

## **EXECUTIVE 01 NOVEMBER 2016**

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### **SCRUTINY COMMENTS**

#### **THE A15 LINCOLN EASTERN BYPASS – CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT**

The Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee met on 24 October 2016 and considered a report concerning the A15 Lincoln Eastern Bypass Construction Contract. The Committee unanimously supported that the Executive approve a decision to proceed with awarding a construction contract to Carillion for Lincoln Eastern Bypass.

The Committee agreed to pass on the following comments to the Executive:

- The Committee acknowledged the increase in the current cost estimate and welcomed the potential for significant savings during construction due to efficiencies.
- The Committee highlighted the need for transparency and effective management of the costs during the construction of the scheme to help ensure the potential efficiencies were achieved. Officers confirmed that a commercial site team would be established to manage the delivery of the project, and that information supplied by the proposed contractor had given confidence that the necessary measures were being put in place to ensure that the project was delivered on time and on budget.
- The Committee queried the lack of clarity on a confirmed rail possession date and highlighted concern in relation to the potential costs which could be caused from the 'disputed possession' by the train operators. Officers confirmed that the possession had been confirmed for October 2017 and that Network Rail would set the level of compensation for train operators depending on the level of disruption caused by the works.
- The Committee queried the impact of increasing inflation on the costs for the scheme and whether this could impact the proposed Inflationary Costs listed in the report. Officers confirmed that the construction contract included inflation costs and had been accounted for by the Council, however any potential additional inflationary costs would be minimal.
- The Committee acknowledged the need for effective planning to allow for flexible alternative routes to be put in place for re-routing traffic once construction of the scheme begins. Officers confirmed that there was a need to programme construction carefully and that the tender package included the requirement for traffic management to be undertaken during construction.
- The Committee highlighted that on completion of the scheme there was a need to revise the publicised list of strategic routes and update signage in order to ensure the best outcomes. Officers confirmed that the Bypass would form part of the new A15 and this had been agreed with the Department for Transport. New signage would be installed to advise all traffic of this new strategic route.

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