

**MEETING OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 2.00 PM****ORDER PAPER****MEETING PROTOCOL**

Before the meeting begins the Chairman will remind members of the rules for on-line meetings:

- Switch off or keep your mobiles on silent.
- During the meeting keep your microphone muted until called to speak.
- The Chairman has a list of members who wish to speak on each item. The Chairman will read these out after the motion has been moved and seconded. If any member not on the list wishes to speak please use the raise hand function. Before finishing each item, the Chairman will check that all members who wish to speak have been able to do so.
- When called to speak unmute your microphone and please mute again when you have finished speaking.
- If at any point the webcast fails there will be a short adjournment, please stay on line while the problem is resolved.
- At the end of the debate on each report please unmute your microphones. To avoid a lengthy roll-call every time the Chairman will ask if you all agree with the recommendations. Please say if you DISAGREE. If no-one disagrees then the Chairman will declare that the motion is carried.
- If a vote is required you will be asked to indicate if you are FOR or AGAINST – please speak clearly when asked.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman will make her announcements.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – MINUTES**  
**(Pages 3 to 22)**

**MRS POSNETT** will move and **MR KAUFMAN** will second:

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020, copies of which have been circulated to members, be taken as read, confirmed and signed.”

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman will invite members who wish to do so to make declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

It will be assumed that all members who are also members of District Councils will wish to declare a personal interest on the item in the Leader's Position Statement on Devolution.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 4**  
**QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 7(1) (2) & (5)**

***Note – The questions and answers appear on the Order Paper and will be taken as read. There are supplementary questions relating to Questions A, B and E. The responses are also set out on the Order Paper.***

**(A) Question by MR HUNT**

- “1. Would the Leader agree with me that we need to be robust when minimising risk to the authority in financing Major Road Projects?
2. On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019 the Cabinet received a report for the delivery of a comprehensive £25million Major Road scheme at M1 J23 and the A512, as identified in the Highways Capital Programme, involving negotiations to obtain the necessary legal agreements and secure third party contributions but stating that the third party funding, quoted as a net £8million, required further authorisation before letting the contract for the work, and furthermore that work would be suspended if agreement was not reached by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

On the 4th July 2019 I was informed that “we have reached agreement in principle with the relevant parties”, and that we were “confident that the necessary agreements will be signed in the short term.”

Would the Leader confirm the third party developers who are contributing to the project (locally understood to be the developers of the West of Loughborough SUE, the former Wilson Bowden Science Enterprise Park and various Shepshed housing developers)?

3. Would the Leader confirm the contributions secured from each third party according to their S106 or Planning Conditions?
4. On June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020 the LLEP received a grant of £20million from the Government's new Getting Building Fund of which £1.8million was allocated to the M1/A512 Major Road Scheme. When was this proposal submitted to the LLEP?
5. Why was this further contribution from the public purse necessary when agreement on funding this major road project was apparently reached in July last year?”

**Reply by MR PENDLETON**

- “1. Yes and robust risk assessment is part of all projects from inception through to construction with expert input from finance and legal officers being sought throughout a project’s life.
2. Through S278 Highways Act agreements Leicestershire County Council secured contributions from the landowners and developers of the West of Loughborough SUE and the science and enterprise park. The agreements plus related Deferred Payments Agreements (DPA) were entered into by the County Council to ensure that future landowners/developers of the SUE and science and enterprise park would be liable for the contribution in the event of onward transfer of the affected land.

At the time of the agreements being concluded the parties were:

**S278 North:**

- 1) Leicestershire County Council
- 2) Trustees of The De Lisle Family Fund (First Owner)
- 3) Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee One Limited and Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee Two Limited (Second Owner)
- 4) Persimmon Homes Limited (Developer)
- 5) William Davis Limited (Option Holder)

**DPA North:**

- 1) Leicestershire County Council
- 2) Persimmon Homes Limited
- 3) William Davis Limited
- 4) The Squire Amaury Arnaud March Phillipps De Lisle, Peter Andrew March Phillipps De Lisle, Simon Jonathan Henry Still and Roythornes Trustees Limited
- 5) Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee One Limited and Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee Two Limited

**S278 South:**

- 1) Leicestershire County Council
- 2) Wilson Bowden Developments Limited
- 3) Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee One Limited and Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee Two Limited

**DPA South:**

- 1) Leicestershire County Council
- 2) Wilson Bowden Developments Limited
- 3) Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee One Limited and Grace Dieu Corporate Trustee Two Limited

All other required contributions from relevant Shepshed developments have been secured through s.106 agreements and these are publicly available.

3. A list of s.106 contributions secured to date is available attached (Appendix A).

Planning conditions by Charnwood Borough Council as set out in Planning Permission references P/14/1833/2 Land at West of Loughborough, Loughborough Leicestershire and P/19/0524/2 Land West of Snells Nook Lane Loughborough Leicestershire do not specify a funding amount but rather seek to ensure safe and suitable access to development permitted and mitigate the impact of those developments through improvements to M1J23 and the A512. No development has yet triggered these planning conditions and so there is as yet no obligation on these developers to deliver any part of the M1J23 A512 Scheme according to the planning conditions.

