors in Albert Road required an articulated vision for the area in order to commit to their investment. As a result the existing programme of works was drawn up to include new paving and a table top treatment of the carriageway. The scheme as a whole aims to improve connectivity and increase footfall across the town centre, developing links between the Cleveland Centre and Centre Square, creating a destination for Middlesbrough's diversifying commercial, leisure and food and beverage offer. On completion of the paving improvements and following discussion with Engineers and the Council's Accessibility Officer a period of consultation took place to assess the impact the table topping treatment would have on those groups. Following this Council Officers met with representatives from the Older Persons Partnership Board and RNIB to inform them of the proposed works, giving them the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the scheme. Following the consultation a number of issues and concerns were raised by the RNIB in regard to impact that the scheme may have on individuals with visual impairments. Equality Impact Assessment Level 1 and 2 have completed which demonstrate how these impacts are justified and outlining mitigation actions to reduce the impact on those individuals.		

DIRECTOR OF GROWTH AND PLACE CONSULTED: Kevin Parkes

EXECUTIVE MEMBER(S) CONSULTED: Charlie Rooney

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

Director of Regeneration



26.2.18

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DATE:

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DATE: