

CABINET
21 OCTOBER 2008

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

QUESTIONS FROM: MR P KINNERSLY, WHITE HORSE ALLIANCE

**TO: CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: MISS DE RHE PHILIPPE**

The recent Planning Inquiry into the Council's proposed A350 eastern bypass for Westbury confirmed that the scheme would increase HGV traffic in Yarnbrook and West Ashton and on roads between Yarnbrook and the A36.

Question 1

What stage has the County Council reached in developing a scheme for providing traffic relief for these communities? (*Yarnbrook and West Ashton*)

Response

Environment and Transport Committee confirmed the adoption of the Yarnbrook Northern Bypass and West Ashton Extension on 10th July 2001. Details of this alignment were included in the Review of Route Options Report 2001 prepared by Ringway Parkman.

Question 2

Has the Council instructed its consultants to begin work on selecting a route and designing a scheme?

Response

The scheme for Yarnbrook and West Ashton should be reviewed in light of changes in Regional and National priorities since 2001. Consultants have not been commissioned to undertake any work at this time.

Question 3

Has a budget been approved for this work?

Response

The review of the scheme will be undertaken during this financial year and a small budget has been allocated. Further scheme development would be subject to a separate capital bid.

Question 4

How much is the scheme (*Yarnbrook and West Ashton*) expected to cost and what plans does the Council have for funding its construction?

Question 5

We note that it is not mentioned in the Council's recently published 'Annual Progress Report'. Does the Council intend to obtain funding under the Regional Funding Allocation for the SW?

Response to 4 & 5

The scheme is expected to cost £17 million.

In terms of developer contribution, there is an opportunity for the Council to establish a tariff based system. Such an infrastructure levy still has some way to go to confirm its detailed operation, but even taking a cautious view, it should be able to realise £5 million over the Regional Spatial Strategy plan period.

The remainder of the funds would be sought from the Regional Funding Allocation (RFA).

A RFA2 Expression of Interest Form for Major Transport Schemes has been submitted to the South West Regional Assembly. This sets out the scheme objectives and gives key milestones for the development of a scheme for Yarnbrook and West Ashton.

Question 6

How much money has Wiltshire County Council now spent on developing the following road schemes for which funding bids to the Government have either been rejected or still await acceptance –

- (i) Brunel Link and Harnham Relief Road (Salisbury)
- (ii) A36 Wylve Valley Relief Road
- (iii) A36 Codford-Heytesbury Improvement
- (iv) A350 Westbury Eastern Bypass?

Response

- (i) Brunel Link and Harnham Relief Road (Salisbury)
£1.87 million
There has been no expenditure on scheme development since 2006/07.
- (ii) A36 Wylve Valley Relief Road
£680,000
There has been no expenditure on scheme development since 2004/05.
- (iii) A36 Codford-Heytesbury Improvement

£514,000

There has been no expenditure on scheme development since 2004/05.

- (iv) A350 Westbury Eastern Bypass
£4.045 million

Question 7

We request an up-to-date figure for the last scheme, including any estimate or budget provision for the cost of the recent Public Inquiry.

Response

The up to date scheme cost (quantified scheme estimate is £33,540,497). The budget allocation of £1 million for 2008/09 includes the estimated costs for Public Inquiry.