

A11 Thetford Junctions

Report of Richard Doleman, Chair, Planning and Projects Sub-group

Summary

This report seeks board support to lobby for the upgrading of the A11 junctions around Thetford to support growth and the strategic importance of the route.

Recommendations

- (i) The board write to Highways England and the Department for Transport to lobby for improvements to the A11 junctions at Thetford.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The A11 corridor is a vital transport and economic connection for Norfolk and Thetford. The A11 dualling from Barton Mills to Thetford was opened in Dec 2014, competing dualling from Norwich to the A14 and the A11 Tech Corridor is a partnership set up to promote growth, investment in infrastructure, housing and skills.

2 Current Situation

- 2.1 There is currently some congestion at the five A11 junctions around Thetford. The planned growth of 5000 houses will mitigate its impacts and the exact form of those works have yet to be agreed. However at the works will be developer led, it will only mitigate the direct effects of growth and not address any existing problems.
- 2.3 There is a longer term ambition to improve the Thetford junctions on the A11 to alleviate congestion and support the routes regional importance and improvements to the five A11 junctions around Thetford are included with the adopted Norfolk Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2017-2027. The Norfolk IDP is endorsed by the 7 District Councils in Norfolk and New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership.
- 2.4 This issue is compounded by the planned growth in Thetford of 5000 new homes and employment development as set out in the Local Plan. Improvement measures to the A11 junctions will be provided by the developers of this planned growth to mitigate the impact

3 Proposed actions

- 3.1 Whilst the improvements are not in any current programme it is important to raise awareness of the importance of improving the A11 junctions with the responsible bodies. The County and LEP will continue to seek to get improvement priorities by the relevant bodies. To support this activity the board are asked to identify this as one of its priorities and write to Department of Transport (DfT) who are responsible for the governments Roads Investment Strategy (RIS) and Highways England who are responsible for agreeing trunk

Road improvements arising from planning proposals.

4. Contribution to Board Objectives

4.1 The activity will lobby to secure improvements to the A11 and contributes to Objective 1 to improve strategic infrastructure and Objective 6 to encourage economic vitality.

5. Recommendations

- (i) The Board write to Highways England and the Department for Transport to lobby for improvements to the A11 junctions at Thetford.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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