Nothing in the agreements referred to prevents the delivery of planning obligations or s.106 contributions identified in P/14/1833/2 Land at West of Loughborough, Loughborough Leicestershire and P/19/0524/2 Land West of Snells Nook Lane Loughborough Leicestershire.

4. The proposal was submitted in June 2019.
5. Agreement in principle was reached with the LLEP following submission of the proposal in June 2019, this formed part of the agreements required to fund the scheme from external sources. The announcement in June 2020 was confirmation of the funding source.”

#### **Supplementary questions from MR HUNT**

- “2. Since this Major Road Project not only required funds from developers to trigger public contributions but the infrastructure was essential to the success of the two major projects (north and south of the A512), why did Leicestershire County Council not wait until the planning agreements or conditions were triggered by the development so that the County Council would gain maximum leverage, rather than pushing ahead without a secure agreement?
3. Why were the contributions from the West of Loughborough SUE and the former Wilson Bowden development not secured by S106 as opposed to planning conditions?
- 4.&5. If the expected funding was secured by the County Council in July 2019 with no gap in funding, as I was led to understand, why was the request for a further £1.8m funding from the LLEP, and eventually awarded under a scheme for new building?”

#### **Response to the supplementary questions by MR PENDLETON**

- “2. As set out in the Cabinet report of June 2019 the objective of the scheme was to ‘bring together all interested parties to make best use of public and private sector resources’ in order to achieve the following benefits:

- ‘ii. Enable coordinated delivery of several planning requirements in one scheme;
- iii. Reduce disruption on a critical part of Leicestershire’s road network;
- iv. Future proof (in foreseeable highway capacity terms) the area in preparation for planned growth;
- v. Unlock strategic employment and housing sites identified in Charnwood Borough Council’s Core Strategy, helping to support the delivery of planned growth, maintaining 5 year land supply and ensuring a reduction in speculative development; and,
- vi. Ensure developments contribute fully to their share of costs.’

The M1J23 A512 scheme comprises highway mitigation for a number of developments with a current planning permission and those in the pipeline. Given the varying land ownerships and separate option to purchase arrangements and potential protracted negotiations required to resolve liability for delivery of the schemes across those developments could have acted as a barrier to housing delivery. Hence it was incumbent on the County Council using its highway authority role to facilitate arrangements that secured the necessary external funding required. Reliance solely on the s106 funding approach would involve triggers for the contributions and conditions, given the various stages of development and rates of house building spreading over up to 10 years.

If the improvements were delivered in line with the various triggers they would be delivered over a lengthy period with the associated potential for abortive works, digging up of recently completed works and years of congestion for users of the network. In addition, timing clashes would likely mean that the necessary mitigation would not able be delivered in time to manage the impacts.

Accordingly, the County Council took the opportunity (when grant funding streams were available) to combine the various mitigation schemes into one project, delivered by one contractor in the most efficient way and in advance of the main triggers to ensure that the schemes designed to mitigate the traffic impacts were in place when needed. This is line with the ambitions set out in the Strategic Plan including those around a Strong Economy and Affordable and Quality Homes.

3. The decision to grant planning permission and the associated conditions was the decision of Charnwood Borough Council in its role as Local Planning Authority. Charnwood exercised their planning judgement as to what was appropriate for the applications mentioned. They took into account as part of the planning consultation process, the Highways England recommendation that a condition requiring these developments to improve J23 of the M1 in advance of the access being built on to the A512 (and associated improvements to the A512) was necessary for the proposed developments to be acceptable. As this condition was linked to the requirement for an access strategy it was appropriate for Charnwood Borough Council to also condition that access works.

4.&5. The £1.8m funding request was submitted to the LLEP in June 2019 and based on the submission was given approval in principle. The LLEP manage a number of different funding streams which are suitable for this type of highway scheme funding and the LLEP assigned funding from the Local Growth Funding at a suitable point in the scheme delivery when additional funding was made available.”

## **Appendix A**

### **M1 J23 SCHEME – S106 CONTRIBUTIONS**

#### **S106 funds already received – total £774,000.87**

2014/1687/02 LAND OFF HATHERN ROAD A512/ Iveshead Road/ Charnwood Road - £67,929.62

2014/1687/02 LAND OFF HATHERN ROAD A512/ Ingleberry Road/ Leicester Road - £159,126.39

2015/1814/02 LAND OFF IVESHEAD ROAD MOVA at the junction of Iveshead Road and Ashby Road - £2,500.00

2013/1826/02 LAND OFF TICKOW LANE A512 Ashby Rd/ Iveshead Rd/ Charnwood Rd - £175,318.92

2013/1826/02 LAND OFF TICKOW LANE A512 Ashby Rd/ Ingleberry Rd/ Leicester Rd - £369,125.94

#### **S106 funds still to be deposited – total £978,290.62**

2011/1583/02 - Iveshead Road, Shepshed - £2,500.00

*MOVA system at Iveshead Road/A512 Ashby Road junction*

#### **Not to commence the development until the contribution is paid**

2014/0777/02 - 62 Iveshead Road - £92,722.22

*A512/Charnwood Road/ Iveshead Road junction*

#### **Prior to first occupation of the 50th dwelling**

Other contributions require payment prior to commencement – no funds have been received as of 17 September 2020.

