

15 JULY 2016

**HERTFORDSHIRE'S STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN DELIVERY –
MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE**

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1 Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update in relation to the Major Schemes to be delivered as part of the Hertfordshire Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) I the period 2015-2019.

2 Background

2.1 As part of the current SEP, three projects designated as 'Major Schemes' are programmed for delivery within the period 2015-2019 – Croxley Rail Link; A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme and A602 Improvements (Stevenage to/from Ware).

2.2 A programme update report was presented to the 7th April 2016 meeting of the LTB. This report provides a brief update on progress since April and changes to the overall programme for all three projects.

3. Recommendation

3.1 It is requested that the Board note this report.

Scheme Updates

4 A120 Hadham Bypass

Programme Overview

4.1 The current programmed dates for project gateways are –

- Gateway 4 (Conditional Approval) – June 2018
- Gateway 5 (Final Approval) – July 2018
- Gateway 6 (Completion) – October 2019

4.2 The above dates assume a Public Inquiry (PI) will be required and will take place in Spring / Summer 2017. A six month period has been allowed in the programme post PI for a decision on the inquiry, to allow for completion of the Inspectors Report and for consideration by the Secretary of State.

HERTFORDSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT BODY

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Calendar Years	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Stage 4 – Design, Planning Application & CPO	—————				
PI process (if triggered)		—————			
SoS decision / Challenge period			—————		
Gateway 4 – Conditional Approval			★		
Stage 5 – Procurement	—————				
Gateway 5 – Final Approval			★		
Stage 6 – Delivery			—————		
Gateway 6 – Completion				★	
Stage 7 – Maintain and Operate				—————→	

4.3 The making of any Compulsory Purchase Orders required to secure the land for the implementation of the project will immediately follow the SoS decision.

4.4 The Contract procurement will be run in parallel with the PI decision period to ensure tender prices for the contract can be delivered soon after a SoS decision, thereby enabling Full Approval to be sought from DfT of to facilitate release of the funding to the LEP.

4.5 Construction start date is now programmed for summer 2018 with current contractor discussions indicating a build period of 15-18 months.

Current position

4.6 The detailed design of the scheme is well advanced. Additional environmental surveys are taking place to assist in determining the appropriate levels of mitigation required to address potential impacts on rare bat species in the area of the bypass, following feedback from local groups received during the planning consultation period in early 2015.

4.6 It is anticipated an addendum to the planning application will be made in the coming months, incorporating any necessary changes to the scheme as a result of the findings from the environmental surveys, as well as a number of minor amendments in relation to other comments received during the planning consultation.

4.8 It is anticipated the scheme will be considered at the November 2016 Planning Committee.

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5 A602 Improvements

Scheme sections



Programme Overview

5.1 The current programmed dates for project gateways are –

- Gateway 4 (Conditional Approval)
 - Sections A & C - Sept 2016
 - Section B - June 2017
- Nov 2017 (If PI process req'd)
- Gateway 5 (Final Approval)
 - Sections A & C - Nov 2016
 - Section B - Feb 2018
- Gateway 6 (Completion)
 - Sections A - July 2017
 - Section C – July 2019
 - Section B - Nov 2017

5.2 The above dates assume the earliest delivery dates for Sections A and C can be achieved, which may potentially require some flexibility in funding allocations from the Herts LEP.

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Calendar Years	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sections A & C				
Stage 4 – Design & Planning Application	—			
Gateway 4 – Conditional Approval	★			
Stage 5 – Procurement	—			
Gateway 5 – Final Approval	★			
Stage 6 – Delivery		— A — C		
Sections B				
Stage 4 – Design, Planning Application & Land Acquisition	—			
PI Process (if triggered)		—		
Gateway 4 – Conditional Approval		★		
Stage 5 – Procurement			—	
Gateway 5 – Final Approval			★	
Stage 6 – Delivery				— B

Current position & Next Steps

- 5.3 Planning Applications for Sections A and C were submitted in mid May 2016 and are currently programmed to be considered by a Development Control Committee in Sept 2016.
- 5.4 Assuming that a positive determination is made, construction of Section A is programmed to commence in January 2017 (completion by July 2017) with Section C commencing in May 2017 (completion by November 2017).
- 5.5 The Eastern Highways Framework 2 will be utilised to procure an appropriate contractor for both sections. The procurement strategy is being finalised which will determine if the two sections should be combined or procured as separate contracts.
- 5.6 **Section B** requires land acquisition from the Woodhall Estate. The planning application is virtually finalised for submission and will be made once discussions with the main landowner in relation to the inclusion of particular accommodation works are concluded.
- 5.7 A mutually satisfactory position is being sought prior to submission of the Planning Application with the aim to acquire the necessary land for the scheme through negotiation, thereby avoiding the requirement for a CPO process.
- 5.8 The current programme anticipates submission the Section B application in September 2016 for consideration at a Development Control Committee in February 2017.

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- 5.9 The procurement strategy is being finalised which will determine if a contractor for section B should be sought via the EHF2 framework or an “OJEU” process as a single contract. It is anticipated that works could commence on site in May 2018 with a contract period of around 12 months.

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6 Metropolitan Line Extension

6.1 The programme for the MLX project remains as previously report by LU to HCC.

6.2 LU reported Programme –

- Mayoral Election Purdah commenced 21 March 2016
- TfL Board Approval for Stage 2 (construction) contract July 2016
- Stage 2 Contract Award August 2016
- Start on Site Sept 2016
 - *Viaduct Civils Complete* Jan 2018
 - *Cassiobridge Station Complete* Feb 2019
 - *Vicarage Road Station Complete* Mar 2019
 - *Signal Installation Complete* Jan 2020
 - *Trial Running starts* July 2020
- Delivery into Service (DIS) Dec 2020

6.3 The HCC-led local consortium, including HCC, Herts LEP and Watford Council, will make a cash contribution of £125.35m to the project over the period 2015/16 - 2020/21. This contribution will be made in line with an agreed funding profile as set out in schedule 2 of the HCC/TfL Funding Agreement. £20.5m will be passed to TfL in 2016/17 , £10.25m to which was passed across April 1st as required by the Agreement. The Funding Agreement has provision of a renegotiation of the funding profile should the delivery programme for the scheme be delayed.