

STOCKPORT COUNCIL

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE MEETING – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road Consultation Update Report

Report to Executive Meeting

Date: 18 February 2013

Report of: (a) Executive Councillor (Economic Development & Regeneration)

Key Decision: (b) **NO / YES** (Please circle)

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)

Summary:

This report provides an update on the progress of the first phase of the consultation on the A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road scheme and the proposed next stages in the development of the scheme.

Comments/Views of the Executive Councillor: (c)

I would like to thank everyone who has responded to the consultation. We have worked hard to consult as widely as possible and will now be considering the thousands of responses in drawing up a preferred scheme over the coming months.

Recommendation(s) of Executive Councillor: (d)

It is recommended that the Executive approves:

- that a report is prepared on the first phase of the consultation process and a proposed preferred scheme is prepared for consideration by Scrutiny and the Executive in spring 2013 and that work commences on developing the second phase of public consultation for the preferred scheme and
 - that work continues on developing the draft documents to accompany the proposed planning application for the scheme.
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Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(e)**

Environment and Economy

Background Papers (if report for publication): **(f)**

There are none

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Sue Stevenson
Tel: 0161 474 4351

'Urgent Business': (g) / **YES/ NO** (please circle)

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/Corporate Director for Corporate and Support Services for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on _____ /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

A6 TO MANCHESTER AIRPORT RELIEF ROAD CONSULTATION UPDATE REPORT
REPORT OF, SERVICE DIRECTOR MAJOR PROJECTS

Report of the Service Director (Special Projects)

1. Matter for Consideration

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the progress of the first phase of the consultation on the A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road scheme and the proposed next stages in the development of the scheme.

2. Background

- 2.1. The A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road scheme first phase of consultation commenced on 20th October 2012 and closed on the 25th January 2013. The consultation process included sending leaflets to approximately 85,000 properties in the area of the scheme, holding 17 days of exhibitions, information on the dedicated website including an interactive map, dedicated phone number and email address for queries and radio, local press, bus and road sign adverts. Social media – Facebook and Twitter have also been used.
- 2.2. A report on the final phase one consultation results and a recommendation on a preferred scheme will be provided in the spring once all the responses have been analysed and further scheme development work has been undertaken in order to determine the proposed preferred scheme. Subject to Executive approval from all 3 promoting authorities the preferred scheme will then be the subject of a second phase of consultation, which will also serve as a pre-planning application consultation, before a final scheme is submitted for a planning application in the summer.

3. Initial Consultation Results

- 3.1. The first phase of the public consultation began on 20th October 2012 and continued up to 25th January 2013 the following responses and requests for information had been received.

Overall Opinion of the Scheme

Examining the opinions received from all respondents on the overall proposed A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road the following conclusions can be drawn:

- A significant level of support currently exists for the overall proposed A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road with 71.4% of overall respondents specifying that they are in favour of the scheme;
- 10.3% of overall respondents are currently not in favour of the overall proposed scheme; and
- The remaining 18.3% of respondents have indicated that they currently have no feeling either way, do not know or have failed to provide an answer on whether they support the overall proposed scheme or not.

Telephone Contacts

The dedicated consultation telephone line has been operational from 15th October and calls are answered Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm. Out of these hours, a voicemail message encourages the caller to leave their contact details in order that we can get back to them. Since the opening of this telephone line a total of 282 calls have been received.

Email Contacts

Since the distribution of the first leaflet a total of 342 emails have been received.

Questionnaire Responses

A response form is attached to the second leaflet, the 16 page Options leaflet, which can also be completed online via the website.

To date the following responses have been received:

- 1,544 online questionnaires have been completed; and
- 7,193 postal responses have been recorded.

Twitter and Facebook

The consultation response received via Twitter is summarised below:

- 151 followers
- 42 tweets
- 7 responses to comments

The Facebook page for the consultation has received the following response:

- 32 likes
- 11 updates
- 13 responses to comments

Letters

Twenty Seven letters have been received, to date.

Website

Since the 9th November 2012 there have been 10,783 unique visitors to the website.

Interactive mapping

An interactive map has been provided on the SEMMMS website. The interactive map enables individuals to navigate and zoom in on an individual area of the scheme to see more detail or the junction options available. In addition, a comment/question can be added to the map at individual locations by clicking on the map window.

To date, 78 comments have been added to the interactive mapping.

Exhibitions

Sixteen days of exhibitions were planned with a Saturday and a weekday at each venue. Following requests from Disley Parish Councillors an additional exhibition was held in Disley for an evening in December.

A total of 1887 people signed in whilst attending these exhibitions, although this understates the total number of attendees at the exhibitions.

Stakeholder contact

A number of stakeholder meetings were held during Novembers, December and January including Environmental and Vulnerable Road User Forums. Officers also

attended Parish Council and Area Committee meetings, District Centre Partnerships and various business forums to present information on the consultation process and encourage responses. Local Liaison forums (LLFs) were held for people living adjacent to the route to discuss local details.

4. Next steps

- 4.1. When all the consultation responses, post 25 January 2013, have been analysed a report on the first phase of the consultation will be produced and this will be used to inform the development of a proposed preferred scheme. The development of the preferred option will require further detailed design and modelling to be undertaken.
- 4.2. Once the proposed preferred scheme has been agreed by Stockport, Manchester City and Cheshire East Councils it will be subject to a second phase of public consultation before a planning application is submitted in the summer, as part of that consultation it is proposed that updated information on the potential impacts of the scheme e.g. changes to traffic levels, noise and air quality will be provided.
- 4.3. A number of supporting documents will be required as part of the planning application including an environmental assessment and a transport assessment. It is therefore proposed to continue drafting these documents which will be finalised after the second phase of the consultation process is completed.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1. It is recommended that the Executive approves:
 - that a report is prepared on the first phase of the consultation process and a proposed preferred scheme is prepared for consideration by Scrutiny and the Executive in spring 2013 and that work commences on developing the second phase of public consultation for the preferred scheme and
 - that work continues on developing the draft documents to accompany the proposed planning application for the scheme.

Background Papers

There are none

Contact officer

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