# **Scheme Summary**

Name of Scheme:	Hard Ings Road Improvements, Keighley
PMO Scheme Code:	WYTF-PA4-006
Lead Organisation:	City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Senior Responsible Officer:	Richard Bruce (Principal Engineer – Highways Services)
Lead Promoter Contact:	Phil Wagstaff
Case Officer:	Chris Payne (from Mott MacDonald on behalf of the Combined Authority)
Applicable Funding Stream(s):	West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund
Growth Fund Priority Area (if applicable):	Priority Area 4 – Infrastructure for Growth
Approvals to Date:	Development Approval and outline business case (Gateway 1) – May 2014. Previous approval of £10.3 million total project cost
Forecasted Full Approval Date (Decision Point 5):	11 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2019
Forecasted Completion Date (Decision Point 6):	6 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2020
Total Scheme Cost (£):	£10.3 million
Combined Authority Funding (£):	£10.3 million
Total other public sector investment (£):	None
Total other private sector investment (£):	None
Is this a standalone Project?	Yes
Is this a Programme?	No
Is this Project part of an agreed Programme?	No

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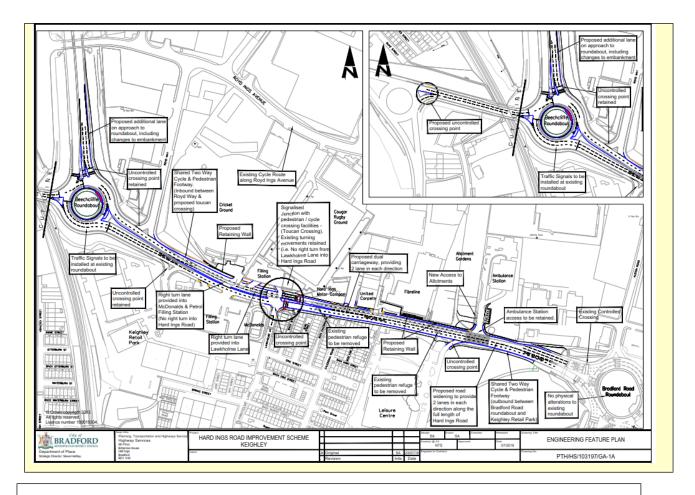
# **Scheme Description:**

The Hard Ings Road Improvement Scheme is a proposal to widen the existing carriageway to provide two running lanes in each direction for the full extent of the section of Hard Ings Road Keighley, between the junctions with the A629 (Beechcliffe roundabout) and Bradford Road roundabout. The scheme length is approximately 0.7 Km.

### The Scheme includes:

- The widening of 700m of carriageway to 2 lanes in each direction as previously mentioned;
- The installation of traffic signals at the existing Beechcliffe Roundabout to improve the efficiency and capacity of the junction;
- An additional lane for traffic on the approach to Beechcliffe Roundabout on the A629;
- Installation of a signalised junction with pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities (Toucan crossing) at the junction of Hard Ings Road with Lawkholme Lane. The signals will be linked and coordinated with the proposed signals at Beechcliffe Roundabout and the existing signalised junction at Bradford Road to control traffic flow;
- Traffic light priority will be introduced at Bradford Road roundabout to assist with bus journey times;
- A shared, two-way cycle and pedestrian footway along the southern side of Hard Ings Road between Bradford Road Roundabout and Keighley Retail Park and between the proposed 'Toucan' crossing (at the junction with Lawkholme Lane) and Royd Way;
- New and replacement planting and landscaping, including "green infrastructure", will be included in the scheme to mitigate the visual impact of the road and provide replacement habitats for flora and fauna;
- Replacement street lighting.

The Scheme received Development Approval (Gateway 1) of the Combined Authority Assurance Framework governance process in May 2014.



# **Business Case Summary:**

## **Strategic Case**

Keighley is the principal town of Airedale and an important industrial economic base for Bradford and West Yorkshire with several large existing employers based there i.e. B&Q, Dunelm, Home Bargains, Currys PC World, and Asda Superstore. It is also establishing itself as a centre for research and development and has many new houses planned (4,500) which are set out in Bradford Council's Core Strategy Development Plan.

Congestion issues along Hard Ings Road however are having a negative impact on Keighley's current economic standing, and its potential for further growth, including its ability to grow its research and development sectors and for new houses to be connected to employment opportunities within and around the Keighley area.

The A650 Hard Ings Road is a strategically important route linking Bradford to Keighley and onwards to Skipton via the A620 and Pendle area via A6088. Most of the A650 is dual carriageway, except for a short section along Hard Ings Road. As such this is a key pinch point that causes congestion issues along the A650. This also has a negative impact on Keighley town centre as drivers divert away from this congested section of road.

A lack of capacity has resulted in long delays along this stretch of highway, for example journey times along the A650 Aire Valley Road having increased by 42% in the morning peak and 26% in the evening peak periods between 2012 and 2016.

The scheme is designed to improve traffic flows and reduce congestion by increasing capacity through additional lanes and signalised junctions at the Beechcliffe Roundabout and junction between Hard Ings Road and Lawkholme Lane. This will also help improve local air quality.

Commercial Case	The A650 Hard Ings Road is a strategically important route which links Bradford to Keighley and onwards to Skipton via the A629 and the Pendle area of Lancashire via the A6088. The A650 is mostly dual carriageway except for a short section (700m) along Hard Ings Road between the Bradford Road and Skipton Road in Keighley. The single carriageway section is a key pinch point causing congestion not only on the main A650 but also impacts Keighley Town Centre as drivers avoid this length of road and making Keighley area less attractive for new investment.  Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP) outlines the forecast number of new residential and employment sites that are anticipated in Keighley area, these will generate addition trips which will bring additional demand on to the Strategic Road Network (SRN), therefore justifying a need for investment on Hard Ings Road.
Economic Case	Several options have been considered for the delivery of this scheme. The preferred option contributes towards 93 jobs created and a reduction in CO2 emissions of 6,673 tonnes. The Benefit to Cost ratio for this scheme is 6.24:1 which represents very high value for money.
Financial Case	The full scheme cost will be funded by the West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund. The scheme cost is £10.3 million. There is an existing development cost approval in place, further funding is now required to enable land purchase, enabling works and further design.
Management Case	The scheme will be managed by Bradford Council with delivery partners appointed. It is anticipated that delivery of the main works will commence in April 2019 and be completed by April 2020. Some advance works may take place prior to this pending the necessary approval.

