

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC REPORT

Report to:	Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency jointly with the Strategic Director for Major Projects.
Report of:	Strategic Director of Economy
Date of Decision:	6 January 2017
SUBJECT:	CENTENARY SQUARE PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENT SCHEME
Key Decision: No	Relevant Forward Plan Ref: N/A
Relevant Cabinet Member(s) or Relevant Executive Members	Councillor Majid Mahmood, Value for Money and Efficiency
Relevant O&S Chairman	Councillor Mohammed Aikhlaq, Corporate Resources and Governance
Wards affected:	Ladywood

1. Purpose of report:
1.1 To discharge the recommendations in the report presented to Cabinet on 19th April 2016.

2. Decision(s) recommended:
That the Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency jointly with the Strategic Director for Major Projects:
2.1 Notes that the Strategic Director for Major Projects in consultation with Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transport and Roads approves the final design subject to the approval of the Social Value Action Plan submitted by the contractor, by the Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency (as noted within the accompanying private report)
2.2 Authorises the Strategic Director for Place in consultation with the Strategic Director for Major Projects to implement an effective management and maintenance plan, approved by the Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency and specific to Centenary Square, on completion of the development.

Lead Contact Officers:	Jim Wilson – Project Delivery Manager
Telephone No: E-mail address:	0121 464 4340 jim.wilson@birmingham.gov.uk

3. Consultation

3.1 Internal

The development of the project has been overseen by the Centenary Square Project Board and its advisors with representation from Planning and Regeneration, Acivico, and Transportation.

Officers from City Finance and Legal Services have been involved with the preparation of this report.

Briefings were held with the Deputy Leader, the Cabinet Member for Transport and Roads, the Acting Strategic Director Place, and the Strategic Director Economy who are supportive of the scheme.

4. Compliance Issues:

4.1. Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility

As a provider on the Constructing West Midlands Framework the recommended contractor is already an accredited signatory to the Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility. An action plan with commitments relevant and proportionate to this contract, including the provision of work placements, apprenticeships and a financial contribution towards the cost of cleaning the Hall of Memory, has been submitted by the contractor and its approval is now sought on the Private report.

5 Relevant background/chronology of key events:

- 5.1 The Centenary Square refurbishment project is part of a programme of schemes to transform the Westside of the City Centre. Featuring within the Big City Plan and the Enterprise Zone Investment Plan 2012, the site is centrally located, and once developed will be 'an attractive centrepiece' and key gateway to the expanding Central Business District, seamlessly connecting the Westside of the City Centre which includes the Paradise Forum, Arena Central, Baskerville Wharf, Symphony Hall, International Convention Centre, Repertory Theatre and the Library of Birmingham.
- 5.2 The Square is part of the wider investment plan in the area by the City, following the completion of the Library of Birmingham. The project reflects the City's ambition for the location in attracting significant inward investment to the area bringing with it valuable economic benefits for the people of Birmingham and beyond. The scheme complements the Metro project and the design will be commensurate with the new Paradise Forum and Arena Central developments and HSBC's new headquarters.
- 5.3 The project will deliver an outstanding world class public space for the City of Birmingham. The components of the new square combine to create a scheme which is creative and innovative and will become distinctively Birmingham; a place for people to visit, photograph and use, whether they live or work in or visit the City. The new space is also the finishing piece of the puzzle completing this area with a square that can unite all the surrounding new, existing and proposed developments.
- 5.4 The Full Business Case (FBC) and Cabinet Report was approved by Cabinet on 19th April 2016 to progress with the scheme. However, as part of decision recommendations, it was noted that the award of the contract would be subject to the approval of the final design by the Strategic Director for Major Programmes and Projects in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members for Development, Transport and Economy and

for Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement.

- 5.5 Following the Cabinet approval the preferred Contractor was instructed to progress with RIBA Stage 4 design works, including addressing the outstanding design issues set out in items (2.4) and (2.5) of Cabinet's decision ("the Design Decision");

"2.4 Requires the City Centre Public Realm Project Board to ensure that the final design includes the ability to accommodate concerts, the Christmas Fair, the Big Wheel, the Ice Rink and the Remembrance Day Service and Parade centered on the Hall of Memory."

"2.5 Delegates approval of the final design to the Strategic Director for Major Programmes and Projects in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members for Development, Transport and Economy and for Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement"

- 5.6 The scheme was submitted for approval by Planning Committee on 4th August 2016. However, the decision to approve was deferred in order for the project team to address a number concerns about the design that were raised by Committee members. Subsequently, the issues were addressed and design amended and the scheme gained approval [by Planning Committee] on 18th August 2016.
- 5.7 The Strategic Director – Major Programmes and Projects and Corporate Resources has reviewed the updated design and has confirmed that he is satisfied with final design.
- 5.8 A briefing meeting was held with the Deputy Leader and the Cabinet Member for Transport and Roads on Tuesday 23rd August 2016. The key issues and recommendations that were raised within the Design Decision were discussed. During the briefing, all concerns from Design Decision were satisfactorily addressed. It was agreed by the Deputy Leader that the requirements of the Design Decision were now satisfied and discharged.
- 5.9 A briefing meeting was held with the Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Efficiency on Tuesday 27 September 2016. The key issues and recommendations that were raised within the Design Decision were discussed. During the briefing, all concerns from the Design Decision were satisfactorily addressed. It was agreed that the requirements of Design Decision were now satisfied and discharged. Further assurances regarding the management and maintenance of Centenary Square were given and have now been incorporated into the recommendation.

6. Reasons for Decision(s):

- 6.1 To progress the implementation of the Centenary Square Public Realm Improvement Scheme.

Signatures

Date

Councillor Majid Mahmood
Cabinet Member for Value for Money and
Efficiency

Paul Dransfield
Strategic Director Major Projects

List of Background Documents used to compile this Report: Centenary Square Report to Cabinet 19 April 2016

Report Version	Final	Dated	06/01/17
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