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#### **Cambridge City Council**

#### **ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

To: Scrutiny Committee Members: Kightley (Chair), Saunders (Vice-Chair),

Johnson, Marchant-Daisley, Owers, Reid, Reiner and Herbert

**Alternates**: Councillors Brierley

**Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change**: Councillor Ward

Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services: Councillor

Swanson

Despatched: Wednesday, 1 May 2013

Date: Tuesday, 14 May 2013

**Time:** 5.00 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1 & 2 - Guildhall

Contact: Toni Birkin Direct Dial: 01223 457013

#### **AGENDA**

#### 4 **UPGRADE TO A14** (*Pages 5 - 34*)

Under Council Procedure Rules 43 - special meetings of committees, Councillors Herbert and Marchant-Daisley have requisitioned this special meeting of Environment Scrutiny Committee. The request was that a special meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee be held at the earliest practical opportunity to scrutinise the latest proposed plan for major improvements to the A14, particularly its benefit for, and impacts on, Cambridge and the Cambridge area.

(Members of the Scrutiny Committee will note that subsequent to this requisition being received, a Notice of Motion on this subject was debated at Council on 18 April 2013).

Report to follow (Pages 5 - 34)

#### Information for the Public

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## Agenda Item 4



#### **Cambridge City Council**

Item

To: Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change:

Councillor Tim Ward

Report by: Simon Payne Director of Environment

Relevant scrutiny Environment 14/5/2013

committee: Scrutiny

Committee

Wards affected: All Wards

#### A14 UPGRADE Non Key Decision

#### 1. Executive summary

- 1.1 On 3 April 2013 members requested a special Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting to discuss the latest proposals for improvements to the A14 Scheme.
- 1.2 On 18 April 2013 Full Council debated a request from Cambridgeshire County Council for a financial contribution towards the cost of the proposed A14 Upgrade Scheme when it was resolved to abstain from making a funding contribution to the A14 and to continue contributing what funds the Council can make available providing for public transport and cycling within the city to help mitigate the impact of significantly easier commuting into the city, in particular by starting a "Keep Cambridge Moving Fund".
- 1.3 The report sets out the background to the debate at Full Council and also identifies key issues that will need to be taken forward through formal processes of the scheme. The report also sets out a process for considering the establishment of a 'Keep Cambridge Moving' Fund.

#### 2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- 1. Note the decision of Full Council on the scheme.
- 2. Agree the process set out in this report for future work in relation to the A14 Upgrade Scheme and the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund'.

#### 3. Background

#### 3.1 Request for this Report

3.1.1 On 3 April 2013 Councillors Herbert and Marchant-Daisley requested, under Council Procedure Rules 43 - special meetings of committees, that the City Council organise a special meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee at the

earliest practical opportunity to scrutinise the latest proposed plan for major improvements to the A14, particularly its benefit for, and impacts on, Cambridge and the Cambridge area including planned elements and design including additional local roads within 10 miles of the city, and measures including:

- § additional park and ride capacity;
- s traffic generation and any changes from the county's future forecasts;
- relationship to current and planned housing delivery, and the Local Plan targets for both the city and South Cambridgeshire; and
- economic benefits and proposed funding, and the City and other Council responses.

#### 3.2 Consideration by Full Council

- 3.2.1 Since that request for the special meeting the Full Council discussed the informal approach by the County Council requesting a financial contribution to the A14 scheme. The approach had been made by the County Council Leader to the leaders of various local authorities as an invitation to contribute. The attached presentation (Appendix 1) was prepared by officers of the County Council to support the request for a contribution.
- 3.2.2 Full Council on 18 April 2013 passed the following Motion:
  - (i) After many years of talking about it, the government is set to proceed with improvements to the A14;
  - (ii) Unprecedentedly for a key element of national infrastructure, the government has invited local councils to contribute to the funding of the scheme;
  - (iii) Our transport authority, the County Council, has approached councils within Cambridgeshire requesting contributions, based on future payback from the financial gain that will accrue to them from unlocked development.

