



Department for Place

Development of a new Pedestrian Footbridge at A127/A1015 Kent Elms Junction Improvement for Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Footbridge Supplier Engagement Information Pack



A127/A1015 Kent Elms Junction Improvement for Southend-on-Sea Borough
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Project Aim

The aim of this document is to engage with footbridge suppliers to provide ideas and details of suitable footbridges for this location within budget and timescale. This will enable Southend-on-Sea Borough Council (SBC) to consider the issues relating to the design, supply and installation of a new footbridge based on the project constraints. The footbridge is to include an Equality Act 2010 compliant 1:12 ramped footbridge with steps.

Background

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, as the Highway Authority, is undertaking a highway improvement at the A127/A1015 Kent Elms Junction which involves introducing an additional lane in each direction on the A127, extending lanes, new pedestrian crossings and removal of the existing non Equality Act compliant footbridge. The existing footbridge is to be removed due to the position of the existing bridge piers being situated within the proposed carriageway. Tender documents have been issued to Highway Contractors for this work with Highway Works programmed to commence in November 2016 and complete in May 2017.



Location Plan

Following extensive public consultation there is a requirement for a new Equality Act 2010 compliant footbridge at this location. The new footbridge will be the first structure drivers will encounter upon entering the borough of Southend and there is a desire to provide a good first impression. This project is to create an Equality Act 2010 compliant 1:12 ramped footbridge with steps that would provide a statement to visitors/ commuters/local residents and residents of the borough of Southend.

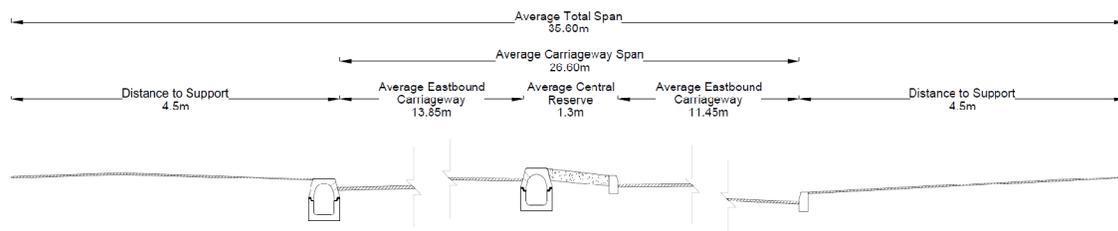
Suppliers are being engaged in order to advise on designs of footbridges that would be suitable in this location with a view to invite selected suppliers for an interview to discuss potential designs with the design panel. Also to better understand the programme and fabrication issues going forward.

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The current footbridge carries 820 pedestrians a day. There are 3 schools within close proximity of the junction, Eastwood Academy, Eastwood Primary School and Kingsdown Community Special School. A new pedestrian toucan crossing was opened in December 2015 however, there is still a local desire to have a footbridge in this location. Kent Elms Health Centre and car park is in close proximity to the existing footbridge to the north and Tops Fireplaces and residential buildings to the south. With these constraints it is anticipated that the new footbridge would be close to the existing footbridge location. The diagram below provides an indicative location and orientation of the bridge as supplied to the Highways contractor for information during construction of the new highway works.



A127 Kent Elms Junction Improvement – Final Highway Scheme.



Typical Cross Section Through the Carriageway within the vicinity of the Footbridge

The A127

The A127 is one of two routes into the Town Centre with the A127 and is the strategic freight corridor into the town and principal access to London Southend Airport (LSA) and Rochford. The other route is the A13 which is the public transport corridor. The importance of the A127 is not just to the movement of people and goods, but to wider planning, environment, transport planning, business and the economy, partnership working, and intelligent transport systems. It is vital to the economy and well-being of Southend.

Successful junction improvements to the A127 route, in terms of journey time savings and reliability, have been carried out incrementally as funding has been applied for and granted. The “Better Southend” junction improvement schemes at A127 Progress Road, A127/A1159 Cuckoo Corner, A127/B1013 Tesco Junction and A127/A13 Victoria Gateway were accepted for grant funding on the basis that they were required to support delivery of employment and housing, particularly at the A127 Progress Road Business Park, the London Southend Airport (LSA) area (Air Port Business Parks), Town Centre and Shoeburyness. A127/A1015 Kent Elms Junction currently carries 44,000 vehicles (between 7am - 7pm) and the proposal for Improvement was successful in receiving funding through the Local Growth Fund via South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) to support the junction improvement and new footbridge works. This will serve London Southend Airport, Airport Business Parks proposed development adjacent to the Airport (as set out in the Rochford and Southend Joint Area Action Plan – JAAP) and the Town Centre and eastern Southend. This includes employment and housing sites in both Southend and Rochford.

About Southend

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council became a Unitary Council in 1998 and serves a population of 178,700 residents and employs around 1,800 staff to provide a huge range services to meet the needs of local people.

