

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

1 December 2020

From Isabel McCord

**To Cllr Philip Whitehead – Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, MCI and Communications; and
Cllr Toby Sturgis – Cabinet Member for Spatial Planning, Development Management and Property**

Item 8 – Consultation to Inform the Wiltshire Local Plan Review

Question 1

From the Chippenham Settlement Statement it appears that you may not proceed with building the relief road from the A4 to A350 (Lackham) despite you saying that the HIF bid was for relief roads to the east and south of Chippenham. Are you saying this because the grant of £75m will not cover both roads and the essential bridge infrastructure. Please state how will the relief road to the south will be funded ?

Response

From the perspective of what infrastructure is necessary to support growth proposed in the Local Plan, it has been established that any meaningful growth at Chippenham, small or large, requires a new road link from the A4 north to the A350. It is highly likely, but not so certain, that a second road link from the A4 to the A350 (Lackham) will also be needed as Chippenham continues to grow. The evidence for the Local plan points to a different priority for each arm of the road rather than if the whole route will be needed.

The HIF grant is a separate factor. The HIF funding would be available to support development should it come forward through the Local Plan process. The HIF funded scheme supports delivery of a Distributor Road through to the East and South of Chippenham if development comes forward.

Question 2

Did you undertake a risk assessment on providing the road and bridge infrastructure required for Future Chippenham and if so please can it be published.

Response

The Future Chippenham programme has a full risk management strategy. Risks have been identified and assessed and have management plans identified to

manage and mitigate the risks identified. As risks have been quantified in terms of financial impact publishing would be commercially sensitive.

Question 3

Will you apply for planning permission for the relief roads before the new local plan is adopted.

Response

The timing of planning applications for the relief road will be determined by the progress made in adopting the local plan and may be before adoption.

Question 4

The Chippenham Settlement Statement shows one route for the relief road to the east of Chippenham yet you have stated in your consultation on Future Chippenham that you will consult the public on 2 road options. This document shows you have decided where the road will be located without consulting those residents affected.

Will you include options for the road route in your master plan and add a specific question to gain the views of the public on them.

Response

Views are invited on all aspects of the Chippenham Settlement Statement. The Statement includes concept plans to illustrate how areas may be developed. They are informed by the evidence gathered to date and, if the proposals progress, a good deal more detailed evidence will amend and improve all its elements. This further work includes addressing the many comments and suggestions we hope to receive once consultation commences in the new year.

Future Chippenham work is separate to the review of the Local Plan. It is the intention of the Future Chippenham to include options for the road route and seek specific responses in relation to them.