#### Council regrets that

- (i) The proposed A14 scheme is not based on our own case for faster, targeted safety improvements on the road combined with much more investment in east-west rail;
- (ii) The funding proposition is not accompanied by any opportunity to influence the design of the scheme and the project does not at this stage comprise any plans to address congestion within the city;
- (iii) The County Council has tried to impose on all councils a funding proposition that is only relevant to some of them.

#### Council believes that

- (i) The A14 upgrade is nevertheless likely now to happen and that it will bring some economic benefits to the city region, which it welcomes;
- (ii) Future funds will however not accrue to the City Council arising from the scheme, invalidating the County Council's payback proposition in our case;

(iii) In addition to the advantages, the broader impact of the scheme is likely to bring additional pressure on traffic congestion within the city itself.

#### Council resolves to

- (i) Abstain from making a funding contribution to the A14 upgrade, based on the failure of the payback mechanism in the case of the City Council;
- (ii) Continue contributing what funds it can make available as a non-transport authority, towards providing for public transport and cycling within the city to help mitigate the impact of significantly easier commuting into the city, in particular by starting a "Keep Cambridge Moving Fund" enabling future partnering with the County Council on agreed measures.

#### 3.3 Planned Elements and Design

3.3.1. The background to the A14 upgrade scheme and the current position is set out in Appendix 2.

#### 3.4 Additional Park and Ride Capacity

3.4.1 As part of the public transport package of improvements in the A14 study, a new park and ride site (of as yet undefined capacity) is proposed at Alconbury. This is forecast to attract 60 vehicles in the morning (three hour period) in 2031, assuming a dedicated bus service between the site and central Cambridge. The forecasting reported in the "A14 Study: Output 3 Package Testing and Appraisal Report" indicates that the public transport package as a whole results in only a modest (1-2%) increase in net public transport demand in the study area. This 150 passengers equates to the removal of 120 vehicles (less than 1%) in the morning peak three hour period from the A14. The expectation is that the capital costs of the new park & ride facility would be funded through devolved Local Authority Major Scheme funding and/or contributions from the Local Enterprise Partnership and developers.

#### 3.5 Traffic Impact

- 3.5.1 All of the six highway options in the study increase A14 capacity and so, as would be expected, traffic flows on the A14 would increase. There are two reasons for this:
  - Reduced delays on the A14 make the route more attractive and so traffic reroutes from the surrounding road network to the A14;
  - The general effect of congestion suppressing demand for road travel is reduced, i.e. more trips by road are made as congestion is reduced
- 3.5.2 Table 7 of the A14 Study: Output 3 Package Testing and Appraisal Report indicates an increase in flows (just north of Trinity Foot) in 2031 morning peak hour of around 20%.
- 3.5.3 Table 10 (Appendix 3) of the report shows the predicted changes in 2031 morning peak flows on key routes in Cambridge, and on a cordon drawn around the urban area, as a result of the transport schemes. It is careful to say that localised results should be treated with caution but identifies:

- A reduction in through-traffic through Cambridge;
- Increased traffic on Histon Road and Milton Road:
- Transfer of trips from local onto strategic roads (A14 and M11);
- Reduced traffic on Huntingdon, Newmarket, Barton and Madingley Roads;
- No change on Hauxton Road;
- Little (< 1%) overall change in traffic across the whole cordon
- 3.5.4 Further dialogue with the County Council about some of these reported results is needed to understand them more fully and identify if such impacts could be realised, especially increased traffic flows on Histon and Milton Roads, which are already perceived to be operating at or close to capacity during peak periods. Both the County Council and the Department for Transport have been asked repeatedly for the details of the modelling so that the results can be scrutinised fully. When these details are available then the City Council would wish to do this detailed analysis so that it is clear why traffic levels on certain radial routes decline even with the additional capacity on the upgraded A14.

