
HELENSBURGH CHORD PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS – PROGRESS UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines progress to date in the delivery of the Helensburgh CHORD town centre Public Realm Improvement works.

There are essentially four main phases to the works:

Phase 1 A and B West Clyde St/Colquhoun St South and West Bay Esplanade

Phase 2 Colquhoun Square, Sinclair Street Car Park and West Princes St

Phase 3 A and B Colquhoun St North and East Princes St

Phase 4 A and B Sinclair St

Phases 1 to 3 and 4A are complete and phase 4B is substantially complete. Public Conveniences and Sinclair St car park re-opened.

Contractor currently addressing snagging matters and tidying up the site compound ready for handover to Council at the end of March/early April 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Area Committee notes the progress report.

That the Area Committee instruct the Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager to bring a final progress report to the Helensburgh and Lomond June Area Committee.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to update Members on progress to date in the delivery of the Helensburgh CHORD town centre Public Realm Improvement works.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the Area Committee notes the progress report.

3.2 That the Area Committee instruct the Helensburgh CHORD Project Manager to bring a final progress report to the Helensburgh and Lomond June Area Committee.

4.0 DETAIL**4.1 Background**

The Helensburgh Town Centre Public Realm Improvement works include road narrowing and widening of adjoining pavements in natural materials; resurfacing of the carriageway; installation of new street furniture; soft landscape works; enhanced lighting; creation of a gathering/event space in Colquhoun Square; upgrading the West Bay Esplanade; introducing public art to reflect the heritage and culture of the town; refurbishing the Public Conveniences on the esplanade and upgrading Sinclair St car park. The aim is to enhance both the local and wider communities' perceptions of the town as a good place to live, work and play and to raise Helensburgh's reputation as an attractive day visitor destination.

4.2 **Works to Phases 1 to 3 and 4A.** Phase 1 A and B West Clyde St/Colquhoun St South and West Bay Esplanade; Phase 2 - Colquhoun Square, Sinclair Street Car Park and West Princes St; Phase 3 A and B Colquhoun St North and East Princes St and Phase 4 A Sinclair St, works in these areas are complete and the majority of the snagging issues have been addressed.

4.3 **Phase 4B Sinclair Street South** – works are substantially complete, white lining due to be completed by the 20th March.

4.4 The cost for delivering the Helensburgh CHORD Public Realm is anticipated to come in under budget. Once the Final Account has been agreed, likely to be in June 2015, a final cost report will be brought to the Area Committee.

4.5 Given the project is more or less complete, the only remaining risks are the satisfactory completion of the snagging items including returning the area of the site compound to the Council in a satisfactory condition and addressing any defects highlighted by the Council during the defects liability period (March 2015 – March 2016). The risks are low to medium. To mitigate against the contractor not satisfactorily addressing these risks an element of funds are being retained by the Council along with the retention budget which is 2.5 % of the contract value paid out at the end of the defects liability period, i.e. March 2016 – see attached Appendix.

4.6 To mark the completion of the project it is intended that a launch will take place in Colquhoun Square in early summer, details will be announced shortly.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The works are essentially complete apart from some lining and electrical works in phase 4b and addressing snagging items. The project has received positive feedback from local residents, businesses and from visitors to Helensburgh. The cost of delivering the Helensburgh CHORD Public Realm works is anticipated to come in under budget. It is intended to mark the completion of the project by holding an event in the Colquhoun Square in early summer 2015; a press release will be issued in due course.

6. IMPLICATIONS

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| POLICY | The delivery of this project fits with the Council's Corporate Plan, Single Outcome Agreement and approved Development Plan key actions and policy for safeguarding our built heritage and town centre regeneration. The economic outcomes from this project will contribute to the Council's Economic Development Action Plan at a strategic and area based level. |
| FINANCIAL | Covered in Highlight Report exempt item |
| LEGAL | Any issues will be dealt with through the Contract. |
| HR | Personnel commitment across relevant departments for duration of project |
| EQUALITIES | No equal opportunities implications |
| RISKS | As outlined in 4.5 above. |

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