

NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

REPORT TO: STRATEGY AND RESOURCES

Date: **2ND SEPTEMBER 2019**

**TOPIC: CONSULTATION RESPONSE - BISHOPS TAWTON
ROUNABOUT IMPROVEMENTS**

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE/HEAD OF PLACE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Devon County Council, as highway authority, has applied for permission for the alteration of the roundabout at Bishops Tawton including the construction of an underpass under the A361. The County Council will determine the application but North Devon Council has been asked to give its views as consultee.
- 1.2 This report enables Members to debate this issue and give a view on the proposals.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That Committee note the content of this report and determine what consultation response to provide.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.2 To ensure that, as a key partner to DCC, the Council has the opportunity to show its support, or otherwise, for the proposals.

4 REPORT

- 4.1 Members will be aware of the proposals to carry out a range of improvements to the North Devon Link Road from the Heywood Road roundabout in Bideford through to South Molton. Funding of £83 million has been obtained from the Local Majors Fund in order to carry out the first phase of these improvements. That funding would not be available for other improvements.
- 4.2 Public consultation on the need to make improvements has been carried out and this showed substantial public support.
- 4.3 Some of the improvements have already gained consent but the current application relates to improvements to the Bishops Tawton roundabout and specifically to widen the approaches to provide an additional lane and construct an underpass to allow pedestrians to cross the busy junction safely.

- 4.4 The reference number for the proposals is DCC/4142/2019 and the proposals can be viewed in full on the DCC website. The Design and Access Statement is attached to this report as Appendix 1.
- 4.5 A public consultation was carried out on the proposals and the results can be found on the North Devon Link Road pages on the DCC website.
- 4.6 It is understood that the scheme now submitted does address a number of the issues raised as part of that consultation although it is acknowledged that there will no doubt still be a level of opposition to the scheme.
- 4.7 The District Council has long acknowledged that if the District is to attract investment into the area, its connections to other parts of the country have to be improved. That includes physical connections such as road and rail links.
- 4.8 The District Council has supported DCC in its funding applications and in its ambition to make improvements to the Link Road and it is suggested that any consultation response to the current application should reflect that ongoing support.
- 4.9 Supporting improvements to the Link Road also fits in with the draft Corporate Plan currently under consideration.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none.

6 EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- 6.1 No issues arise from simply considering this report.

7 CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

Article and paragraph	Appendix and paragraph	Referred or delegated power?	A key decision?
		Delegated	

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 List of background papers (but not including published works or those that disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in rule 10 of appendix 15 (Access to Information Procedural Rules) and the advice of a Political Advisor/Assistant):
- 8.2 DCC website and planning application. The Design and Access Statement is included as Appendix 1.
- 8.3 Background papers will be available for inspection and will be kept by the author of the report.

9 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

9.3 The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and officers.

Author: Ken Miles

Date:

Reference: Document1