#### 3.6 Housing Targets and Relationship to Local Plans

- 3.6.1 The current housing targets for Cambridge City Council are set out in the 2006 adopted Cambridge Local Plan and are 12,500 between 2006 2021. The Local Plan does not have a specific policy on the A14 and none of the allocations in the Local Plan are directly contingent on an upgrade of the road. The position with the adopted South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy 2007 is that the housing target is 20,000 by 2016, of which 8,000 new houses at Northstowe are linked to the delivery of improvements to the A14. The adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework includes reference to the need for capacity improvements to the A14 linked to specific housing allocations.
- 3.6.2 Clearly these Development Plans are currently under review and consultation drafts are due to be published this summer. In the case of the Cambridge Local Plan the plan is due to be considered by Environment Scrutiny Committee on 10 June 2013.

#### 3.7 Proposed Funding and Economic Benefits

- 3.7.1 The capital scheme cost of the Option 5 highway elements is £895m at 2011 prices and the County Council is currently in a dialogue with several local authorities about the possibility of contributions and an officer of the County Council has agreed to attend the Environment Scrutiny Committee to provide an update on the contributions issue.
- 3.7.2 There are no allocated sites in the Cambridge Local Plan that are contingent on the A14 upgrade, and the links to the allocated sites in South Cambridgeshire are described above. It should be noted that the wider 'Cambridge Cluster at 50' study reviewed the opportunities for the economy of the broader Cambridge area, with a focus on the high tech cluster. The Final Report noted (para 6.7) that: 'Infrastructure Delivery is vital and the highest priorities are probably the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway and the A14 improvements, both of which have come unstuck for different reasons, together with the development of a new station at Chesterton and the continued delivery of high quality and affordable housing.'

#### 4. Way Forward

- 4.1 Key issues for the City Council in relation to impacts of the scheme on the city will be:
  - (a) Impact on traffic flows along radial routes in Cambridge; and
  - (b) The impact on current and future residents of Cambridge, in particular with regards to noise pollution and air quality.
- 4.2 Further work needs to be done on these impacts and to fully understand the implications on the city. In some cases more information about detailed design will influence these impacts.
- 4.3 The timetable going forward is for a Development Consent Order (DCO), targeted for submission between December 2013 and June 2014. In relation to the formal processes around the A14 scheme design and implementation (for example the detailed design of the Girton Interchange), both before submission of and after the Order there will be opportunities for the City Council to be involved in the development of the scheme.
- 4.4 There is likely to be a Public Inquiry (some 12 –18 months after the DCO is submitted). It should be noted that work on site is provisionally targeted to begin in 2018.
- 4.5 The opportunities for the City Council to be involved in the A14 scheme development are summarised in the table below.

Stages	When the City Council can get involved	Opportunities
1	Pre-submission of DCO up to Dec 2013	Continue with discussions to shape the Cambridge related elements of the scheme
2	Further Testing of CSRM and Saturn Model	Input into modelling tests to understand greater detail within the City boundary and recommend design changes and/or mitigation measures for inclusion within the scheme
3	Provide comment on Outline Design	Prior to the DCO the City Council can seek to influence the design of the Cambridge Northern Bypass, and junctions
4	DCO process	Provide representations to the DCO process that are productive in delivering a suitable scheme for the region whilst also seeking to address local concerns within the City
5	Provide comment on Detailed Design	Following the DCO decision and during the detailed design stage there may be the ability to discuss emerging designs

- 4.6 It is recommended that officers continue to engage in discussions and negotiations with officers of the County Council and Department for Transport about the design of the scheme to ensure that additional traffic linked to the A14 scheme does not create unacceptable local environmental impacts for the city and that the scheme integrates with the emerging sustainable transport strategy for the city. The City Council will consider making formal representations at the Development Consent Order stage and will report to this Scrutiny Committee recommending an appropriate formal response.
- 4.7 The Full Council motion has given a commitment for the authority to establish a 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' to support additional public transport and cycling provision within the city to help mitigate the impact of significantly easier car commuting into the city (it should be noted that the City Council has invested over £2m in sustainable transport or access schemes during the last three financial years).
- 4.8 At this stage the scale, timing and detailed nature of the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' investment has yet to be agreed. It is, however, expected that the Fund would comprise a seven figure sum to be accumulated over a number of years and it is therefore appropriate that provision for this level of expenditure is considered during the forthcoming 2013 Medium Term Strategy of the City Council for consideration at the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee in the autumn. A more detailed report on proposals for the Fund would then be brought to this Scrutiny Committee in the later in 2013/14.