The Council’s vision of ‘Creating a Better Southend’ is supported by 5 aims:

- Clean
- Safe
- Healthy
- Prosperous
- Led by an excellent council

As the largest town in Essex, Southend lies 40 miles east of central London with direct rail and road links to the capital. Good transport links helped Southend to historically establish itself as a popular visitor destination and this remains Southend’s primary role at a regional level. The town is also a centre for higher education with a University of Essex campus.

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Southend-on-Sea is part of South East Local Enterprise Partnership; covering Essex, Southend, Thurrock, Kent, Medway and East Sussex, and is the largest strategic enterprise partnership outside of London.

The Council is committed to the principles of modern local government – providing quality services and effective community leadership. The economy is largely service based and is significantly influenced by its proximity to London.

More information about Southend-on-Sea Borough Council can be found at:

www.southend.gov.uk

Requirements for the New Pedestrian Footbridge

The new Equality Act 2010 compliant fit for purpose footbridge at Kent Elms junction is required to be visually attractive, easy to use and to provide a good first impression of the borough for visitors and commuters. The new footbridge is required to be in keeping with the local area with minimum intrusion on the local residents.

Given the location the footbridge it will need to be as maintenance free as possible and designed to provide the least time delay for pedestrians, cyclists and those with impaired mobility.

Studies have shown some members of the public prefer to use the footbridge and often the length of time to use the footbridge is similar to that using the surface crossing.

It is Southend Borough Councils desire for the footbridge installation to be completed during the Highway improvement works. It is anticipated that the Highway works contractor will be required to construct the foundations with the installation/erection by the supplier and to work collaboratively in this process.

It is anticipated the Highway Works contractor will construct the foundations during the Highway Works Programme and the Preferred Footbridge Supplier will complete the detail design, fabrication and installation of the footbridge. The Highway Works are due for completion by 19th May 2017. The diagram below identifies the key organisations.



Footbridge Constraints/Requirements

- Be in accordance with BS5400.
- The Council has an open mind as to the materials for the footbridge and wish to provide flexibility to suppliers designs.
- Be within the Highway Boundary.

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- Pedestrian/Cycle footbridge.
- Span the A127 in single span, the width of the carriageway is approximately 27m.
- 4.5m minimum carriageway clearance to bridge supports.
- The A127 is an abnormal load route and therefore 5.7m + sag height clearance is required across the whole width of the A127.
- 2.4m height constraints at pedestrian/cycle route/ desire lines.
- Deck width should have 2.0m min between parapets and handrails.
- Due consideration of vibrations induced by pedestrians and by other bridge users
- Parapet height 1.4m minimum.
- Must have hand rails 0.9 - 1m height.
- Must have steps (with possible wheeling ramps).
- Must have 1:12 access ramps.
- Deck to be non-slip and fit for purpose.
- Open view to discourage anti-social behavior.
- Design to be adaptable to allow for flexibility to potentially add panels/lighting during the refinement of the design i.e. panels locally designed by school children or local artist.
- Consideration should be given to ongoing maintenance and traffic management requirements.
- In order to minimise disruption to traffic on A127 the main span will be required to be built off site and installed with minimal road closures.
- The footbridge is not required to carry any services.
- Drainage requirements are to prevent run-off on to the carriageway.
- Comply with Equalities Act 2010.
- Budget constraints - options for £0.8m, £1m and £1.2m inclusive of design, fabrication and installation.

- **Additional potential requirements to be considered**
 - Reliable aesthetic non-intrusive durable energy efficient lighting (integral or external).
 - During the consultation there was a suggestion to have the bridge covered. Any covered footbridge proposal put forward should consider ongoing maintenance and the relevant additional design requirements.
 - The Council has created a “design panel” of experts to provide artistic and aesthetic comments and advice to review the footbridge designs to achieve the best outcome given the structural and budget constraints.

The footbridge will not require planning permission as it will be contained within the Highway boundary. Mott MacDonald consultants has been commissioned to produce the Geotechnical and Approval in Principal documents (AIP). The AIP will be finalised with the final footbridge design.

How Can You Get Involved?

The Council want to ensure that the new footbridge at Kent Elms is fit for purpose, aesthetically pleasing and provides a presence in the area and deliver on the Council's agenda.

The purpose of this document is to seek engagement with footbridge suppliers for concept bridge designs suitable for this location, which is achievable within the budget and constraints/requirements mentioned above.

Suppliers are being engaged in order to advise on options for footbridges that would be suitable in this location with the constraints on budget and programme so that we can consider market opinion and finalise our procurement approach.

The Council are interested in a range of options for £0.8m, £1m and £1.2m for design, fabrication and installation. Selected suppliers will be invited to interview to present and discuss potential designs with the Council's design panel. The Council has created a design panel which will advise on architectural appearance and aesthetics of the final footbridge. This interview is to explore proposals presented and to better understand the programme, design and maintenance issues and fabrication issues going forward.

