

6 December 2018**Agenda Item:9****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE****PROPOSED PROTECTIVE FEATURES IN WEST BRIDGFORD****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval to undertake the design, procurement and installation of protective features around key sporting venues in West Bridgford. It is proposed that these works will take place in 2019 in advance of the Cricket World Cup matches being held at Trent Bridge Cricket Ground.

Information

2. Trent Bridge Cricket Ground is an internationally famous and iconic sporting venue, holding international cricket matches with up to 17,000 spectators several times a year. The City Ground, home of Nottingham Forest Football Club, also has a high profile and attracts crowds of 20-30,000 during the football season.
3. Events at both venues generate significant pedestrian traffic and - at times - congestion, on pavements in the surrounding area.
4. Recent tragic events in the UK and internationally have shown that crowded, iconic, public places where people gather for leisure activities have become a target for terrorists using the 'vehicle as a weapon' attack methodology. Examples include the Westminster, London Bridge and Finsbury Park attacks in 2017, and attacks in Nice in 2016 and Toronto in 2018. People on crowded pavements are also at risk from non-intentional collisions with vehicles.
5. It is intended that the proposed measures will serve the same purpose as the temporary barriers installed around Trent Bridge in June 2018.
6. The proposed measures and the temporary barriers which preceded them are the result of the County Council working jointly with a number of other organisations including the Police, the Cricket Club and Nottingham Forest Football Club.
7. Responsibility for safety within the curtilage of a sports ground lies with the ground management. Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and Nottingham Forest Football Club are putting in place a range of measures to mitigate the risk of terrorist attacks at their grounds, working closely with their respective Safety Advisory Groups. The Sports Grounds Safety Authority notes that routes and areas outside the ground do not normally fall within the responsibility of

ground management, and a coordinated approach should be taken with input from all agencies which do have responsibility for those areas.

8. A working group led by Nottinghamshire County Council and including members from Via EM, Nottinghamshire Police, key landowners and the sports grounds has developed the scheme proposed in this report. Once installed the proposed measures and the measures implemented by the grounds themselves will provide a significant deterrent to - and protection from - vehicle borne terrorist attacks on two of Nottinghamshire's most iconic places.
9. The specification chosen for the proposed measures follows advice provided by counter terrorism experts and the police.
10. Where ever possible permanent measures have been proposed however, in some locations temporary measures such as gates or raise/lower bollards will be necessary. The proposed temporary measures provide the same level of protection and will allow for unimpeded vehicular traffic when not in use.
11. All of the organisations participating in the working group support the proposals and Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and Nottingham Forest Football Club are fully funding the package of measures required within their own footprints.
12. The proposed measures will be managed by staff employed by Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and Nottingham Forest Football Club to ensure access for legitimate road users such as the Emergency Services, service vehicles and deliveries is maintained.
13. All staff employed by Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and Nottingham Forest Football Club responsible for deploying, maintaining or managing the temporary measures will receive appropriate training to ensure it is done correctly..
14. A communication strategy is being developed which will inform the various stakeholder organisations, businesses and occupants effected about the delivery of the proposed scheme.
15. The environment in which the proposed measures will be installed is complex (for example there are many underground services and businesses requiring deliveries) therefore the scheme has been designed, planned and phased to take into account these challenges while causing minimal inconvenience to the public and business community.

Other Options Considered

16. The installation of the proposed measures is not a statutory requirement. However, many other iconic venues around the country are installing similar measures. Unprotected locations are therefore more at risk.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

17. The Scheme seeks to significantly improve the safety and security of pedestrians on the pathways by restricting access to vehicles through installation of security-rated bollards and other measures.

Statutory and Policy Implications

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Crime and Disorder Implications

19. The proposed measures will act as a deterrent to 'vehicle as a weapon' attacks by potential terrorists and - if such an attack were to take place – are intended to reduce the resulting injuries and deaths caused by such a vehicle striking pedestrians.

Financial Implications

20. The estimated cost of the design, procurement and installation of the proposed measures is £850,000, it is proposed that this will be accommodated by making an application for funding from the County Council's capital programme.

Implications for Service Users

21. Service users will encounter a number of bollards and protective features in the footway however, these installations will not hamper pedestrian's ability to use the highway. In addition the locations of these installations will be designed to prevent them impeding prams, wheelchair users and mobility carriage users.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that Committee grants approval for the design, procurement and installation of the proposed measures described in this report.

Adrian Smith
Corporate Director, Place

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Constitutional Comments [SJE 02/11/2018]

22. This decision falls within the Terms of Reference of the Communities & Place Committee to whom responsibility for the exercise of the Authority's functions relating to the planning, management and maintenance of highways (including traffic management and road safety measures), community safety and emergency planning (including in relation to the safety of sports grounds) has been delegated.

Financial Comments [GB 06/11/2018]

23. The financial comments are set out in the report

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- The Electoral Division affected is West Bridgford North, the Member for this Division is Liz Plant.