#### 5. Implications

#### 5.1 Financial Implications

5.1.1 The precise extent of the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' has yet to be determined and will be subject to further consideration through the Medium Term Strategy process.

#### 5.2 Staffing Implications

5.2.1 None

#### 5.3 Equal Opportunities Implications

5.3.1 Any projects arising from the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' will be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.

#### 5.4 Environmental Implications

5.4.1 The City Council has concerns about the impact the proposed scheme will have on carbon emissions in Cambridge and the sub region. The limited carbon emission data available in the 'A14 Study: Output 3' report confirms that, due to enabling higher speeds on the A14, the preferred Scheme Options would "lead to an increase in CO2 emissions" and therefore the scheme has to be assessed as 'adverse' to policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of Climate Change. This means that any future targets the City Council has to meet with regards to carbon emission reductions (as detailed in the Cambridge

Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan) are likely to be more difficult to achieve if the scheme goes ahead.

5.4.2 Changes in carbon Dioxide (CO2) emissions, relative to each A14 option, are shown below in Table 18 of the 'A14 Study: Output 3' report. The preferred Option identified within Output 3 is Option 5.

Table 18. Change in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions (compared to Do-Minimum, 2031, million tonnes per annum)

Highway option	СИВ	HV	Light vehicles	Heavy vehicles	All vehicles
1	Yes	Retained	+1.50	+0.05	+1.55
2	No	Removed	+8.43	+5.86	+14.29
3	Yes	Removed	+9.65	+6.07	+15.71
4	Yes	Retained	+7.16	+3.70	+10.86
5	Yes	Retained	+5.73	+2.40	+8.13
6	Yes	Removed	+12.46	+7.63	+20.09

5.4.3 Proposals that form part of the Keep Cambridge Moving Fund will have a high positive impact on climate change.

#### 5.5 Procurement

5.5.1 Any projects arising from the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' will be subject to the City Council's Procurement Strategy.

#### 5.6 Consultation and communication

5.6.1 Any projects arising from the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' will be subject to consultation processes.

#### 5.7 Community Safety

5.7 These proposals are intended to have a neutral impact on Community Safety.

#### 6. Background papers

6.1 These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

A14 Study: Output 3 Package Testing & Appraisal Report November 2012 Cambridge Cluster at 50. The Cambridge Economy: Retrospect and Prospect. Final Report to EEDA and partners. March 2011.

#### 7. Appendices

- a. Presentation by County Council Officers to A14 Summit, 7 February 2013
- b. A14 Upgrade Scheme Overview and Current Position
- c. A14 Percentage Change in Traffic Flows on Key Roads

#### 8. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

Author's Name: Simon Payne
Author's Phone Number: 01223 - 458517

Author's Email: simon.payne@cambridge.gov.uk

#### **APPENDIX 2:**

#### **A14 UPGRADE SCHEME**

#### A14 Project Background

#### **Scheme Overview**

The 2010 Comprehensive Spending Review cancelled the planned implementation of the £1.1billion A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton scheme, as it was deemed unaffordable. As part of the Spending Review the Government set out the following position on the A14:

"We recognise that this corridor faces severe congestion, and that mobility along the route is critical for economic success and growth. However, the current scheme is simply unaffordable under any reasonable future funding scenario. The Department has therefore stopped the current scheme.... We will undertake a study to identify cost effective and practical proposals which bring benefits and relieve congestion — looking across modes to ensure we develop sustainable proposals. This approach will also provide an opportunity for the private sector to play its part in developing schemes to tackle existing problems in the corridor..."