2014/0777/02 - 62 Iveshead Road - £126,847.40

*A512/Leicester Road/ Ingleberry Road*

### **Prior to first occupation of the 50th dwelling**

Other contributions in the S106 require payment prior to commencement – no funds have been received as of 17 September 2020.

*2013/1751/02 - Tickow Lane, Shepshed - £159,448.00*

*A contribution of 22.2% of the cost of the works to the A512/Iveshead Road/Charnwood Road Junction (As shown on WYG drawing number A088427-002) up to £159,448*

### **Prior to occupation of the 100th dwelling**

Other contributions in the S106 require payment prior to occupation of the 1st dwelling – no funds have been received as of 17 September 2020.

*2013/1751/02 - Tickow Lane, Shepshed - £303,639.00*

*A contribution of 17.7% of the cost of the works to the A512/Iveshead Road/Charnwood Road Junction (As shown on WYG Drawing Number A088427-003) up to £303,639*

### **Prior to occupation of the 100th dwelling**

Other contributions in the S106 require payment prior to occupation of the 1st dwelling – no funds have been received as of 17 September 2020.

*2013/1826/02- LAND OFF TICKOW LANE - £293,134.00*

*For the Junction 23 M1 Motorway Improvement scheme*

**If the developer commences development pursuant to the variable permission (to reduce affordable housing from 30% to 25%) the developer shall pay prior to occupation of the 50th dwelling**

Library contribution is at 50th dwelling and has been paid in the main agreement

### **(B) Question by MR HUNT**

- “1. Would the Leader welcome the Government’s Cycle Infrastructure Design Note 1/20 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cycle-infrastructure-design-ltn-120> which updates national guidance (2/08) for highway authorities and, to quote the Minister, Chris Heaton-Harris, designers representing the current best practice, standards and legal requirements?
2. The Design Note states that cyclists on urban streets must be physically separated from pedestrians and should not share space with pedestrians.

Will we be putting this into effect in Leicestershire in our future planning consultations and S278 Agreements, and if so when will this change commence?

3. How can we put this physical separation into effect in present shared infrastructure or mitigate its effects where this is not possible?
4. What changes will be required of the Leicestershire Highway Design Guide and when will they be effected?
5. Will the Design Note be integral to the Local Transport Plan (LTP4) and when is a Draft for consultation currently programmed?"

### **Reply by MR PENDLETON**

- "1. As an Authority with a strong track record of promoting cycling and walking, for example through our successful Choose How You Move brand, we welcome the Government's new Cycle Infrastructure Design Note 1/20, and also the Prime Minister's Cycling and Walking Plan, which was published at the same time. Getting more people to travel by bike, and on foot, is important in respect of the Authority's declaration of a Climate Change Emergency, promoting healthier lifestyles and of supporting economic recovery. However, to deliver on the Government's level of ambition will not come cheaply, both in capital and revenue terms – for example, even the relatively modest extent and scale of measures proposed in the Authority's Emergency Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 bid are forecast to cost in excess of £2.5m. It would be challenging for the Authority to deliver on the level of ambition at the best of financial times, but in its current budgetary circumstances we will need to actively seek funding from Government to in order to do so.
2. The new guidance sets out many principles for future infrastructure design, segregated cycleways in urban centres being one of them. We will expect developers to follow the Design Note in preparing their development proposals, including where there is a need for associated off-site cycling and walking improvements. We will provide advice to Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) accordingly, but as always reflecting prevailing planning law and regulations, which in some circumstances might mean that it would be unreasonable, as defined in planning terms, to require a developer to provide a segregated facility. However, ultimately district councils as LPAs are responsible for determining planning consent, including any conditions or obligations that should be attached thereto. The 'in principle' nature of any highway measures is normally established at the grant of consent; Section 278 agreements are subsequently used as necessary to deliver the measures rather than to stipulate what the 'in principle' nature should be. In other words, if a planning condition/obligation did not require the delivery of segregated facilities this could not subsequently be imposed through a Section 278 Agreement.



3. We will look for opportunities to upgrade facilities to segregate pedestrians and cyclists through future improvement schemes and maintenance programmes. However, non-segregated facilities have often been used in the past in places where there are physical constraints and/or it would have not been cost-effective to do so. Thus, and as highlighted in the response to question 1, there will be significant financial challenges in seeking to deliver on the Government's level of ambition for cycling, particularly in relation to retrofitting existing facilities, and the Authority will need to actively pursue additional funding from Government in order for it to be in a position to be able to do so.
4. The Leicestershire Highway Design Guide is currently under review. Publication of the Design Note will be one of many factors that will need to be taken into account as part of conducting this work.
5. It was originally envisaged that the approach to replacing LTP3 would be via a single, overall, wholesale review process. In practice, circumstances have dictated a different approach. The focus has instead been on developing area or topic specific policies and strategies and plans, including:
  - The Leicester and Leicestershire Rail Strategy
  - The Asset Management Policy and Strategy, and Highways Infrastructure Asset Management Plan
  - Passenger Transport Policy and Strategy

In regard to supporting people to travel more sustainably and actively, assisting in efforts in meeting our climate and public health challenges, as well as responding to covid-19 impacts, a Cycling and Walking Strategy (CaWS) for Leicestershire is currently in development. This will incorporate the latest government guidance and vision, forming the key part of the policy and strategy that underpins cycling and walking in the current and future LTP.

