[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON C O U N C I L

# **Scrutiny Board Meeting**

Tuesday, 24 January 2023

**Dear Councillor** 

#### **SCRUTINY BOARD - TUESDAY, 24TH JANUARY, 2023**

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Tuesday, 24th January, 2023 meeting of the Scrutiny Board, the following presentation that was unavailable when the agenda was printed.

#### Agenda No Item

4 <u>City Centre Public Realm Improvements Programme</u> (Pages 3 - 20)

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

**Contact** Martin Stevens DL **Tel** 01902 550947

Email <u>martin.stevens@wolverhampton.gov.uk</u>

Address Scrutiny Office, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square,

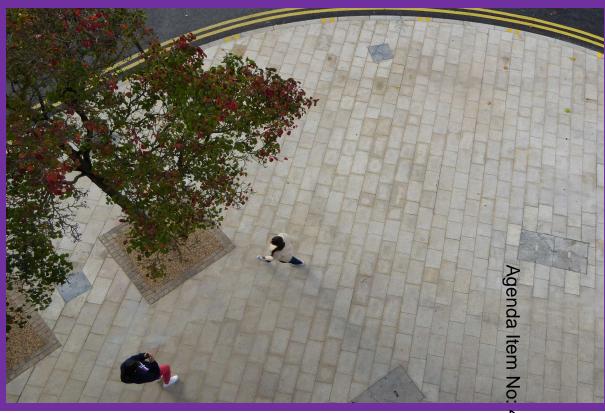
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