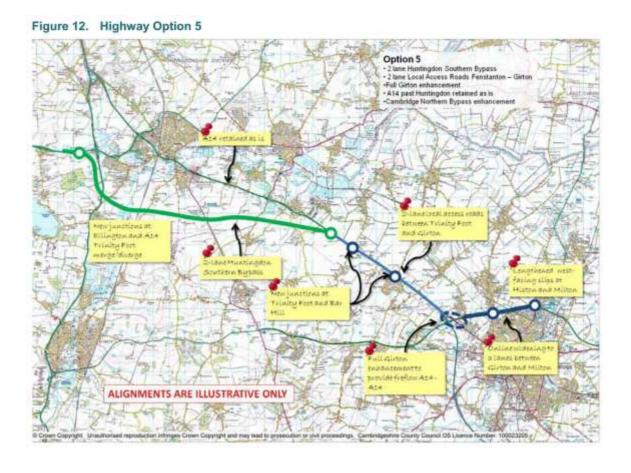
Since then, further work has been undertaken over three "output" stages as follows:

- Output 1: sought to reconfirm an understanding of the nature, scale and importance of the problems affecting the A14 in the Huntingdon and Cambridge areas, developing a list of prioritised challenges (transport problems, and their consequences);
- Output 2: generated and sifted potential interventions and recommend a shortlist; and
- Output 3: developed a multi-modal package of interventions to tackle the prioritised challenges, which are affordable, deliverable and offer value for money.

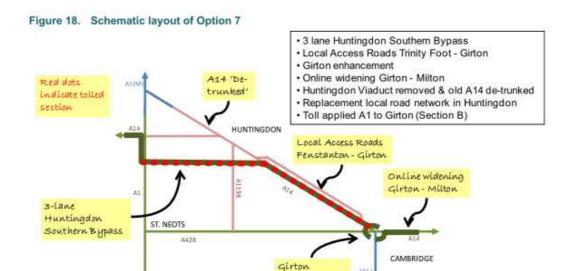
This work focused on a wider study area of East Anglia and North London as well as core study area between northwest Cambridge and Ellington. This work was completed in November 2012.

Specifically, the "A14 Study: Output 3 Package Testing & Appraisal Report" from November 2012 described the preferred highway option as Option 5 "HW10: Package GDS(r) (D2AP Huntingdon Southern bypass with a tie in south east of Fenstanton, local access roads between Trinity Foot and Girton plus full Girton enhancement) with enhancement of Cambridge Northern Bypass and Huntingdon Viaduct retained as is for strategic traffic to/from the A1(M)". A tolling option was also tested, but Option 5 with tolling did not perform well. As such a version of Option 5, which downgrades the existing A14 alignment and provides a 3-lane Huntingdon Southern Bypass with additional junctions with the A1 and A1198 was tested and named as Option 7 and used as the basis for assessment of tolling.

#### **Option 5 Layout**



#### **Option 7 Layout**



The Secretary of State for Transport announced in July 2012 plans to improve the A14 between Milton and Huntingdon as part of a major drive on infrastructure investment. It was expected that the scheme would be funded through a mixture of revenues from tolls on the road, central Government funding and contributions from local authorities and LEPs. This A14 road improvement package includes:

enhancement

- Widening of the Cambridge Northern Bypass between Milton and Girton and enhancement of the Girton Interchange;
- Provision of high standard roads for local traffic use running in parallel to an enhanced A14 carriageway between Girton and the area near the current Trinity Foot A14 junction;
- Construction of a bypass to the south of Huntingdon between the area near Trinity Foot and the A1, at both ends tying in with the existing A14.

A key difference of the current A14 upgrade proposals, compared to the previously withdrawn scheme, is that the A14 widening to three lane dual carriageway between Milton and Fen Ditton is not included.

The preferred public transport package would comprise a new Park & Ride site at Alconbury, a new local bus service running between Cambridge city centre, Bar Hill and Cambridge Science Park and an express bus service between Peterborough and Cambridge (a service which Stagecoach has subsequently confirmed it will operate).

