

ROYSTON AREA COMMITTEE

22nd September 2010

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

AGENDA ITEM No.

TITLE OF REPORT: HIGHWAYS ISSUES

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF POLICY, PARTNERSHIPS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To clarify issues around completion of the A10 – South of Royston Speed Limit Scheme.

2. FORWARD PLAN

- 2.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

3. PROJECT/ACTIVITY/SCHEME DETAILS

- 3.1 Members will recall that at their last meeting they considered issues around financing completed Highways works. The purpose of this report is to seek to clarify issues around completed and proposed works on the A10.
- 3.2 It would simplify matters to set aside for now a proposed modification to the South of Royston Gateway feature, as this is currently only a proposal, and has not yet been considered by Members. The existence of this proposal led to some confusion at the last meeting.
- 3.3 The scope of the A10/South of Royston Speed Limit Scheme (A10/SoR) was to introduce a buffer zone within the existing 30mph by increasing the speed limit from 30mph to 40mph between the existing gateway feature on the approach to Royston (where you enter a 30mph zone from 60mph) and the Warren. This scheme also included provision of traffic islands to protect vehicles turning right into Layston Park. The cost of this scheme was £32,300.
- 3.4 However, during the informal consultation process undertaken last financial year, it became apparent that there were significant objections to introducing the buffer zone, and the panel agreed to drop this element of the scheme. This resulted in a re-estimation of the cost of the works, at which point the total cost was reduced to £9,200. Accordingly the Area Committee's contribution reduced to £4,600. Work on this scheme has now been completed.
- 3.5 Whilst the Committee originally committed capital funding of £16,150, it eventually became clear that the Committee had by then already committed all its capital funds, and as a consequence only £1,500 was ever committed to this project. There therefore exists a shortfall of £3,100.
- 3.6 Given that (other decisions at this meeting aside) £12,302 is available to the Committee.

4. CONSULTATION WITH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND WARD MEMBERS

- 4.1 Consultation with Members has occurred in connection with the allocation of funds for this Highways initiative.
- 4.2 Consultation with the respective officers at Herts. Highways has taken place with regard to concluding this project.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That Members agree to contribute £3,100 to Hertfordshire Highways, as their part of the match-funding.

6. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 To enable the formal conclusion of the project.

7. CONTACT OFFICERS

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