Officers have begun initial work to scope out what the Authority's LTP4 might look like. Once this has been established, a programme for its development will be prepared."

### **Supplementary questions from MR HUNT**

- "1. Emergency programmes of work are often more expensive than those planned in advance. Are you suggesting that your Tranche 2 bid of £2.5m is not good value for money or done on the cheap?
2. You say you expect developers to follow the Design Note in preparing their development proposals but also say such proposals would be unreasonable in certain circumstances. Under what circumstances are the new Design Note likely to be unreasonable and would it not be wise to obtain high level clarification of what measures would be reasonable or unreasonable first thus

avoiding developers exploiting this loophole claiming unreasonableness at every turn?

3. Given your pessimistic view of the chances of cost-effective schemes for segregating cycles and pedestrians from motor traffic on existing highways, how can we increase active travel when pedestrians fear cyclists and cyclists fear motor traffic (leaving aside the delights of electric scooters!)?
5. In your recent 'Strategic Transport Priorities 2020-2050' publishing the County LTP4 was a short-term priority, presumably because you take a joined up strategic approach to developing transport across the County. However, you begin your answer by saying:

“It was originally envisaged that the approach to replacing LTP3 would be via a single, overall, wholesale review process. In practice, circumstances have dictated a different approach. “

But finish it by saying:

“Officers have begun initial work to scope out what the Authority’s LTP4 might look like. Once this has been established, a programme for its development will be prepared.”

What circumstances have dictated a different approach?”

### **Response to the supplementary questions by MR PENDLETON**

- “1. The Authority considers that its Tranche 2 bid meets the Emergency Active Travel Fund criteria as set out by the Government and has been developed as robustly as it could have been within the timescales available to prepare bids and therefore represents value for money. We await a response from the Department for Transport as to whether this bid has been successful and whether we have secured the funding required to secure its delivery.

The Tranche 2 bid illustrates that a substantial level of investment is required even to deliver a package of measures that is targeted towards a limited number of locations and is relatively modest in what it will deliver (at least when compared with the overall level of ambition set out in the Government’s new guidance and plan for cycling and walking).

2. Under the current planning system, the requirement for new infrastructure to support developments is determined on a case-by-case basis, based on the evidence for that site, and has to be proportion to the scale of development, its location and its impacts. Thus, what is a ‘reasonable’ requirement for one development is not necessarily the case for other developments, and in any case can only be determined according to site-specific circumstances.

This principle applies to any new cycling and walking facilities prepared in accordance with the new design guidance (i.e. Cycle Infrastructure Design Note 1/20), just as it did to cycling and walking facilities prepared in

accordance with the previous design guidance. As stated previously, we can only provide advice on this matter: the final decision as to whether a requirement to provide new cycling or walking infrastructure is 'reasonable' and should be included in the conditions/obligations attached to planning consent is a matter for the relevant Local Planning Authority.

3. Our previous response was intended to highlight the difficulties of funding new cycling and walking infrastructure in line with the Government's new guidance, given the costs involved in doing so and the broader financial challenges currently facing the Authority. Notwithstanding this, the Authority remains strongly committed to promoting active travel as a key component of the Environment and Transport Department's work and has a dedicated 'Safe and Sustainable Transport' team responsible for coordinating active travel initiatives such as the Choose How You Move brand. The Authority's recent bid submissions for the Emergency Active Travel Fund (Tranches 1 and 2) are a further demonstration of this commitment.

As stated previously, the Government's ambition for greater segregation of pedestrians and cyclists is welcomed in principle, and we will look for opportunities to upgrade facilities accordingly through future improvement schemes and maintenance programmes. That said, the new guidance recognises that shared-use facilities should remain an appropriate option in certain circumstances and not be precluded altogether, including in situations where shared-use facilities are the only feasible option to achieve a continuous cycle route.

5. As highlighted in our previous response, we have moved towards a more segmented approach involving the development of topic or area specific policies, strategies and plans that have gradually superseded LTP3. This approach has been driven by the need to respond to emerging pressures, including changes in Government Policy or Guidance (as in the case of the Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan) and financial/budget pressures (as in the case of the Passenger Transport Policy and Strategy). Conversely, had we sought to develop these topic and area specific policies, strategies and plans as part of a comprehensive review of the LTP, it would not have been possible to respond to these pressures in a timely fashion due to the additional complexity and resources this would have involved. By extension, a segmented approach will provide greater flexibility to undertake focussed policy reviews and updates (as necessary) in future."