The public transport package would provide:

- significantly improved public transport connectivity between Bar Hill, Cambridge Science Park and planned new Science Park station;
- a Park & Ride service which negates the need to drive on the A14 south of Spittals interchange; and
- direct connections to Alconbury Enterprise Zone, central Huntingdon and three Park & Ride sites from central Peterborough and central Cambridge

These measures offer the best scope for improving public transport connectivity and of shifting demand from road to public transport.

The purpose of the preferred freight package would be to reduce HGV demand along the A14 corridor by encouraging a transfer of freight from road to rail. Given the nature of freight movements in the core study area, the focus is on modal shift of traffic moving from the Haven Ports to the Midlands and North.

The preferred freight package would be predominantly measures on the Felixstowe to Nuneaton (F2N) route which would enable quicker journey times, operation of longer trains and could allow additional freight paths to be provided. These include:

- Ipswich North Chord;
- installation of second track between Ely and Soham;
- double-tracking sections of Felixstowe branch line;
- enhancement of freight loops at March; and
- re-modelling of Ely North Junction.

The package would also include private sector delivery of new/expanded Strategic Rail Freight

In the short term, a £3m scheme to widen the A14 to three lanes both East and West bound between the Girton and Histon junctions will be completed by the Highways Agency in 2014. It is part of the short term and long term measures proposed for the route and fits in with the more comprehensive improvements along the route designed to boost safety and the economy as well as reduce congestion.

A new third lane will run from the Histon interchange westbound and join directly onto the M11 slip-road. Eastbound a new lane will run directly from the A14/ M11 interchange and link to the Histon interchange.

The Secretary of State suggested that construction of the highway elements of the comprehensive scheme could begin in 2018 and be completed in 2021. If that is to be the case, then detailed scheme design will need to commence soon. The DfT allocated £5m to the Highways Agency within the 2012/13 spending period to progress the scheme through the options and development phases review, although the design process is likely to need more funding, even if the scheme draws heavily on the preparatory work of the previous scheme.

The DfT Cabinet Report (September 2012) "A14 Study – Final Report & Recommendations" identifies the following comments and current position of the A14 upgrade proposals:

- "At this stage, the funding for the scheme is not clear, other than an expectation from the Government announcement that it will consist of a combination of tolling, local funding and central government funding. The proportion for each of these is still to be determined, as is the likely total cost of the scheme"
- "The issue of the Huntingdon Viaduct has not yet been fully resolved. In respect of tolling viability, the removal of the Viaduct should generate greater revenue and thus help any tolling proposals to be more successful. In addition it would bring significant benefits to Huntingdon and Godmanchester"
- "It is not clear exactly how the local parallel roads would operate, but they would be expected to be toll free, so that local journeys can be undertaken without a charge, but would also be designed to be an unattractive option for long distance traffic"

A formal announcement on the final timescale of the scheme is expected later this year (2013).

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#### **APPENDIX 3**

#### **EXTRACT FROM A14 STUDY:OPTION 3**

Table 10. Actual and percentage change in traffic on key roads in Cambridge (2031 morning peak period, PCUs, compared to Do-Minimum, changes >5% only shown)

Highway option	CNB	HV	Key radial roads							
			Huntingdon Rd	Histon Rd	Milton Rd	Newmarket Rd	Hauxton Rd	Barton Rd	Madingley Rd	Total cordon
li .						Inbo	und			
1	Yes	Retained	-180 -20%	+280 +14%			-80 -5%	-105 -13%	-70 -5%	-135 -1%
2	No	Removed						+55 +7%		+155
3	Yes	Removed	-140 -16%	+270			-105 -7%	-70 -9%	-75 -5%	-130 -1%
4	Yes	Retained	-150 -17%	+275			-110 -7%	-70 -9%	-70 -5%	-125 -1%
5	Yes	Retained	-155 -17%	+305			-115 -7%	-80 -10%	-75 -5%	-70 0%
6	Yes	Removed	-115 -13%	+285			-75 -5%	-85 -11%	-70 -%	-115 -1%
	7		Outbound							
1	Yes	Retained	-117 -13%	-101 -6%	+74 +7%	-88 -8%	+63 +5%	-51 -7%		-205 -2%
2	No	Removed	-51 -5%						+23	+135 +1%
3	Yes	Removed	-130 -14%	-90 -5%	+75 +7%	-81 -7%	+108	-65 -8%		-175 -1%
4	Yes	Retained	-141 -15%	-99 -5%	+75 +7%	-78 -7%	+108	-62 -8%	22 +5%	-185 -1%
5	Yes	Retained	-74 -8%	-89 -5%	+81 +8%	-81 -7%	+103	-85 -11%		-135 -1%
6	Yes	Removed		-163 -9%	+79 +8%	-84 -8%	+61 +5%	-44 -6%	+37	-175 -1%

