

Cabinet

23rd March 2021

ITEM 5: A511 Growth Corridor Proposals – Bardon Link Road

Comment from Local Member for Coalville North, Cllr Terri Eynon

I support the intention to consult on and submit a planning application in respect of the route of the extension of the Bardon Link Road, locally known as the ‘punch-through’.

The decision that future highways improvement work in the area would be focused on the A511 was taken after significant opposition to making any changes to Hugglescote Cross Roads. As noted in the paper, during the consultation in October 2019, residents agreed with the need for improvement on the A511 corridor ‘but would like the proposals to go further’. I would suggest they would also like them to take place faster.

Six years since that first decision, residents remain concerned that HGVs are still using Grange Road as a short cut, missing out all the islands on the A511, going through Hugglescote Cross Roads and then continuing on the residential 7.5 ton restricted Ashburton Road.

Covid-19 does not appear to have significantly delayed the development of new housing off Grange Road. It is disappointing that the Government has delayed their decision on the funding for the A511 scheme, putting essential infrastructure last rather than, as residents want to see, first.

I am pleased that this Council has been prepared to forward fund part of the capital costs and that Highways officers are doing what they can to push the scheme through. I look forward to supporting the consultation in May/June.

The link road and punch-through will, eventually, provide much needed relief for residents in Hugglescote and Bardon.

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