

Cabinet Member Infrastructure & Transport
Councillor J Harrington

Your Ref:

Our Ref: JH/SJM

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9 August 2019

Decision to pause and review major transport infrastructure projects

Following careful consideration the decision has been taken today to pause two major transport infrastructure projects, the Hereford bypass (part of the Hereford Transport Package) and the Southern link road (part of the South Wye Transport Package), to allow further time to review the schemes in more detail.

The views of residents, commuters and local businesses are very important to us. It is vital that travel, transport and infrastructure developments in Hereford support the economy, help to improve health and wellbeing and make Herefordshire a better place to live, work and visit. We also need to ensure we effectively respond to the climate emergency declared by Herefordshire Council and the Government.

As part of this review it is important to consider alternative options. For example this will include infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians (including safe routes to school), an eastern river crossing, and trialling the removal of some traffic signals. It could also include options for an electric bus service, improving school bus services and an ultra-light rail system.

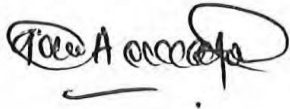
All options need to be considered as we look to the long term and towards providing a high quality, integrated and low carbon transport system for the whole of Herefordshire, not just for the immediate future but for generations to come.

The timetable for the review is not yet determined and a further report setting this out and what will be involved will be prepared for consideration and approval in due course. This will be publicly available on the council's website.

As you are somebody with an interest in these major transport schemes I am sure you will appreciate the need to thoroughly consider all of the issues before making a decision that will impact on residents in Hereford and across the county.

You will find further information about this decision on the council website at www.herefordshire.gov.uk, by searching for decisions, then clicking on the decisions and documents tab. Please be aware that this decision may be subject to call-in by the council's scrutiny committee - details of which will be published with the decision notice.

We will continue to keep you informed on progress. In the meantime, if you have any questions about this decision you can contact us at herefordtransportpackage@balfourbeatty.com or call us on 01432 261800.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Harrington', with a horizontal line underneath.

Councillor John Harrington
Cabinet Member Infrastructure and Transport