

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: 12TH SEPTEMBER 2019

**MINUTE EXTRACT OF COUNCIL HELD ON 24TH JULY 2019 IN RESPECT OF
ITEM 6 ON THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**21 TO CONSIDER A NOTICE OF MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN
SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 4, COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULES, PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE CONSTITUTION**

(a) To consider the following notice of motion from Councillor Tucker.

Councillor Tucker presented his notice of motion to Council.

It was moved by Councillor Tucker and seconded by Councillor Walker “that the notice of motion be referred to the Policy Development Committee for consideration and that the Devon County Council Lead Officer for the North Devon Link road improvements project be invited to provide an update on the project to all Councillors as soon as possible.”

Councillor Bushell expressed concern regarding how much consideration and weight had been given to the environmental impact of vehicles stopping and starting due to the provision of additional roundabouts as part of the North Devon Link Road improvements.

Councillor Davis declared a personal interest as Devon County Council Portfolio Holder for the North Devon Link road project.

RESOLVED that the following notice of motion be referred to the Policy Development Committee for consideration and that the Devon County Council Lead Officer for the North Devon Link road improvements project be invited to provide an update on the project to all Councillors as soon as possible :

“This Council expresses its dismay at the appalling position it finds itself in regarding the totally inadequate road structure in North Devon which is incapable of coping with all the new housing the government has forced us to take. Sticklepath hill roundabout, the Cedars roundabout, Pilton Causeway and the nightmare of endeavouring to get through Braunton are some examples of where the roads are not fit for purpose and yet more housing is planned which will exasperate the already serious problem. This is already an all year round problem, particularly at rush hour and not simply when thousands of holiday makers visit our area in the summer. Air quality and the well-being of our residents is being jeopardised. Whilst supporting the improvements which will aid safety to the North Molton, West Buckland and Landkey junctions the proposed spending of £90 million tinkering with the A361 (link road) by

primarily creating a third lane in places does little to alleviate North Devon's traffic problems. Any marginal savings in travel time from South Molton will only serve to cause more traffic build up in Barnstaple and more frustration. The devastating work involved to address this third lane in terms of environmental and social damage clearly outweighs the claimed benefits and undermines the financial argument. This Council, therefore, calls on Devon County Council to set up, as a matter of urgency, a comprehensive review into connectivity in North Devon. This council believes that much more could be achieved with the £90 million and requests that an independent scrutiny of the work being planned be undertaken by an all-party group of members. This to include a review of the District Council's delegated consultation response on the relevant planning applications for the A361 with advice being sought from professional highway engineers and other appropriately qualified consultants from outside Devon County Council."