



Project update

Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) and the Environment Agency (EA) continue to progress the A120 Little Hadham Bypass and Flood Alleviation scheme.

Getting the land for the scheme, and a potential public inquiry

Since the publication of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and Side Roads Order (SRO) for the land required to build the bypass, and to allow alterations to surrounding roads and public rights of way, the Department of Transport (DfT) has set out their intention to hold a Public Inquiry into these orders. The date for the Inquiry has been set for 17 July 2018, beginning at 10.00am, at Little Hadham Parish village hall. Following the withdrawal of the last remaining objection to the EA CPO the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has notified the EA that a Public Inquiry for the EA CPO is no longer needed. HCC continues to work with the two remaining objectors to overcome their concerns. Copies of the Order and plans, and any proof of evidence, sent to or by HCC, are available for inspection at the offices of East Hertfordshire District Council, Bishop's Stortford, from 26 June.

Planning conditions

The project team are currently working through the conditions attached to the planning permission, granted in January 2017. Conditions associated with Hadham Park Underpass and Mill Mound Bridge have been approved and others submissions have been made in relation to proposed environmental mitigation measures. Other conditions relate to a variety of subjects associated with the design, and further submissions will be made to address conditions tied to the start of construction. Where conditions relate to construction they will be discharged by the contractor, once they are appointed.

Selecting a contractor to build the scheme

HCC has now concluded the first stage of the process to identify a suitable contractor to build the scheme. Five contractors have been notified of their successful inclusion on a shortlist. In the summer, this shortlist of contractors will be invited to tender for the construction work, and the project team has started preparations of the tender documents. Depending on the outcome of the ongoing tender and legal processes, HCC hopes to appoint a successful contractor in late 2018.

Construction

The construction of the scheme is expected to start in early 2019 and complete in 2020. Subject to landowner agreement, some early works are planned to take place towards the end of 2018, which may include environmental mitigation and utility diversion works.

More information can be found on the project's website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/a120bypass