**(C) Question by MR BRAY**

"Will the Leader update me on progress and give me a revised timescale for the works in Hinckley town centre, including the improvements to the Hawley Road Rugby road junction and the proposed residents parking scheme?"

**Reply by MR PENDLETON**

“The scheme was due to commence this summer but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the delivery of the Rugby Road and Hinckley Town Centre Improvement schemes had to be postponed so that resources could be prioritised and focused on delivering critical services across the County.

As services across the Environment and Transport Department have started to resume, officers have reviewed the works programme and the improvement works at the Rugby Road/Hawley Road and Brookside junctions are now planned to start in the Spring of 2021, with the works intended to be completed before Christmas.

There has been ongoing work to finalise the necessary elements to ensure the scheme runs smoothly, including purchasing the land required and developing robust traffic management plans.

A formal consultation on the residents parking scheme will start from 30<sup>th</sup> September. Letter drops will go out to all residents directly affected, explaining the changes and providing them opportunity to comment or officially object to the scheme. Further information regarding the residents parking scheme was provided to Mr Bray in advance of this consultation as part of the statutory process.

Members will receive details of the traffic management plan and an outline of the works programme once this has been finalised.

An update will also be posted on the ‘Rugby Road and Town Centre Improvement scheme’ webpage, which contains the plans for this scheme.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/road-safety/rugby-road-and-hinckley-town-centre-improvement-scheme>”

**No Supplementary question from MR BRAY****(D) Question by MR WELSH**

“Residents have posting comments on social media sites suggesting that the County Council have been directing recyclables to landfill. Can the Leader please explain if this is the case?

If the posts are correct can I further ask why the County Council is doing this and secondly when can we re-establish the normal waste streams for this waste?”

**Reply by MR PENDLETON**

“We have not been specifically directing any recyclable items to general landfill.

Prior to the Covid 19 pandemic, all the County Council’s Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS) separately collected ‘glass’ and ‘plastic bottles, tubs and trays’,

'paper', 'scrap metal' and cardboard items and sent them to the appropriate recycling or treatment facilities.

All the RHWSs have now re-opened following the full closure of the service due to the Covid 19 pandemic. All sites operate on an appointment basis only and some sites have not been able to offer the full range of recycling services. This was done in order to:

- ensure that social distancing can be observed, and the necessary cleaning regimes undertaken through limiting the number of users on site at any one time;
- control the peaks and troughs associated with the use of the sites and thereby prevent queuing and any associated traffic management issues;
- prevent unplanned site closures for residents using the sites;
- prioritise the use of the sites for Leicestershire residents, by restricting access to those that live outside of the county boundaries; and,
- provide an ever-evolving sustainable service.

Whilst we initially could not offer recycling for all items, where a resident brought such items to site, we did not prevent residents from putting them in the general waste bin where this was possible. Residents had the option as to whether to place the item in the general waste at the RHWS, place it in their kerbside recycling or hold onto it until recycling options were available again at the RHWSs. It should also be noted that the waste received from the kerbside recycling collections, operated by the district councils, continued to be directed to the appropriate recycling or treatment facilities.

As from the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, it is expected that the availability of recycling facilities at the Council's sites will have reverted to the same position as prior to the sites closing. Unfortunately, the exception to this is the "re use" service, where items such as furniture could be put back into use; this service remains unavailable. The appointment system however will remain in place in order to manage the risks associated with the pandemic. The Council's website is kept up to date with items the RHWSs can accept for recycling and other relevant information."

### **No Supplementary question from MR WELSH**

#### **(E) Question by DR EYNON**

"There is a realistic prospect that, when the EU Exit transition period ends on the 31st December 2020, the United Kingdom will have no trade deal with the European Union. Leaving the transition period, with or without a deal, will affect the way goods are traded in and out of East Midlands Airport. For either scenario:

- What is the likely impact on the roads in Leicestershire?
- How can this be mitigated?
- Will extra provision be required for lorry parks?
- If so, how will these be planned for?

- What are the current estimated costs of mitigation, both one-off and recurrent?”

### **Reply by MR RUSHTON**

- “1. The Local Resilience Forum for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LRF) has updated the Strategic Risk Assessment for the EU Exit taking into consideration the end of the transition period. The risk of East Midlands Airport (EMA) freight disruption to the road transport network within 5 miles of the airport has been reduced from a Red Risk to an Amber Risk.
2. North West Leicestershire District Council, the County Council, Highways England, Leicestershire Police and EMA are continuing engagement with national groups and local operators to develop planning assumptions and contingency plans. The LRF transport cell is being reconvened to review the traffic management plan for the EMA site and the surrounding areas.
3. EMA, and the freight operators at EMA each have their own contingency plans for dealing with disruption. Some of those freight operators increased their resilience for parking and storing lorries off site from EMA during the EU Exit planning last year. Any further additional provision will be considered as part of the ongoing engagement with local operators.

