

CABINET MEMBER DECISION

Decision:

Public Questions

(i) Details of decision

That the response, attached to this decision sheet as Annex 1, be approved.

(ii) Reasons for decision

To respond to the public question.

Decision taken by:

(i) Name: Mike Goodman

(ii) Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste Decisions

Date of Decision: 3 September 2019

Date of Publication of Record of Decision: 3 September 2019

Date decision effective (this decision cannot be called in): 3 September 2019

CABINET MEMBER DECISION

Decision:

Petitions

(i) Details of decision

That the response, attached to this decision sheet as Annex 2, be approved.

(ii) Reasons for decision

To respond to the petition.

Decision taken by:

(i) Name: Mike Goodman

(ii) Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste

Date of Decision: 3 September 2019

Date of Publication of Record of Decision: 3 September 2019

Date decision effective (this decision cannot be called in): 3 September 2019

Question submitted by Judith Kinloch:

Firstly, given that I understand the initial drawing for a refurbished bridge to provide access to Lodge Farm in Norbury Park (and to land farmed by Nick Bullen at Swanworth Farm) was refused by the DE, what is the revised timetable for an alternative plan that takes the flooding issues into account? Over two years have now elapsed since the bridges in Norbury Park were surveyed.

Secondly, when will the specification for the bridge be published?

Response:

The County Council has looked at several different options for strengthening Cowslip Bridge following discussions with our consulting engineers and the Environment Agency (EA). We are currently finalising a different outline design for the work and have asked the EA for their comments. We hope that the latest design will meet their requirements from a flood prevention point of view. Once we have secured their initial approval, a detailed design will be commissioned from our consulting engineers. We will then be able to cost out the work and look to secure funding.

We would be happy to share a copy of the detailed design when it is available.

Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste
3 September 2019

Procure a fast bus service between Surrey Heath and London Heathrow Airport:

Many Surrey Heath residents work and/or fly from London Heathrow Airport (LHR). We have no direct rail or bus links to LHR. The pressure on politicians to step up action against global warming and climate change has intensified recently. A fast bus service to LHR would carry passengers who otherwise must use cars or taxis. When I was a Surrey county councillor (2009-2017), I used to regularly use the X26 fast bus service (Croydon to LHR). Quite recently the operators replaced the single decker bus with a double decker. Such a service could involve buses starting from Farnborough and stopping at the Meadows, Camberley RMAS Gate, Camberley Fire Station, Bagshot, Windlesham, Sunningdale Station, Virginia Water, Egham.

Submitted by: Mr Denis Fuller

Signatures: 176

Response:

As part of Surface Access Proposals contained in the current Heathrow Expansion Consultation, Heathrow Airport Ltd. (HAL) is proposing several new or enhanced bus or coach links from Surrey. They have pledged to work with operators "to secure delivery of new routes from areas not currently well-served by public transport. Focus would be first on areas identified in the Colleague [airport staff] Travel Proposal, particularly to the south and south-west of the airport. They would also form part of our proposals to increase public transport use by airline passengers."

Already, HAL is funding a new fast bus link from Staines station to Terminal 5, seven days a week. From Terminal 5, free onward connections are available to other parts of the airport campus. This creates a connection with trains from Frimley, Camberley, Bagshot, Ascot, Sunningdale, Virginia Water and Egham. For the future, HAL is suggesting that one of the targeted corridors for a new bus or coach service direct to the airport should be the A30, including Camberley and Bagshot etc. They estimate that Surrey Heath is the domicile of 1,300 airport or airline staff and that it generates 230,000 airline passengers each year.

Such a service is unlikely to be commercially-viable for an operator, at least for the first few years. Surrey County Council's Bus Support budget is fully-committed and is likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. Priority must be given to maintaining existing local bus services within the county. However, if HAL intends a service along the A30 to contribute to a worthwhile reduction in car use, it is likely that it will need to provide pump-priming funding.

Surrey County Council endorses proposals for future new or enhanced bus or coach links to Heathrow and will include such support in its formal response to the Heathrow Expansion consultation. The Council already works in partnership with HAL through the Heathrow Transport Forum, its associated Bus & Coach Working Group and Heathrow's Bus Strategy Manager, to plan and secure better bus services to the airport from Surrey.

Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Waste
3 September 2019