

To: Streets & Walkways Sub Committee

10 September 2021

From: Projects Sub Committee

23 July 2021

11. **GATEWAY 5 ISSUE - CITY STREETS: TRANSPORTATION RESPONSE TO SUPPORT COVID-19 RECOVERY - PHASE 3 - ISSUES REPORT**

The Sub Committee considered a Gateway 5 Issue report of the Director of the Built Environment, in respect of the transportation response to support COVID-19 recovery. The Chairman introduced the item and drew Members' attention to the proposed measures and funding sources for the project.

The Sub Committee then discussed the proposals. Members expressed their support in principle for the project, particularly in respect of increased greening, but sought assurances that implementation of the project would retain an appropriate balance between modes of transport and satisfactory access for traffic. The Director of the Built Environment advised that the proposed measures were temporary and all would be re-evaluated following a period of assessment which included stakeholder engagement, safety audit and equality impact assessment, with medium-term options to be brought to the October meeting of the Sub Committee.

Members then raised points relating to safety concerns and feedback from constituents in respect of road closures and their impact on deliveries. The Chairman commented that balance was important, and advised that whilst implementation of the schemes was an issue for the Streets & Walkways Sub Committee to consider, the Sub Committee could agree to communicate concerns on the basis of project management considerations in the form of a resolution. A Member added that the implementation of projects had potential cost considerations, as issues such as access could lead to legal challenges, which often led to an increase in project costs. Members noted that they could also make individual representations on the matter.

The Chairman then proposed that it be resolved to advise the Streets & Walkways Sub Committee that the Sub Committee wished to seek assurance that the scheme and its composite measures were strategically aligned with other COVID-19 recovery work, such as promotion of returning to the City, as well as the existing Transport Strategy. The Sub Committee also sought further detail on assessing the value for money considerations of the scheme, given the temporary nature of the interventions, and to promote the importance of equalities impact assessment in respect of the project, given the risk of challenge to the project if this were not given due regard.

RESOLVED – That in agreeing the recommendations of this report, the Projects Sub Committee further agreed to raise the following points of concern to be put to the Streets & Walkways Sub Committee for consideration ahead of further approvals in respect of the project, with medium-term options for the scheme expected to be brought to October Committee meetings:

1. That assurance be sought that the scheme and its composite measures are strategically aligned both with other COVID-19 Recovery work, such as the promotion of returning to the City, as well as the existing Transport Strategy;

2. That the value for money considerations of the scheme be assessed, given the temporary nature of the interventions; and
3. That the access implications and equalities impact of the scheme be given thorough assessment in considering the scheme, given the importance of retaining an appropriate balance between modes of transport and satisfactory access for traffic, and the risk of challenge to the project if these matters were not given due regard.