It is then the intention of the Council to go out to the market immediately following this engagement process to procure a Footbridge Supplier to complete the detailed design, fabrication and installation of the footbridge. The Council will work with the Footbridge Supplier to finalise the design requirements of the footbridge in conjunction with the Council's consultants Mott MacDonald who are preparing the AIP.

The timetable below is indicative only and the Council reserves the right in absolute discretion to amend any of the dates set out in the timetable below or elsewhere in this document.

Time Line - Supplier Engagement

Deadline for submission questionnaire	4pm on 30/09/16
Selected Supplier interviews	W/C 16/10/16

Time Line – Footbridge Installation

Invitation to Bidders - Footbridge	21/11/16 – 23/12/16
Selection of successful Preferred Footbridge Supplier	20/01/17
Commencement of Highway Works	21/11/16
Installation of new Footbridge	To Be Determined 2017
Completion of Kent Elms Works	19 th May 2017

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We are engaging with suppliers in order to ensure the Council is as informed as possible to the potential of the site within the available budget limits and existing timescale. With this in mind, we would ask you to complete the questionnaire attached.

Please return the questionnaire by email to procurementadvisors@southend.gov.uk by **4pm 30th September 2016**. Following return of all completed questionnaires, we will invite a selection of suppliers to interviews at Southend, to discuss ideas in more detail; this is likely to be during the week commencing 16th October 2016.

Participation in the interview stage does not guarantee that any potential supplier will be invited to participate in any future public procurement process that the Council may conduct. A non-response to this questionnaire will not exclude any supplier from the process. Any future procurement which the Council may undertake will be carried out strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations.

Legal Notices and Disclaimer

All information included within this Supplier Information Pack has been prepared by the Council for the purposes of providing details to suppliers interested in participating in the design, supply and installation of the New Kent Elms Footbridge for Southend-on-Sea Borough Council.

By receiving the information, the recipient agrees to keep confidential the information contained in the documents or made available in connection with any further enquiries. The document may be made available to the recipients' employees and professional advisors directly involved in the appraisal of such information. The Supplier Information Pack shall not, either in whole or part, be copied, reproduced, distributed or otherwise made available to any other party in any circumstances without the prior written consent of the Council, nor may it be used for any other purpose than that for which it is intended.

The publication of the Prior Information Notice in no way commits the Council to award any contract pursuant to any tender process.

FOIA/EIR Compliance

In accordance with the obligations placed upon public authorities by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA")/Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ("EIR"), all information submitted to the Council may be disclosed by the Council in response to a request made pursuant to the FOIA/EIR.

Recipients must carefully consider the use of phrases such as "in confidence" or "commercially sensitive" when submitting information since this will not necessarily protect such information from disclosure. In respect of any information submitted by Recipients which they consider to be commercially sensitive, Recipients should do the following:

- Clearly identify such information as commercially sensitive and the consequences of disclosure; and
- Detail the envisaged timeframe during which such information will remain commercially sensitive.

The Council is required to comply with the provisions of the FOIA and/or EIR and will normally seek comments from any party whose information subject to a request under the FOIA and/or EIR. The Council may not agree with the comments of any party and is bound by the provisions of the FOIA and/or EIR. Even where information is identified as confidential and/or commercially sensitive, the Council may be required to disclose such information in accordance with the FOIA and/or EIR if a request is received. Receipt of information marked in whole or in part as "confidential" and/or "commercially sensitive" shall not be taken to mean that the Council accepts any duty of confidence by virtue of such marking.

Questionnaire

Continue on separate sheets as necessary for all sections

BASIC DETAILS OF YOUR ORGANISATION	
Company Name	
Contact name	
Contact Job Title	
Address:	
Post Code:	
Telephone Number:	
Email Address:	
Website Address:	
Is Your organisation: (please tick one)	i) a public limited company? <input type="checkbox"/>
	ii) a limited company? <input type="checkbox"/>
	iii) a partnership <input type="checkbox"/>
	iv) a sole trader <input type="checkbox"/>
	v) other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of (ultimate) parent company (if this applies):	
How many staff does	

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your organisation have?		
BUSINESS INFORMATION		
What are the main business activities of your organisation?		
What key delivery strategies do you employ? (direct delivery, sub-contracting etc.)		

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Contracting with the Public Sector	
1 a) Please detail your previous experience of working with a local authority/Government Agency on footbridge designs for urban Principal Roads and explain how your organisation added positively to the process.	

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2) Please provide details of how your organisation has successfully designed, supplied, and installed footbridges to a similar timescale and budgets.

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3) There is a desire that the Footbridge promotes a good first impression and provides a positive statement for the borough.

What challenges of this approach do you foresee?

Please provide supplementary pages as necessary.

Completed questionnaires should be returned via email to procurementadvisors@southend.gov.uk by 4pm 30th September 2016.

For any procurement/technical enquires please contact procurementadvisors@southend.gov.uk