The Government also recently announced a Special Development Order coming into force from 24<sup>th</sup> September giving it powers to construct a transport hub for the purposes of handling and processing goods vehicles associated with international gateways. Since that announcement, the Government has written advising that it is not looking to pursue the provision of such a transport hub in Leicestershire.

4. As detailed above, the plans are still in development, therefore the cost of any support traffic management is also still being developed. Previously, the estimated cost of delivering the support traffic management for that area in January 2020 was £1.64 million\* (\*estimate based on having Traffic Management resources on standby for a 6-month monitoring period with an allowance of 6 weeks actual traffic management in place. However, the actual duration of any potential disruption is unknown).”

### **Supplementary question from DR EYNON**

“I thank the Leader for his answer and would like to ask:

How will these measures be funded and what guarantee does this authority have that costs accrued locally will be reimbursed by central Government?”

### **Reply to the supplementary by MR RUSHTON**

“As it stands, the financial position is unclear. But we will be lobbying hard to ensure that all costs incurred locally are reimbursed from central Government.”

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – TO RECEIVE POSITION STATEMENTS  
FROM MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

(Note: Standing Order 8 provides as follows:-

- (a) A position statement may give rise to an informal discussion by the Council.
- (b) At the conclusion of the discussion a formal motion may be moved to the effect that a particular issue relevant to the statement be referred to the Cabinet, the Commission, a Board or a Committee for consideration. This shall be moved and seconded formally and put without discussion. No other motion or amendment may be moved.
- (c) The discussion of any position statement shall not exceed 20 minutes but the Chairman may permit an extension to this period.)

**LEADER**

The Leader will make his statement.

**LEAD MEMBER FOR HEALTH**

The Lead Member will make his statement.

**LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES**

The Lead member will make her statement.

The Chairman will invite the Leaders of the Opposition parties (Mr Galton and Dr Eynon) to speak before inviting other members.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6  
REPORTS OF THE CABINET**

Principal Speakers:-

Mover of motion (as appropriate)  
Leader of the Opposition (Mr S J Galton)

- (A) Medium Term Financial Strategy – Latest Position  
(Pages 23 to 56)

**MR RHODES** will move and **MR SHEPHERD** will second:

- “a) That the latest position of the 2020/21 revenue budget and capital programme as at the end of July 2020 and the effect of Covid-19 be noted;
- b) That the approach to updating the MTFs including actions being taken to mitigate the overspend, be noted.”

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**  
**REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

Principal Speakers:-

Chairman (Mr N J Rushton)

Liberal Democrat Spokesman (Mr S Galton)

Labour Spokesperson (Dr T Eynon)

- (A) Appointment of Independent Persons  
(Pages 57 to 62)

**MR RHODES** will move and **MRS M WRIGHT** will second:

- “a) That Mr R Gough, Mr G Grimes, Ms T Herring, Mrs H Kotecha, Prof. S Sharma and Ms P Roberts, be appointed to serve as Independent Persons for a term of four years ending on 30 September 2024;
- b) That this Council’s appreciation be conveyed to the outgoing Independent Persons in supporting the Authority to uphold standards with elected members and senior chief officers.”

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – NOTICES OF MOTION**

- (A) **Sky Lanterns and Helium Balloons – Mr J Orson JP CC**

**MR ORSON**, with the consent of the seconder of the motion, will seek the approval of the Council to move the following altered motion:-

**MR ORSON** will move and **MRS RICHARDSON** will second:-

“Sky Lanterns, also referred to as Chinese lanterns, are essentially small hot air balloons made of paper with an opening at the bottom where a small fire is suspended. The lanterns can be released into the air once lit until they burn out. A Defra report concluded that the main concern regarding sky lanterns was in relation to causing fire, as there have been several significant fires nationally which have been attributed to their use. In respect of helium balloons the report also raised concerns in relation to the ingestion of such balloons by animals.

The Fire Service, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) and many other organisations including the Marine Conservation Society, Women’s Food and Farming Union (WFU), Soil Association and National Farmers Union (NFU) all support a ban on sky lanterns and helium balloons.

This motion therefore calls on the Council:-



- a) Refuse permissions for the release of any sky lanterns and helium balloons from any Council owned land regardless of the purpose for the release;
- b) Refuse the sale of any sky lanterns and helium balloons at any Council event or property;
- c) Require officers to introduce a condition of contract relating to outdoor events and organised functions on land or property owned and/or controlled by the County Council to prohibit the release of any sky lantern or helium balloons regardless of purpose.
- d) To provide information on its website and write to the Association of Parish Councils drawing attention to the harmful effects of sky lanterns and helium balloons on the environment and animals;
- e) To write to the Secretary of State (DEFRA) requesting legislation to control the manufacture and sale of sky lanterns and helium balloons.”

[Note: For clarity, part e) of the original motion has been amended as above.]

This page is intentionally left blank

**COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 30 SEPTEMBER 2020****POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL****Devolution**

This Council has been working hard for the last two years developing plans for a unitary structure for local government in Leicestershire.

