

## **RAIL CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

**Summary:** This paper presents an update on the Board's Rail Corridor Enhancement Project, including progress on recruiting a project officer.

### **Recommendations:**

- 1. To note progress on the Rail Corridor Enhancement Project.**

**Officer Ref:** John Mills, Planning and Landscape Officer (01451 862004)

### **Introduction**

1. As Board members will be aware, the Board secured £500,000 from Network Rail earlier this year. This money was provided in compensation for the adverse impacts of the electrification works between Old Sodbury and Alderton, in the South Gloucestershire section of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which were implemented in the summer of 2017. The legal agreement with Network Rail requires that this money is to be used to reduce the visual impact of the electrification works and to enhance the natural beauty of the AONB.
2. In order to utilise this money in an appropriate and effective way, the Board has established the Rail Corridor Enhancement Project. One of the first steps involved in this project is the recruitment of a project officer.

### **Project Officer recruitment**

3. The Board advertised the project officer post in October 2019. The job advert is provided in Appendix A, below, and the job description is provided in Appendix B. These provide a useful summary of the project as well as outlining the skills, knowledge and experience that we are looking for in a project officer.
4. As indicated in the job advert and the job description, the project officer will be employed on a part-time basis (0.5 full time equivalent) for two years. There may be potential to extend this employment period to three years, if required. The project officer costs will be covered by the Network Rail funding. The project officer will be line managed by the Board's Planning & Landscape Officer.
5. The deadline for applications was 2 December 2019. The Board received 17 applications, with five of these being shortlisted for interview. The interviews will take place on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Board members will be provided with a verbal update on the outcome of this recruitment process at the Board meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

### **Supporting Paper(s):**

**Appendix 'A' – Rail Corridor Enhancement Project Officer advert**

**Appendix 'B' – Rail Corridor Enhancement Project Officer job description**

**APPENDIX A. RAIL CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT PROJECT OFFICER ADVERT**

See separate PDF document.

**APPENDIX B. RAIL CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT PROJECT OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTION**

See separate PDF document.