**Encs** 



## City Centre Public Realm Improvements Programme

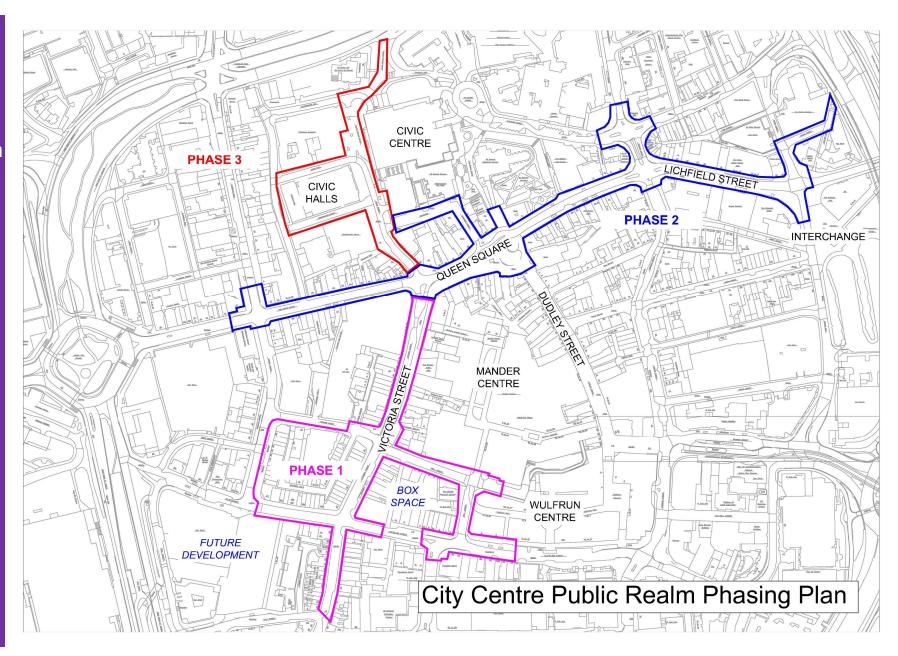
Scrutiny Board 24 January 2023

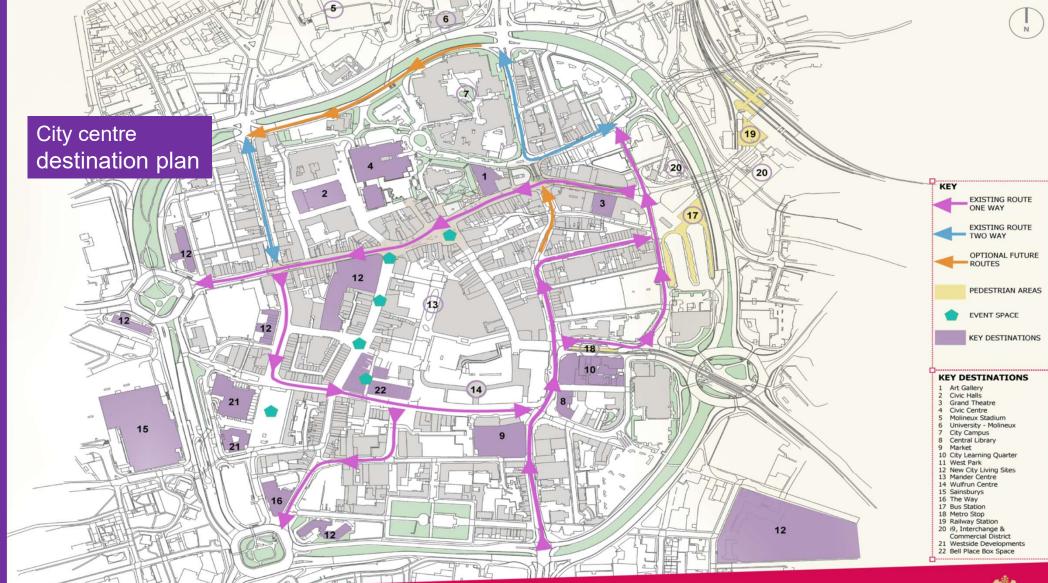


## City Centre Public Realm Improvement Programme

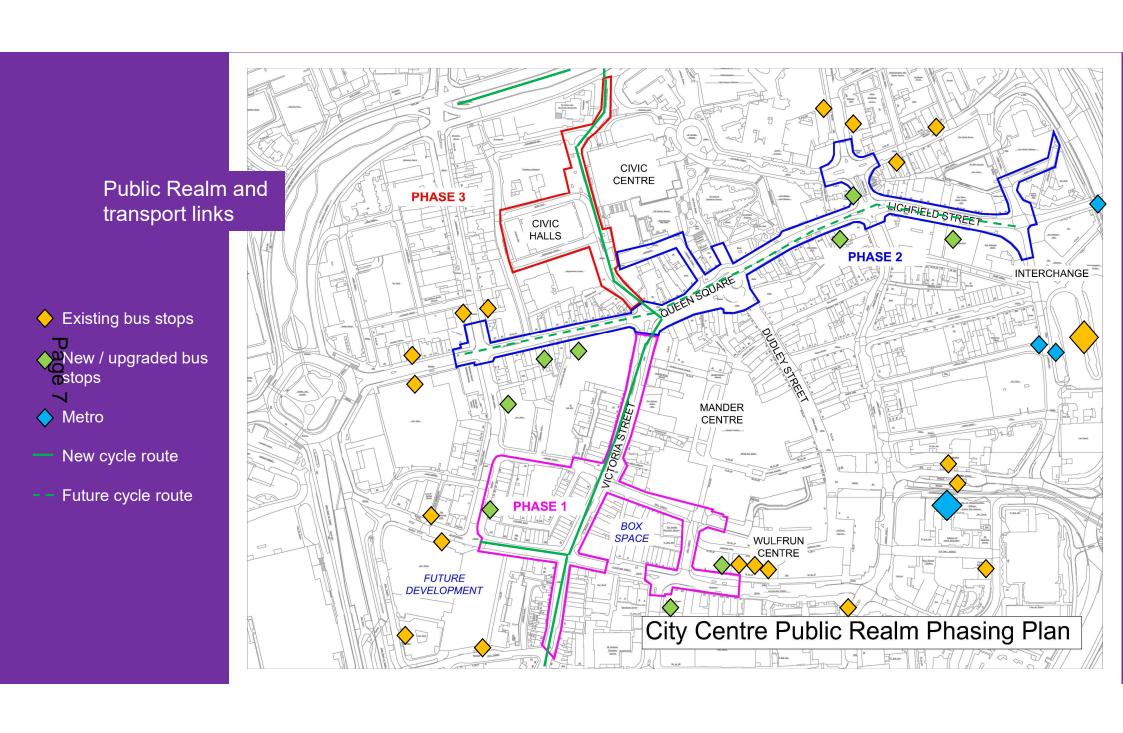
- Connected Places Strategy launched 2017
- Delivery Plan identified a phased approach to the programme
- Consultation on programme in 2018 / 2019
- Phase 1 (Victoria Street) and Phase 3 (Civic Halls)- approved to proceed with detailed design
- Phase 2 (Queen Square / Lichfield Street) further options appraisal required
- Covid lockdown began in March 2020
- Covid response measures undertaken during Summer 2020 (within phases 1, 2 and 3)
- Future High Street Fund announcement in December 2020 £15m for public realm
- Phase 1 and 3 enabling works and associated comms commenced in July 2021
- Main works started on site in November 2021