These proposals were published in the Strategic Business Case, which outlines the case for reform. It remains my intention to submit these proposals to the Secretary of State and the Cabinet at its last meeting authorised me to write to him with a view to submitting our ambitious proposals.

In early September, I held a joint meeting with the then minister for local government, Simon Clarke, with the leaders of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire County Councils, and we had an excellent discussion on the need for reform and the opportunity to deliver an elected mayor for the East Midlands, to counterbalance the West Midlands combined authority.

Despite the publication of the Devolution and Recovery white paper being delayed, I have spoken with the new minister for local government, Luke Hall MP, who has assured me that it remains the government's policy to publish the white paper and I look forward to receiving its proposals. The Minister has agreed to a follow up meeting in due course with the three county leaders and I shall keep Members updated.

Along with my fellow county leaders in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, we are all united in getting the best possible devolution deal for the East Midlands. We firmly believe this remains a once in a generation opportunity to improve local government in the region, level up the economy, drive skills, jobs, growth and investment, and ensure a strong recovery from the Covid pandemic.

**Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse**

Next month, the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse will hold its hearing into organisations' responses to allegations relating to children including those who were in the County Council's care against former Leicester MP Greville Janner.

It is timely and important that we acknowledge the experience of those who have suffered abuse and that we recognise the courage it takes to step forward and recount historic events. It is also important that their voices are heard.

From the outset, we pledged our full support to the inquiry. And since 2016, we've provided wide-ranging information to ensure that we have met the inquiry's expectations at every stage of the process.

We know that children and young people rely on us to keep them safe - and this is a priority for us. We know that there have been failures in the past - and where the County Council should have taken more action, more quickly to prevent abuse, I am sorry that this did not always happen.

Children's safeguarding locally and nationally has completely transformed since the period in question. But we remain committed to learning and to improving services to ensure that children are safe.

**N. J. Rushton CC**

**COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**  
**POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE LEAD MEMBER FOR HEALTH**

Covid-19

I would like to start by noting that the last time the Council met was on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, ten days after the first 'local lockdown' was announced in England covering Leicester City and parts of Leicestershire. It seems like a long time ago. Last week saw it being 6 months since lockdown measures were first announced. In that time Leicestershire has seen 134,000 tests completed with 4300 tests positive and Leicestershire having recorded 540 deaths.

In what has been a difficult and pressurised time, I do not want to overlook the success the Council had in leading efforts to reduce the rate of infection in the County from twice the national average, to below the national average.

In Melton we showed what can be done when we launched a campaign designed to reduce rates following a rise in cases there through testing, good local communications, engagement with the population and enforcement activity when needed. It proved very effective.

But since the start of September, as the Director of Public Health, Mike Sandys, has said in his briefings to members, that the local and national picture has deteriorated markedly with a rapid rise in cases.

At the time of writing this, Oadby & Wigston continues to have the highest rate in the County (91.1 per 100,000 population) followed by Blaby (48.8), Charnwood (48.7) and Harborough (41.1). Compared to yesterday all areas in the county, except Blaby and Harborough, have stabilised or increased their rate. The rate in Leicestershire has increased to 44.4 per 100,000 population but has remained below the national average (58.5 per 100,000 population). The national rate has continued to increase daily over the past nine days climbing from 33.2 per 100,000 population

These were the figures as of 9am today and they will soon be out of date. That is how quickly we are moving. We know what we have to do. We know it is asking a lot to continue to ask our residents, many of whom do abide by the rules, to continue to do so for some time to come. But the virus is not going away, and we cannot drop our guard.

With the current testing programme under strain. now, more than ever, we need to recognise that this is something that affects the whole of our County. Whatever people may think of the Government, the guidance and statutory regulations, it is up to the people of Leicestershire to do the right thing and get this done.

As Mike has said throughout his numerous TV and Radio appearances and media releases for which we are all very thankful for the way he has represented our Council, we are doing everything we can to stem the rise and we are urging residents to play their part. By doing so, you are protecting yourselves, your loved ones and your livelihoods.

By reinforcing the following messages, we can all play our part:

- If you have a high temperature, a new continuous cough or loss of smell/taste, book a test.
- Wash your hands regularly.
- Keep two metres away from others.
- Wear a face covering as per the guidelines including public transport, unless you have a good reason.
- Do not meet up with family or friends you don't live with – inside or outside.
- If you're contacted by test and trace, you must isolate for 14 days.

On top of all of the Covid 19 work, the Public Health team have continued to offer support in all of their defined work areas including Mental Health, Weight Management, Warm Homes, Winter Flu, Domestic Violence, Supporting the O&W health inequality work – Well Fest, as well as the key link work with Adult Social Care and Children & Family Services. I would also say thank you for the work the team did during World Suicide Prevention week under the Start a Conversation banner.

The work of this Council has continued, even with all that this pandemic has thrown at us and it is a tribute to Mike Sandys and his team in guiding us all safely through it this far. The Management team for Public Health consisting of Adrian, Kath, Fiona, Liz, Joshna, Claire and Kelly, who have delivered all of this, should be thanked. The Public Health administration team of Beth, Manveer and Lewis have dealt with directing so many queries and FOI's. I would like to give a special mention for Natalie who has delivered our data reports and Natasha for running our local contact tracing service. Finally, a mention for the media team including Jo and Katie who have been invaluable making sure that we get key messages out in time and on time.

