

NEATH PORT-TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Environment, Regeneration and Streetscene Services Cabinet
Board

22nd July 2022

Report of Head of Engineering & Transport – D.W.Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Wards affected: Cimla & Pelenna

Bevans Terrace Retaining Wall Reconstruction

Purpose of Report

To inform Members of the condition of Bevans Terrace Retaining Wall in Pontrhydyfen and the need for major maintenance works and to further seek members' approval to undertake the reconstruction works as budgeted for in the Council Capital Programme.

Executive Summary

The report outlines the need to reconstruct Bevans Terrace Retaining Wall as it supports the Public Highway.

Background

Bevan's Terrace Retaining Wall is supporting Main Road in Pontrhydyfen. The wall is 55m long and varies in height but is an average of 2.0m.

The existing support is in the form of a ground beam constructed out of dry stone walling & mass concrete into which the concrete posts for the mesh fence are fixed.

The support has failed in a number of locations and a prominent area of settlement has formed in the footway, which has started to extend into the carriageway. If the wall were to collapse completely it would result in the partial or complete closure of the Main Road through Pontrhydyfen, plus the loss of the public sewer, gas main and telecoms.

The current concrete post and mesh fencing doesn't meet current standards for vehicle containment and there is an approximate 10m drop (1:2 slope) from the carriageway into the Pelenna River.

Works required

The major maintenance work that is now required to be carried out at Bevans Terrace is;

- Excavation of the existing retaining wall and reconstruct with reinforced concrete wall;
- Erect vehicle containment barrier;
- Replace misaligned kerb line and;
- Resurface footpath and carriageway.

Financial Impact

The estimate for the works is **£540K** and budgeted for in the Councils Capital Programme.

Integrated Impact Assessment

A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment, attached at Appendix B, has indicated that a more in-depth assessment is not required. A summary is included below:-

A full impact assessment is not required, as the proposed reconstruction works will provide a benefit to the Community.

Valleys Community Impacts

There are '**No Implications**' associated with this report.

Workforce Impacts

There are '**No Implications**' associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

There are '**No Implications**' associated with this report.

Risk Management Impacts

The work needs to be carried out to prevent the full or partial collapse of the wall, footpath & potentially the adjacent road. Along with the loss of the main gas & sewerage supply for the terrace.

Consultation

There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

Having due regard to the Integrated Impact Screening Assessment it is recommended that:

Members note the condition of Bevan Terrace Retaining Wall and approve the reconstruction of the structure to current design standards as budgeted for in the Councils Capital Programme.

Reason for Proposed Decision

To manage the risks and liabilities associated with Bevans Terrace Retaining Wall.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

Appendices

Appendix A – Bevans Terrace Retaining Wall – 06-170 - General Inspection April 2022.

Appendix B – Integrated Impact Assessment.

Background Papers

None.

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