

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

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| <b>Decision Maker:</b>     | Executive Member – Policy and Resources                      |
| <b>Date of Decision:</b>   | 11 March 2010  |
| <b>Decision Title:</b>     | Project Appraisal: M27 Junction 5 Improvement Scheme Phase 3 |
| <b>Decision Reference:</b> | 1194   |
| <b>Report From:</b>        | Director of Environment                                      |

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#### 1. The decision:

- a) That the Project Appraisal to implement Phase 3 of the M27 Junction 5 Improvement Scheme (A335 Stoneham Way into Westbound On-Slip, Eastbound Off-slip and Stoneham Lane), at an estimated cost of £2.95 million, be approved, subject to the full funding being assembled and land being acquired by agreement.
- b) That Phases 2 and 3 of the scheme be implemented as a single contract to maximise cost efficiencies and minimise traffic disruption during construction.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. The M27 Junction 5 currently experiences significant peak-hour delays that have a direct effect upon accessibility in the area, particularly in relation to Southampton International Airport and Southampton (Airport) Parkway Station, as well as Eastleigh town centre. Delays at the junction also have safety implications in terms of the effective operation of the motorway mainline and its off-slips, and in particular the westbound off-slip, which regularly has peak-hour queues of over 200 metres. The situation at Junction 5 is being compounded by incremental additional traffic growth associated with piecemeal developments in the area and will be further compounded by forthcoming allocated and planned growth.

- 2.2. Improvements are essential in order to manage the traffic at Junction 5 in a more effective way. Phase 3 of the scheme will implement improvements to the western side of the junction. The construction work for Phase 1 (Westbound off-slip into A335 Stoneham Way) is currently underway, having commenced in October 2009, and Phase 2 was approved for implementation on 10 December 2009 pending funding confirmation, which has now been obtained.
- 2.3. The policy justification for improvements to Junction 5 stems from the growth objectives of the South East Plan (SEP). In addition, the scheme will assist in furthering the strategic development proposals of the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) region.

### **3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. Option 1: An alternative long-term solution involving a three-tier grade separated junction and an east-to-west flyover was considered as part of the early scheme development.
- a) Risk Assessment: An east-to-west flyover was inconsistent with surrounding motorway infrastructure and was identified as a possible longer-term solution, subject to further work regarding the requirements of the surrounding motorway network and associated junction strategy. The proposed scheme is identified as an interim solution that will not compromise the future deliverability of a more complex and expensive longer-term solution once a wider network improvement strategy has been developed.
- 3.2. Option 2: An option to deliver all three phases of the currently proposed scheme as a single scheme was considered.
- a) Risk Assessment: Funding for the scheme is reliant on developer contributions and successful bids for regional funding through various bodies. The overall cost of the entire scheme is in excess of £8 million, which could not be secured in total from funding bids at this time.

### **4. Conflicts of interest:**

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none.
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none.

### **5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.**

### **6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**11 March 2010**

**Executive Member for Policy and Resources  
Councillor T K Thornber CBE**