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## Appendix 1 A14 - The Big Picture



**Graham Hughes**7th February 2013



## A14 – Key Local, Regional And National Route

- The A14 is a TEN-T core route
- Key east west spine road from East to Midlands
- Links Haven Ports to the M1/ M6 and beyond
- Facilitates national and international trade
- Cambridge to Huntingdon stretch also key north-south corridor
- Key part of local distributor road network

## Why the A14 and why now?

- Major "bottleneck", chronic congestion, lack of capacity and resilience, safety concerns major incidents daily
- ◆ High level of HCVs 17% to 21%
- Local road congestion whenever there is an incident
- Economic downturn has eased problems – A14 needs enhancing now to avoid becoming a brake on growth when upturn comes



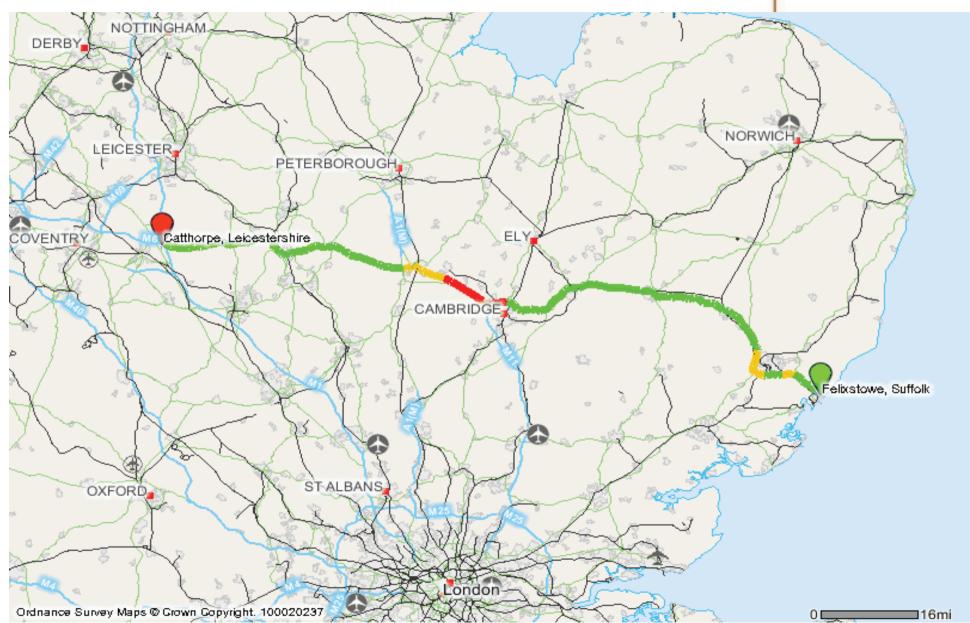




#### **A14** in Context

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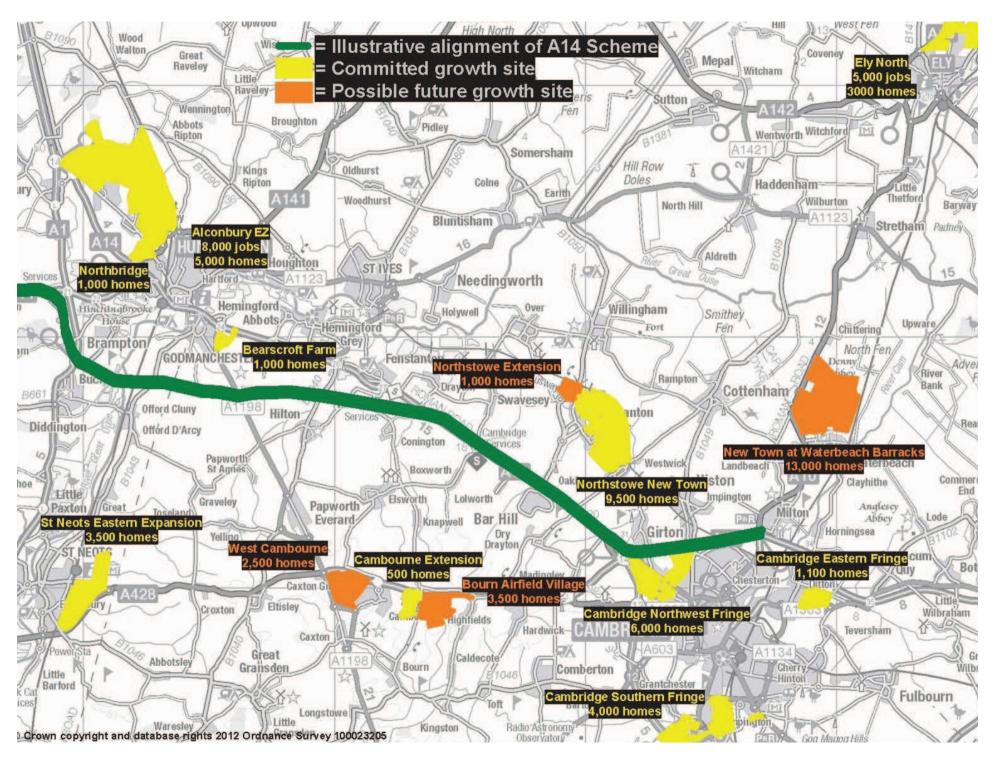




### **Links to Growth Ambitions**

## An improved A14 will:

- Trigger the go-ahead for Northstowe New Town
- Enhance the growth of the Alconbury Enterprise Zone
- Assist the growth of Ely, Huntingdon and new settlement developments along the A428
- Open up possibilities for development at Waterbeach Barracks
- Help growth of Cambridge
- Enable future growth of 'Silicon Fen'
- Remove a blight on the wide regional economy





### To summarise...

- A14 improvements are vital now
- We have made rapid progress but there is a lot more to do
- Will now pass over to Alex to outline how we propose to take things forward



## **A14 Consortium and Local Funding**



Alex Plant
7th February 2013



