

DECISION-MAKER:	PLANNING AND RIGHTS OF WAY PANEL		
SUBJECT:	REMOVAL OF TREES - LOWER TERMINUS TERRACE		
DATE OF DECISION:	17 SEPTEMBER 2013		
REPORT OF:	HEAD OF CITY SERVICES		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Nik Gruber	Tel: 023 8083 4028
	E-mail:	Nik.gruber@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	John Tunney	Tel: 023 8091 7731
	E-mail:	John.Tunney@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None.

BRIEF SUMMARY

The essential maintenance to Central Bridge through the Bridges to Bridges programme, an improvement project delivering maintenance to one of six bridges in the City as part of the Council's successful Local Pinch Point Funding award from the Department of Transport.

The Traffic Management plan to maintain network access and capacity, seeks to open up Lower Terminus Terrace temporarily during the works. However, this proposal seeks the removal of two trees, to enable this traffic diversion to happen. A minimum of two new trees will be planted in replacement, the species to be agreed with a Senior Tree Officer.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To allow the removal of two trees to enable the diversion of traffic during essential bridge maintenance works; and
- (ii) To provide two new trees - the replacement tree size and specific planting location and layout to be agreed with a Senior Tree Officer.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. If the two trees are retained they will prohibit the temporary use of Lower Terminus Terrace for the traffic travelling north bound during the bridge works. Alternative traffic management plans will result in significant delays to travel times and congestion for all traffic movements on the east side of the City.
2. The removal of the two trees and their replacement with two new trees will result in a lower impact on traffic movements in this location, maintaining the access required to the Eastern Docks, Cruise terminals and as an arterial route to egress and exit the City via the Itchen bridge.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. The safe retention of the two trees would require alternative traffic management plans, which will cause delays and congestion. This would have a detrimental impact upon the Eastern Docks and those businesses within the Docks and surrounding areas.
4. Provide an alternative diversionary route – there is not an alternative in this location, with traffic only being able to pass over Central Bridge or on Lower Terminus Terrace.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

5. The Bridges to Bridges project is being delivered following the Council's successful Pinch Point funding award from the Department of Transport. The award enables essential maintenance to be undertaken on six bridges within the City. Central Bridges is within the six identified. To ensure the works do not impact upon traffic movements and surrounding businesses, a traffic management plan has identified the use of the Lower Terminus Terrace road, which is currently pedestrian only. The temporary use of the road during the works will result in a lower impact upon traffic movements and mitigate any delays caused by the works.
6. Lower Terminus Terrace is currently pedestrian only and has been obstructed to prevent vehicular use, with bollards and the planting of two trees, which contribute to the tree line boulevard affect on this existing footway, which enhances the street scene in this location.
7. Two trees within this planting, T1 and T2 a Whitebeam and a Field Maple; are obstructing the use of Lower Terminus Terrace for temporary traffic movements due to their position on the footway on the southern boundary with Terminus terrace.
8. The removal of these trees will enable the Traffic Management Plan to be implemented and allow the use of Lower Terminus Terrace for a temporary basis during the bridge works. There would not be any adverse impact upon the remaining trees in this location.
9. It is intended that replacement trees will be planted following completion of the bridge works.
10. External Consultation has been conducted regarding the bridge works, with a number of key stakeholders including ABP. Wider public consultation will be provided nearer the works delivery programme start date, once traffic movements for diversions are known.
11. Internal consultation has taken place with the Bridges to Bridges client team, Legal Services and the Parks and Open Spaces teams, regarding the need to remove the trees and to provide replacement trees.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

12. All works are being funded from the Pinch Point funding.

Property/Other

- 13. The replacement trees will be planted within the landscape areas within the ownership of the City Council.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

- 14. In accordance with the Constitution any decision relating to Council trees, unless delegated, will be determined by the Planning Panel.

Other Legal Implications:

- 15. The trees are not subject to Tree Preservation Orders.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

- 16. None.

KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	Bargate
------------------------------------	---------

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	None
----	------

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	Tree Survey (Mott MacDonald)
----	------------------------------

Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	No
--	----

Other Background Documents

Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s) Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
----	------	--

Report Tracking

VERSION NUMBER:	1
DATE LAST AMENDED:	30 August 2013
AMENDED BY:	Ali Mew