

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Executive Decision Record**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member – Environment and Transport
Date:	6 March 2012
Title:	The Highway Authority response to major development at Botley and North Whiteley
Reference:	3753
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That Winchester City Council and Eastleigh Borough Council be advised that there is no transport related justification for a Botley bypass in relation to proposed development in the Hedge End/Boorley Green or North Whiteley areas and hence no likelihood of a bypass being required, funded or delivered within the Local Plan period. Therefore neither specific policies linking development to the provision of a bypass or policies safeguarding land for a bypass should be included within Winchester City Council's or Eastleigh Borough Council's Local Plan at this time.
- 1.2. That Winchester City Council and Eastleigh Borough Council be advised that any scheme to bypass Botley village be regarded as a longer term policy aspiration which will be subject to further review during the preparation of the South Hampshire Long Term Strategic Implementation Plan being developed by Transport for South Hampshire.
- 1.3. That formal abandonment of a scheme to bypass Botley is not recommended and considered premature at this stage.
- 1.4. That the emerging 'street' based highway infrastructure approach for the development at North Whiteley be approved and pursued in respect to planned development in the Hedge End/Boorley Green areas.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. This report provides a current Highway Authority position statement in relation to potential major transport infrastructure requirements associated with planned major development at Hedge End/Boorley Green and North Whiteley. The position statement serves as an update to the recent formal response to Eastleigh Borough Council on 3

January 2012 as part of their Local Plan consultation. The statement also clarifies the position with regard to Winchester City Council's draft Local Plan and its emerging masterplan for development at North Whiteley. The pre submission stage of Winchester City Council's draft Local Plan consultation ends on 12 March 2012.

- 2.2. In summary, at this stage there is no identified transport related justification for a Botley bypass in relation to planned development flows, or funds available for its implementation and hence no likelihood of it being delivered within the next fifteen year plan period. For these reasons, and in accordance with national planning policy guidance contained within PPS12, it is considered that a safeguarding for a bypass at Botley should not be included within Winchester City and Eastleigh Borough Council Local Plans at this time.
- 2.3. Eastleigh Borough Council's Local Plan consultation document not only includes the safeguarding of a bypass for Botley but also includes a specific policy which reserves the land for a bypass and other detailed policies which identify residential development sites near Botley which the draft plan suggests will be dependant on the construction of the bypass. Neither existing or emerging development related transport evidence identifies a transport justification for a bypass and hence the requirement for a bypass linked to the defined developments at this time is not supported by the Highway Authority.
- 2.4. In December 2011 Winchester City Council approved the draft Core Strategy for its Local Plan, setting out the levels and areas for development across the district over the next 20 years. The document includes a new community of 3,000 homes at North Whiteley. The document also proposes to reserve land for a bypass at Botley if required by the Highway Authority. The pre submission consultation stage ends on 12 March 2012.
- 2.5. This report does not recommend the formal abandonment of a Botley bypass, as the scheme will be subject to later review during the South Hampshire Long Term Strategic Implementation Plan process (LTSIP) along with other strategic transport interventions.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. **Do Nothing** – Consideration was given to not providing a further statement on major transport proposals for Botley and North Whiteley, this option was rejected on the basis that it does not reflect the latest position in terms of emerging development proposals or transport evidence.
- 3.2. **To formally abandon the proposed Botley Bypass** – Formal abandonment has been considered but ruled out as it would be inappropriate at this stage and would pre-empt the outcome of the forthcoming LTSIP process. The LTSIP will appraise a range of strategic transport interventions using the established Sub-Regional Transport Model (SRTM). The LTSIP will outline the interventions required to enable the planned growth in South Hampshire and so will underpin and

frame any funding bids for infrastructure. It is considered that in the longer term, development proposals may require additional highway infrastructure but this is only considered to be potentially required beyond the period of the current and emerging Eastleigh Borough Council and Winchester City Council Local Plan documents.

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: ----- Executive Member for Environment and Transport Councillor M J Kendal	Date: 6 March 2012
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