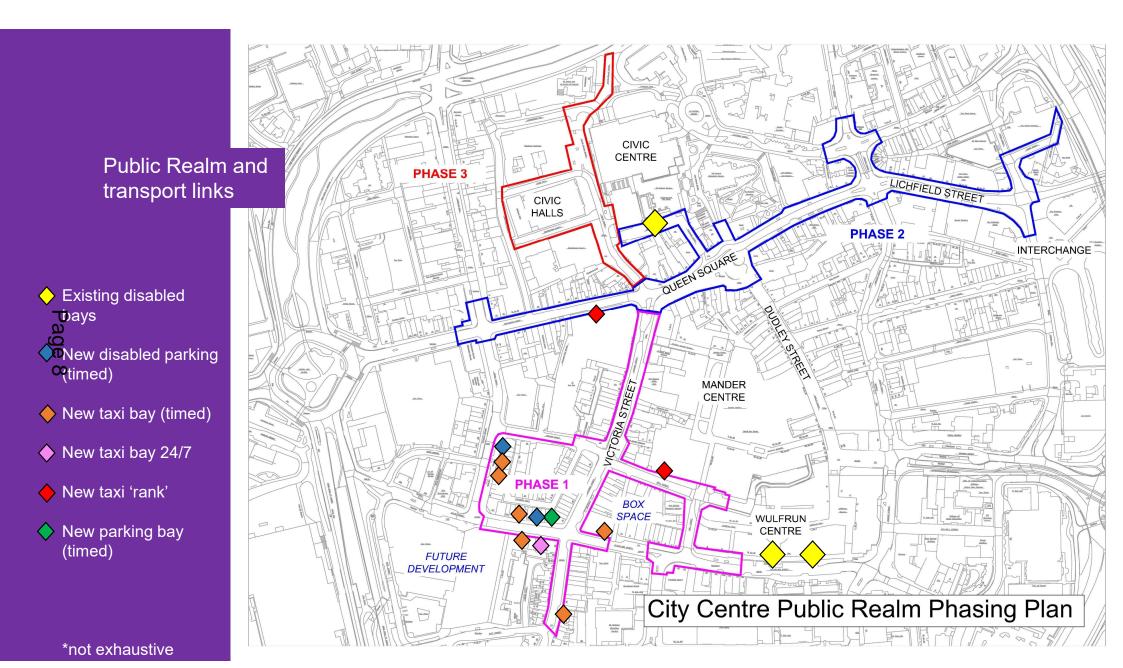
Public Realm Phasing plan











## **Public Realm Improvements**

- Two schemes being delivered together (phases 1 and 3)
- Improve links between the city centre and new and future developments (interchange, high street, civic halls, box space, city centre west)
- Improve street scene, high quality finishes, green spaces
  - Provide secure pedestrian areas, reduce traffic, air quality
- Connect existing and new cycle links
- Support local businesses, create new event spaces

