

Public questions to Council: 3 February 2017

Question from Mrs Wegg-Prosser, Breinton

Question 1

South Wye transport package financial provision.

Reference the South Wye Transport Package with its Southern Link Road (construction “in 2019” according to a recent Newsroom report on the Council’s website), Councillors will be aware of the conditionality of the Local Growth funding of the scheme. This includes Active Travel Measures which are integral to the scheme, and are one of the conditions of the funding. The latest available report (July to September 2016) to the Department for Transport from the Head of Infrastructure Delivery indicates that Start of the Works (a Mandatory Milestone) will be 2 April 2018, with completion 30 September 2019. Could the Cabinet Member responsible for Infrastructure please explain why he considers that sufficient financial provision in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (Appendix 2: Approved Capital Programme, Line Items: Local Transport Plan, and South Wye Transport Package, columns 2018/19 and 2019/20) has been made to cover the full cost of the Southern Link Road, which includes the council-funded additional 580 metres long Clehonger Link, and the start of the Active Travel Measures works which extend in to 20/21?

Answer from Councillor Philip Price, cabinet member infrastructure

I am satisfied that sufficient financial provision has been made within the medium term financial strategy for the South Wye transport package. The current estimated cost of the package is £35m and this is clearly identified within the approved capital programme detailed in appendix 2 of the medium term financial strategy. The estimated costs of the scheme and associated package of measures have been developed using industry standard information and are appropriate for budgetary purposes at this stage of scheme development.