

EXECUTIVE DECISION HI20 18.19 – A29 REALIGNMENT SCHEME

Call-in Request sent by email - 27.02.19

Please find with this email a call in request in respect of the following decision:

Call-in Request: A29 Realignment Scheme.

Call-in requested by: Mr Jones,

Supported by: Mr Quinn, Mr Oxlade and Mrs Smith

We are requesting that this decision be called in for scrutiny prior to its confirmation. It has not been to the ECF Select Committee for scrutiny as yet. We have several concerns about this decision as it currently stands and believe that scrutiny by the ECF Select Committee could help to address these, improving the decision-making and outcomes for residents. We are aware of significant public concern and, indeed, opposition to this concept and believe this needs member overview. It is not appropriate to agree a preferred route prior to a consultation, nor even assume this should proceed without residents being given a meaningful opportunity to express their views beforehand.

1. Section 5 of the report draws attention to the fact that costs of the scheme have risen by £20m (around 58%). While this is budgeted for in the Capital Programme, this is a very significant increase and the Select Committee should scrutinise the reasons for this, to give assurance that there won't be further significant increases in the cost of the scheme, which the County Council may be expected to meet.
2. The decision being taken is a wide-ranging decision to agree a preferred scheme, enter into funding agreements, agree the business case and to commence procurement. Yet the public consultation is only being launched as part of this decision too. Surely the decision should not have been made to commence the scheme without the outcome of the consultation first being taken into account. We suggest that the Select Committee asks for a commitment to be made to fully take into account the result of the public consultation before a scheme is agreed and procurement begins.

I look forward to hearing the decision from the Business Planning Group in due course.

With my best wishes,

Michael Jones