

## Outline Designs and Next Steps

### 8.2 Guide to Project Prioritisation...

To help inform decisions on what projects to take forward a benefit-cost-risk matrix has been constructed for the key city centre streets. Each project is classified in terms of benefit, cost and risk and a score assigned. This method is a subjective assessment of projects, but the use of a structured and transparent methodology enables interrogation and subsequent re-evaluation of scores.

Scoring is informed by considering the following:

**Benefit:**

- Stakeholder consultation
- Potential positive impact
- Magnitude of population benefiting from project

**Cost (according to which of the following bands the anticipated project cost falls within based on the cost estimates given in Section 8.4):**

- Under £750k
- £750k-£2M
- Over £2M

**Risk:**

- Sensitivity of project
- Potential for stakeholder agreement
- Land ownership
- Planning issues
- Highway issues
- Other risks to deliverability

The scores for benefit, cost and risk are as follows:

- Benefit –High (1 point), Medium (2 point), Low (3 points)
- Cost – Over £2M (3 points), £750k to £2M (2 points) or Under £750k (1 point)
- Risk - High (3 points), Medium (2 points) or Low (1 point)

Totalling the scores for a project gives an indication of which projects should take precedence, with low scoring projects taking precedence over high scoring projects.

## Project Prioritisation Scores:

Project	Benefit	Cost	Risk	Total
Bridge Street	1	1	1	3
The Cross	1	1	1	3
St John Street	1	1	1	3
Eastgate Street and St Werburgh Street to Bell Tower Walk	1	1	1	3
Pepper Street	1	1	1	3
Pepper Street/Bridge Street Junction	1	1	2	4
Grosvenor Street	2	1	1	4
Frodsham Street (with buses) - south of Victoria Place	1	2	2	5
Fountains Roundabout	1	2	2	5
Foregate Street	1	2	2	5
Little St John Street	1	2	2	5
George Street	3	1	1	5
Delamere Street	3	1	1	5
Victoria Street	3	1	1	5
Frodsham Street (without buses) - south of Victoria Place	1	2	3	6
Town Hall Square and Northgate Street - inside City Walls	1	3	2	6
Lower Bridge Street	2	2	2	6
Frodsham Street (with buses) - north of Victoria Place	2	2	2	6
Northgate Street - outside City Walls	3	2	1	6
Gorsestacks	3	2	1	6
St Oswalds Way / Bars Roundabout	1	3	3	7
Frodsham Street (without buses) - north of Victoria Place	2	2	3	7
Hoole Way Roundabout	2	2	3	7
Grosvenor Road Roundabout	2	3	3	8

The projects are assigned tiers according to their scores, with tier 1 projects having highest priority. These tiers will assist in the allocation of funding and resources, guide cost effective implementation and inform a realistic but structured programme for implementation.

#### Tier 1 Projects

- Bridge Street (Pepper Street junction to mini roundabout)
- The Cross
- St John Street
- Eastgate Street and St Werburgh Street to Bell Tower Walk
- Pepper Street
- Pepper Street/Bridge Street Junction
- Grosvenor Street

#### Tier 2 Projects

- Frodsham Street (with buses) - south of Victoria Place
- Fountains Roundabout
- Foregate Street
- Little St John Street
- George Street
- Delamere Street
- Victoria Street

#### Tier 3 Projects

- Frodsham Street (without buses) - south of Victoria Place
- Town Hall Square and Northgate Street - inside City Walls
- Frodsham Street (with buses) - north of Victoria Place
- Lower Bridge Street
- Northgate Street - outside City Walls
- Gorsestacks

#### Tier 4 Projects

- Frodsham Street (without buses) - north of Victoria Place
- St Oswalds Way / Bars Roundabout
- Hoole Way Roundabout converted to signalised junction
- Grosvenor Road Roundabout converted to signalised junction

#### Long-term Studies

The prioritisation tier of a project is just a guide to inform where resources might best be directed. However, numerous other factors influence decision making as priorities, funding mechanisms and development pressures change. Some of the projects are in the lower tiers due to their high cost and risk, due to difficulties in delivery. As a result of these difficulties it may be critical to instigate studies, design work and consultation at an early date even though project delivery may be some way down the line. Projects that fall into this category are as follows:

#### High priority, long-term projects:

- St Oswalds Way / Bars Roundabout
- Town Hall Square and Northgate Street - inside City Walls
- Frodsham Street (without buses) - south of Victoria Place

#### Quick Wins

Often funding becomes available for projects which must be delivered in a short space of time. Low cost, low risk projects or the carrying out of elements of long-term studies would be the most appropriate means of taking advantage of these funding opportunities. Projects that fall into the low cost, low risk category are as follows:

#### Low cost, low risk projects:

- Bridge Street
- The Cross
- St John Street
- Eastgate Street and St Werburgh Street to Bell Tower Walk
- Pepper Street
- Grosvenor Street
- George Street
- Delamere Street
- Victoria Street