



CABINET

12 JULY 2016

CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR PLACE COMMISSIONING: TONY CIABURRO

**DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUBLIC PROTECTION, STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH:
COUNCILLOR ANDRE GONZALEZ DE SAVAGE**

Subject:	A509 Wellingborough Development Link
Recommendations:	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the progress made in delivering the A509 Wellingborough Development Link scheme. 2. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Place Commissioning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment, to commence a Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire the land for the Phase 1 road (Isham Bypass) as outlined in Section 4 of this report. 3. Welcome the recent bid for a further £10m of Growth Deal funding to ensure delivery of the Phase 1 road scheme.

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To update cabinet on progress ion delivering the A509 Wellingborough Development Link road scheme, and seek approval to commence the Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire the land for Phase 1 (Isham Bypass).

2. How this decision contributes to the Council Plan

The Council’s vision is to make Northamptonshire a great place to live and work. This is achieved through increasing the wellbeing of your county’s communities and/or safeguarding the county’s communities.

This initiative specifically delivers increased wellbeing and/or safeguarding by ensuring that:

- People achieve economic prosperity, in a healthy, low carbon economy which give access to jobs, training and skills development.
- Communities thrive in a pleasant and resilient environment, with robust transport and communications infrastructure.
- Resources are utilised effectively and efficiently, in coordination with partners and providers.

3. Background

3.1 The A509 Wellingborough Development Link seeks to improve the whole section of the A509 between the A14 south of Kettering and the A45 south-west of Wellingborough to accommodate the traffic flows consequent upon planned growth in

the county. The three phases of the scheme were formerly known as the A509 Isham Bypass (Phase 1), A509 Isham to Wellingborough Improvement (Phase 2) and A509 Park Farm Way Dualling (Phase 3).

- 3.2 Although it is some years since a specific report on any of these schemes was brought before Cabinet, as priority projects for the County Council they have continued to feature in reports setting out such priorities, most recently the Major Road Schemes Review report approved by Cabinet in January 2016.
- 3.3 More practically, the planning permission for the A509 Isham Bypass was renewed for a period of ten years in September 2011, and a contribution of £15m has been allocated towards the £38.5m cost of the scheme as part of Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership's Growth Deal.

4. Land Purchase

- 4.1 While the Secretary of State approved the Compulsory Purchase Order for the A509 Isham Bypass in 2010, following the public inquiry held in 2009, the withdrawal of Government funding meant that these orders were never 'made' (or put into effect), and their validity has now expired.
- 4.2 In order that the scheme can progress, it is now necessary to re-commence the Compulsory Purchase Order process, and Cabinet approval for that step is sought through this report. Alongside this statutory process, which may result in a further public inquiry, the County Council will approach the relevant landowners to explore whether negotiated land purchase is possible.

5. Funding

- 5.1 As noted above, a contribution of £15m towards the £38.5m cost of the Phase 1 (Isham Bypass) scheme has been secured as part of Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership's Growth Deal. This funding is subject to approval by the Department for Transport, and in order to obtain that approval the business case for the scheme is currently being updated in accordance with Department for Transport guidance.
- 5.2 At the time this funding was allocated, the intention was to fund the remainder of the cost from a number of sources – including developer contributions, New Homes Bonus and the County Council's own funding – via our innovative Revolving Infrastructure Fund.
- 5.3 Since that time, the financial situation has changed. In particular, the Government has reduced both the duration and the value of New Homes Bonus funding (of which the County Council receives only 20%), and the need to make savings on our revenue budget means that the scope for direct County Council funding is more limited than was previously the case.
- 5.4 In order to close the resultant funding gap, a bid for a further £10m of Growth Deal funding has been submitted to both Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership and the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership, and it is hoped that this bid will be submitted to Government and the further funding obtained.

6. Further scheme phases

6.1 Phases 2 (A509 Isham to Wellingborough Improvement) and Phase 3 (Park Farm Way Dualling) remain priority projects which will be brought forward in future years as funding and resources permit.

7. Consultation and Scrutiny

The route of the proposed scheme has been subject to extensive consultation in previous years. Further engagement with land owners will be an important part of taking forward the Compulsory Purchase Order.

8. Equality Screening

The commencement of the Compulsory Purchase Order process has not direct impact on customers, and so a Equality Impact Assessment is not necessary.

Reason that no EqIA is required	as appropriate
The paper is for information only	
The proposal/activity/decision has no impact on customers or the service they receive	
The proposal impacts upon staff but the proposed staffing changes will not affect the service that customers receive*	
Other (please explain further)	

* where a proposal affects staff, the appropriate HR processes will be followed, which have already been subject to the EqIA process and will be compliant with HR legislation

9. Alternative Options Considered

9.1 Alternative route options have been explored in earlier Cabinet reports. As set out above, land purchase by negotiation will be explored alongside the preparation of Compulsory Purchase Orders.

10. Financial Implications

10.1 Funding to develop the Phase 1 (Isham Bypass) scheme to construction is included in the County Council's approved Capital Programme.

10.2 A further Capital Programme approval will be required before the land can be purchased, and scheme construction commenced. However, commencing the Compulsory Purchase Order does not commit the County Council to such expenditure.

11. Risk and Business Continuity Management

a) Risk(s) associated with the proposal

Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
None apparent		

b) Risk(s) associated with not undertaking the proposal

Risk	Risk Rating
Without progressing land acquisition the scheme will not be able to be built.	Red

12. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Phase 1 Scheme Layout

Author:	Name: Chris Wragg Team: Northamptonshire Highways
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Background Papers:	
Does the report propose a key decision is taken?	YES
If yes, is the decision in the Forward Plan?	YES
Will further decisions be required? If so, please outline the timetable here	YES – approval of funding and contract award Spring 2017
Does the report include delegated decisions? If so, please outline the timetable here	Recommendation 2- September 2016
Is this report proposing an amendment to the budget and/or policy framework?	NO
Have the financial implications been cleared by the Strategic Finance Manager (SFM)? Have any capital spend implications been cleared by the Capital Investment Board (CIB)	YES Name of SFM: Rosemary Pallot YES
Has the report been cleared by the relevant Director?	YES Name of Director: Tony Ciaburro
Has the relevant Cabinet Member been consulted?	YES Cabinet Member: Councillor Andre Gonzalez de Savage
Has the relevant scrutiny committee been consulted?	NO Scrutiny Committee: Environment Development & Transport
Has the report been cleared by Legal Services?	YES Name of solicitor: Debbie Carter-Hughes
	Solicitor's comments:
Have any communications issues been cleared by Communications and Marketing?	YES Name of officer: Liam Beasley
Have any property issues been cleared by Property and Asset Management?	YES/NO Name of officer: Susan Carmichael
Are there any community safety implications?	None apparent.

Are there any environmental implications:	None apparent.
Are there any Health & Safety Implications:	NO. None apparent.
Are there any Human Resources Implications:	NO.
Are there any human rights implications:	YES. Proposal involves compulsory purchase of land.
Constituency Interest:	Burton & Broughton – Cllr Christopher Groome Earls Barton – Cllr Paul Bell

