



Michael Stonnell
Chair, Sundon Parish Council

Your ref:

Our ref: RW/th

Via email - michael.stonnell@btinternet.com

Date: 9th January 2017

Dear Mr Stonnell

Central Bedfordshire Council Budget 2017- 2021 - Consultation

Thank you for your email dated 5th January 2017 regarding the Central Bedfordshire Council Budget (2017-2021) Consultation and the perceived discrepancy associated with the costs of a specific piece of infrastructure.

As you identify in your email, "Critical Infrastructure" is that which the Council consider must be provided in order for a development to go ahead, and without it, development will not be permitted. The M1-A6 link road is one such piece of infrastructure.

In relation to the provision of the M1-A6 link road, the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) referred to in your email was dated September 2015 and is therefore out of date although it is currently in the process of being updated in support of the new Central Bedfordshire Local Plan. However, at that time the costs for the M1-A6 link road were identified as being approximately £100m - this was based upon the most up to date information available at that time. It was expected that the cost of the road scheme would be met through developer contributions and Growth Area Funding secured by Central Bedfordshire Council.

Since the IDP was last published, further work has been undertaken in relation to the M1-A6 road and the costs have been revised down to £55.855m. It should be noted however, that this is still an estimated cost and will be verified in due course. Having said that, CBC have already secured £11m towards the cost of the scheme through the Local Growth Fund (Round 2) and a further £31m is currently being sought through Round 3. The remaining scheme costs would be reclaimed through developer funding.

Concerning the M1 Junction 11a Capacity Improvements, it has previously been identified that works will need to be undertaken as part of the provision of the M1-A6 link road to increase capacity of the junction. It is fully expected that all costs associated with this will be met by the developers.

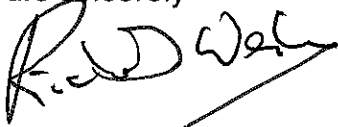
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With regards to CIL, we are currently awaiting the outcome of the CIL review which is currently underway. It is anticipated that this will be reported at a similar time to the Housing White Paper which is due to be published this month. It is expected that there will be significant changes to CIL and will therefore need to consider implications of this carefully before progressing with a new charge for development within Central Bedfordshire.

I hope the above has alleviated your concerns regarding the funding of the M1-A6 Link Road and the M1 Junction 11a Capacity Improvements. However, if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



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