

Roger Elkins

Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure

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Mr Andrew Barrett-Miles
Chairman
Environment, Community & Fire Select Committee

15 April 2019

Dear Mr Barrett-Miles

Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee – Call-In A29 Realignment Scheme – HI20 18/19

Thank you for making recommendations on the A29 Realignment Scheme which will help to deliver the West Sussex Transport Plan and the recently adopted Arun Local Plan which has established the principle of strategic development in the area and the A29 Realignment as part of the supporting infrastructure package. By providing improved infrastructure to support the economy, I consider that the scheme will also help to deliver the West Sussex Plan which is our commitment to our residents. Therefore, it is now up to the County Council to deliver the A29 Realignment to support the delivery of development and meet the needs of current and future residents.

It is clear to me from the information given by officers that withdrawing the decision would result in delays to the delivery programme. This is a major infrastructure project with multiple funding partners and dependencies, so delaying the delivery programme would incur potential legal, financial and reputational risks. Although I acknowledge the level of local concern that exists about the scheme that was reflected in the Committee debate and recommendations, I also note that the Committee supports, in principle, the need for the scheme. Therefore, I consider that the decision should not be withdrawn as to do so would delay the delivery programme and could jeopardise delivery of the scheme.

However, in response to the Committee's recommendations, I can confirm that comments received during the consultation will be taken into account before the scheme design is finalised. I will also ensure that procurement of a design and build contractor should only take place provided that no substantive changes are required to the scheme. I hope that these assurances will demonstrate to the Committee that the feedback received during the public consultation will be given due consideration as the scheme develops.

I will ensure that the BPG receives information about the process of costing of major road schemes.

Highways and Transport Improvement Schemes

The Committee requested that an Annual Programme of Highways Works for each area be brought to the relevant County Local Committee (CLC).

My understanding is that County Local Committees receive this information each year in the round of meetings that takes place in autumn/winter.

Draft Guidance on Parking at New Developments

The Committee requested amendments to the text to deal with developments under 10 dwellings and to consider the use of whole numbers in parking space calculations and the need for cycle space provision; and to include: 'In the absence of parking standards at district and borough council level, this County Council guidance should be referred to' and requested sight of the revised document once all of the above points have been addressed.

I am undertaking further work to take account of the Committee's requests before publishing this decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Elkins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Roger Elkins
Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure

Dear Andrew,

Community Hubs and Plans for Worthing Library

Thank you for your Committee's recommendations below on Community Hubs and Plans for Worthing Library at the Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee meeting on 13 March 2019.

- 1) Supports the objectives and would welcome a list of the next top 10 programmes, their costs and implementation schedules.
- 2) Requests a progress report in 6 months' time with a clear outline of the decision making points throughout the process and a copy of the project timeline to be distributed to Committee Members when available.

I welcome the interest and useful comments made by the Select Committee in the meeting. I confirm that I will keep you informed on the progress of the Community Hubs project when information is available and at the appropriate time.

Yours sincerely,



Debbie Kennard

Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities