

A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme

Project Newsletter – May 2018



Project update

Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) and the Environment Agency (EA) continue to work together to progress the A120 Little Hadham Bypass and Flood Alleviation scheme. A number of the planning conditions have now been approved and a shortlist of potential contractors has been identified.

Planning conditions

The project team are currently working through the conditions attached to the planning permission, granted in January 2017. These cover a variety of subjects related to specific parts of the design or proposed environmental mitigation measures. Submissions are being made to the planning authority to address conditions tied to the start of construction, and a number have now been approved. Where conditions relate to construction they will be discharged by the contractor, once they are appointed.

Getting the land for the scheme, and a potential public inquiry

In August 2017 HCC published a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and Side Roads Order (SRO) for the land required to build the bypass, and to allow alterations to surrounding roads and public rights of way. This coincided with the EA's publication of a CPO (EA CPO) for land required for the flood alleviation scheme.

Following the withdrawal of the last remaining objection to the EA CPO the EA has recently been notified by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) that they no longer intend to hold a Public Inquiry for the EA CPO. The Department for Transport (DfT) continues to set out their intention to hold a Public Inquiry with regard to the HCC orders. The date for the Inquiry has been set for 17 July 2018. HCC continues to work with the two remaining objectors to overcome their concerns.

Selecting a contractor to build the scheme

HCC has now concluded the first stage of the process to identify a suitable contractor to build the scheme. Five contractors have been notified of their successful inclusion on a shortlist. In the summer, this shortlist of contractors will be invited to tender for the construction work. Depending on the outcome of the ongoing tender and legal processes, HCC hopes to appoint a successful contractor in late 2018.

Construction

The construction of the scheme is expected to start in early 2019 and complete in 2020. Subject to landowner agreement, some early works are planned to take place towards the end of 2018, which may include environmental mitigation and utility diversion works.

More information can be found on the project's website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/a120bypass