

A417 MISSING LINK

Summary: Progress on the Board's input to the A417 Missing Link scheme.

Recommendation: To note the progress update

Author: Martin Lane, Director

Background

1. The regular task and finish group reports to each Executive Committee and Board meeting serve to provide a summary of the Board's activity in regard to the A417 Missing Link and Highways England's development of a potential scheme.

2. The Board has corresponded with HE at regular intervals since Spring / Summer 2018 over the Option 30 scheme for the A417. It has offered alternative suggestions for the scheme, which HE announced in March 2019 as their Preferred Route. HE considers that some suggestions offer better solutions from an economic and environmental perspective and they are being investigated further by HE and their consultants. The Board has also expressed ongoing concerns that some of its suggestions have not been given proper consideration.

3. In mid may HE submitted their Environmental Scoping Report for Option 30 to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). PINS have consulted the Board on the report, with a deadline for the submission of comments of 24th June. A verbal update will be provided at the Board meeting on 25th June.

4. Recent letters to HE are provided in **Appendix 'A' - 'C'**. They suggest alternative arrangements for Birdlip village and the Cowley junction; alternative arrangements for how the A436 links to the A417 and the proposed junction at Shab Hill; and offer a series of comments on the design of any bridge / green bridge structures.

Supporting Papers:

Appendix 'A' - A417 Birdlip Village and Cowley Junction

Appendix 'B' - A417 Option 30 A436 Junction Options

Appendix 'C' - A417 Bridge Structures