I know we are not out of the woods yet, some may call it a forest. But we all need to remain focused on following the expert advice that we get based on the evidence. Together we can support all of our residents in getting them the support they may need and once again enjoy the health and wellbeing that we all have come to expect and deserve.

Remember we really do all own this and have our part to play.

As the Prime Minister said in his latest address to the nation “ ... we must rely on our willingness to look out for each other, and to protect each other. Never in our history has our collective destiny and our collective **health** depended so completely on our individual behaviour. If we follow these simple rules together, we will get through this winter together. There are unquestionably difficult months to come. And the fight against Covid is by no means over...”

**Mr L. Breckon**

**COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2020****POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE LEAD MEMBER FOR EQUALITIES,  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RURAL PARTNERSHIPS**

I am delighted to take this opportunity to provide an overview of the work the Council carried out to support Leicestershire Communities over the past financial year. The county council has once again played an active part in supporting and strengthening the communities of Leicestershire. Together we have achieved a lot.

The prime focus of my portfolio is to create thriving Leicestershire Communities where people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities participate and help each other. This vision provides a foundation for how we want to work with communities now and in the future.

We have a lot to be proud of in Leicestershire and the [Annual Report](#) highlights how the council and community groups are working hard to utilise the commitment, talent and skills of people in our communities to achieve change for the better.

At the very end of the period covered by the Annual Report, we were faced with the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst this has presented us with numerous challenges, I can proudly say that the response in Leicestershire has been incredible and has demonstrated the resilience of our communities, in tackling one of the most difficult periods in our history. I am truly heartened by the willingness of people to volunteer to help others and provide support to their neighbours, particularly those who are most vulnerable.

I would urge all Members, in your capacity as Community Leaders and Champions, to look at the initiatives and projects highlighted in the Annual Report. I am sure they will provide inspiration for our continuing efforts to build and sustain communities in Leicestershire that are strong, resilient, happy and healthy.

Brief highlights of some of schemes and activities carried out are summarised below.

**Mrs Louise Richardson CC**

**The Leicestershire County Council Communities Fund**

At the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic Leicestershire County Council recognised the need to provide urgent financial support to small voluntary and community groups. The Council set up a £1million Community Fund which was then increased by a further £0.5m to due unprecedented demand. 160 groups were

awarded grants to maintain services to vulnerable residents and to respond to the pandemic. More recently an additional £100,000 was made available to support community organisations in the areas of the County affected by the extended lockdown and a further 62 applications were awarded funding.

#### Leicestershire Communities website

The Leicestershire Communities [website](#) provides a range of useful information to help support, promote and facilitate social action in communities. It provides details about grants and funding, Neighbourhood Planning and Community Managed Libraries, the county Youth Council and many other initiatives. Use of the site continues to grow and it has been particularly useful for enabling the provision of information and the submission of applications and monitoring returns for both SHIRE Grants and the Communities Fund.

#### The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Resilience Partnership

The Resilience Partnership Team carries out a wide range of projects – for individual authorities, for authorities collectively and by representing local authorities across the multi-agency LLR Prepared Forum. During 2019/20 the Partnership has had key roles to play in the response to several severe flood events, planning for the potential implications of a No-Deal EU Exit and the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff from the Communities, Policy and Resilience service have been central to supporting delivery of the Resilience Forum response.

#### Volunteering

Volunteering is an underpinning theme of the Communities Strategy that continues to be promoted and supported by the Communities Team. Internally the Volunteer Managers Network has helped to co-ordinate and promote new practices and policies to managers, offer a peer support platform and provide the opportunity to share best practice and guidance. In the community all aspects of volunteering are supported, from encouraging social action and good neighbourliness through to providing training as a formal volunteer. During Covid 19 volunteering has been critical to supporting vulnerable people, and staff have worked closely with Voluntary Action Leicestershire and other Resilience Forum partners to mobilise and co-ordinate the voluntary response.

#### The Leicestershire Rural Partnership (LRP)

The LRP is an established and successful partnership which brings together public, private and voluntary stakeholders to improve services and support rural communities and businesses. During 2019/20 the Partnership continued to champion issues relevant to rural communities including through support for Neighbourhood Plans and the Rural Housing Enabler project which is increasing the supply of affordable housing in rural areas, supporting access to rural employment through the Work.Live.Leicestershire (WiLL) project and enabling access to superfast broadband in rural Leicestershire.



### Green Plaques

So far, 27 Green Plaques have been unveiled across Leicestershire. Individuals, societies, organisations and schools have all taken part in nominating people and places they feel deserve recognition. Among the people honoured in 2019 and 2020 are members of the Suffragette movement, an astronomer and a WWI poet. Each represents a forceful demonstration of how an individual or group can realise their dreams or ambitions, which can prove inspirational, especially to young people.

This page is intentionally left blank