# **Public Realm Improvements**

	Original end date	Latest end date	Issues
Phase 1, Victoria Street	Feb 2023	Substantially complete February 2023. Events area at Bell Street to be complete by March 2023.  Hostile Vehicle bollards to be finished March 2023	Underground services  Adjacent development  Material delays
			Poor ground conditions  Low winter temperatures delayed paving and surfacing
Phase 3, The Halls	Oct 2022	Area in front of Civic Halls and North Street substantially complete December 2022. Red Lion Street, Corporation Street and additional works in Mitre Fold to be completed March 2023.  Hostile Vehicle bollards to be finished March 2023	Civic Halls programme  Underground services  Material delays  Poor ground conditions
			Increased scope  Low winter temperatures delayed paving and surfacing

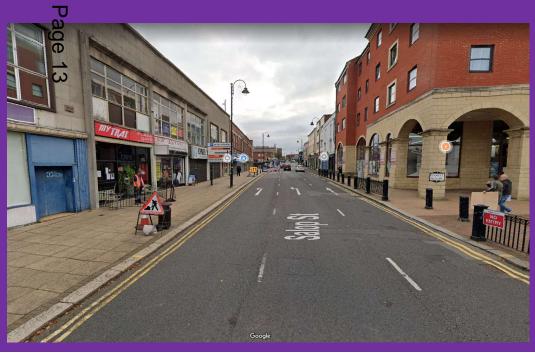
Event space

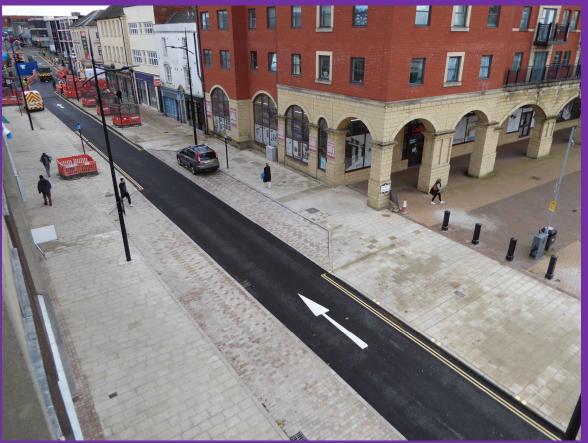


Victoria Street



### Salop Street







Magistrates' Court



### North Street to ring road





## Eurovia: Social Value (2021 – 2022)

Dedicated Social Value and Communications Manager

- Assisted the Queen's Baton Relay
- Assisted the Commonwealth Games cycling event
- Assisted the Krazy Races event
- Improvements to the Good Shepherd, Waterloo Road
- All Saints Action Network, new family garden
- Local business engagement, attending recruitment fairs
- Providing local jobs, placements and work experience
- Engaging with local schools, colleges and more...



## Eurovia: Social Value (2021 – 2022)











### Phase 2: Lichfield Street / Queen Square

#### **Funding**

- £3m approved from Towns Fund
- £9.5m City Region Sustainable Transport bid business case to be submitted in March 2023

#### **Next Steps**

- Extensive engagement being undertaken and led by CWC
- First stage engagement concluded in December
- Over 200 businesses and 150 residences engaged with as well as key stakeholders and interest groups
- 284 responses were received majority in favour of the proposals
- Less invasive than phases 1 and 3 as infrastructure and traffic movement already in place
- Business Support to be offered from the onset
- Temporary Traffic Regulation Order runs out in June 2023
- Subject to Cabinet approval Detailed design to begin in April 2023

#### Reporting

- MRG in September endorsed the engagement plan
- February Cabinet report on outcomes of concept design engagement