## The Infrastructure Consortium

- There is agreement that:
  - the A14 needs to be improved
  - it will remove a blight on the economy
  - There are also other schemes that are needed in the wider area – Copdock, J45, Kettering bypass, A47
- Now is the time to form an Infrastructure consortium to move these all forward



## The Consortium

- A wider collaborative approach
- Taking a whole route approach to the problems
- Central/Local government working together
- Allows focus on a wide range of strategic priorities – A47, A12, A1(M)
- new way of working with DfT fits with thrust of government policy



## Funding – A14

- Improving the road will increase GVA in the area
- Improvements will mean more homes, more businesses, more port activity
- This means that there is an 'A14 dividend' in CIL, NHB, Business Rates
- The quantum is hard to evidence precisely but it is clearly the case



## **Local Funding Proposition**

- Funding from a variety of sources is pooled
- 25 year revenue stream to support borrowing
- Calculated as a % of uplift in local income with a cap
- CCC potentially the lead borrowing authority
- Much more work to do
- As an example, an authority contributing £5m would need to set aside just £200k pa



## **Local Funding Proposition**

- Has been suggested that a local contribution will not really be needed
- DfT/Treasury have been clear with us that it is a key feature
- Without it, the scheme is at risk



## What next

- Minister has committed to pulling the funding package together by the autumn
- We will need to firm up our contribution by early summer
- Will need clarity on underwriting from DfT
- May want to have a second summit to agree final details