

# Coventry and Warwickshire LEP DfT Large Local Majors Bid July 2016

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## Appendix 5 – Letters of Support

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Letters of support are included from:

- WMCA
- Stoneleigh Park
- Highways England
- University of Warwick
- CEG
- Crest Nicholson
- Lioncourt Strategic Land
- Coventry City Council (as operators of Westwood Business Park)

Please note that a letter of support from Jaguar Landrover is currently awaiting clearance from their management team and will be provided separately.

Andy Williams  
Senior Executive  
CWLEP  
The Old Clink  
The Holloway  
Warwick  
CV34 4SJ

Email: andy.williams@cwlep.com  
Date: 27<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Andy

### **West Midlands Local Transport Majors**

We are pleased to support the bids for Local Transport Majors funding which have been developed by Black Country LEP, Coventry & Warwickshire LEP and Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP.

The schemes being submitted for development funding are key to local, regional and national connectivity and will play a significant role locally in supporting the vision and objectives of our Strategic Economic Plan in making the West Midlands the best region in the UK to do business. Allied to this, the schemes are aligned to our Strategic Transport Plan 'Movement for Growth' which provides an overall long term transport strategy to support growth and development. The M5 Junction 1 and A46 Link Road Phase 2 schemes clearly fit within the plan's key transport priorities for the National and Regional Tier of the integrated transport system. The Bromford Gyratory scheme an important junction on the West Midlands Key Route Network and is within the plan's key transport priorities for the Metropolitan Tier of the integrated transport system.

The proposed schemes play an integral part in supporting the Midlands Engine as well as the West Midlands Combined Authority's ambition for the growth of our area.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Bob Sleight  
**WMCA Chair**



Cllr Roger Lawrence  
**WMCA Transport Portfolio Lead**

**Steve Weir**

Programme Development Manager,  
City Centre & Major Projects Development,  
Place Directorate,  
Civic Centre 4, Floor 7  
Coventry City Council  
Coventry, CV1 2PY

cc. Mr A. Hart. WCC

By email only

22 July 2016

Dear Mr Weir

**DfT Large Local Major Scheme Bid - A46 Link Road Phase 2**

Thank you for contacting me and bringing me up to date with regard to the above scheme.

As I know you are aware, the road network around Stoneleigh Park is extremely busy and seems to be operating at or beyond its design capacity. A breakdown or accident anywhere from J15 on the M40 or along the A46 or A45 can bring traffic chaos to the local distributor network as drivers find alternative routes. This seems to especially impact the A46 Stoneleigh junction which many of the occupiers at Stoneleigh Park use. Additionally, it is expected that the proposed HS2 railway scheme will add to congestion in the area during the construction phase.

Stoneleigh Park has a consented masterplan to develop the site as a science park, increasing the office and research space. As with any new and growing development scheme, good access is always a major consideration for both occupiers and investors who may be contemplating Stoneleigh Park as a location for their business. Therefore, any improvements to the A46 Stoneleigh junction and the creation of a new link road west towards Warwick University has to be welcomed and fully supported by Stoneleigh Park

Yours sincerely

*Colin Hooper*

Colin Hooper MRICS  
Stoneleigh Park Estates Director

Our ref: SHARE/WCC/A46  
Your ref:

Steve Weir  
Funding Development Officer  
Coventry City Council

Mrs Lisa Maric  
Asset Manager  
9th Floor  
The Cube  
199 Wharfside Street  
Birmingham B1 1RN

Direct Line: 0300 470 3202

Fax: 0121 678 8559

**Via email**

22 July 2016

Dear Steve

## **DfT LARGE LOCAL MAJOR SCHEME BID - A46 LINK ROAD PHASE 2**

I understand that Coventry & Warwickshire LEP is planning to submit Phase 2 of the joint Coventry and Warwickshire promoted scheme for the A46 Link Road as its bid for DfT Large Local Major Scheme funding.

I note that Phase 2 of the Link Road consists of a new road linking the A46 Stoneleigh junction with the University of Warwick, Westwood Heath and Kirby Corner. This will provide improved strategic access to the University and support its emerging revised masterplan. I am also aware that the link road will facilitate major planned residential housing growth in Warwick District and South West Coventry.

I understand that a further link (Phase 3) is envisaged, which would see the road extended towards UK Central and the HS2 interchange, via either the A45 or A452.

Highways England supports the bid, and recognises the road will build on the investment of Phase 1 (A46 Stoneleigh Junction) which is complementary to the expressway aspirations for the A46. We also recognise the potential benefit the link road will bring to the strategic road network, both in the local area and wider should Phase 3 come forward.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Lisa Maric  
Operations Directorate - Midlands  
Email: [lisa.maric@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.maric@highways.gsi.gov.uk)

cc: Adrian Hart - WCC



26 July 2016

The University of Warwick is pleased to lend its support to the bid by CWLEP for DfT Local Majors funding to develop the case for the A46 Link Road. All three phases combined represent important strategic infrastructure that will be needed to deliver sustainable growth in both jobs and residential provision over the long term for Coventry and the wider city region.

The University was established on the edge of Coventry in 1965 and has grown into one of the UK's leading universities, with an acknowledged reputation for excellence in research and teaching, for innovation, and for links with business and industry. It makes a significant contribution to the West Midlands economy (circa £520m a year), with a student population of around 25,000 supported by 5,500 staff. The University of Warwick Science Park is home to 45 companies employing 2,144 people. Warwick Arts Centre is the largest arts centre outside London and, with nearly one million visitors each year, it is the leading multi-disciplinary arts centre on a UK university campus, presenting over 1500 events, films and exhibitions each year.

The University continues to grow in line with its approved masterplan, and has a successful Travel Plan which has reduced reliance on single occupancy car journeys and resulted in a substantial growth in public transport usage over the last 7 years. It is currently on site with major developments including the National Automotive Innovation Centre (a joint venture with Jaguar Land Rover and Tata Motors), a new Teaching and Learning Building, and is about to start work on a new Sports Centre.

The proposed new Link Road is welcomed by the University for the following reasons:

1. It is a vital piece of strategic infrastructure to support the growth within the region and enhance east-west links between key economic assets, particularly to UK Central (the location of the HS2 Interchange Station and Birmingham Airport)
2. It would relieve the existing highway network including the A45 through Coventry which is a congested route affecting access to the University and would be beneficial for Kenilworth and Leamington, where many University staff and students live
3. Phase 1 would improve capacity at the A46 Stoneleigh junction which is a main route towards the University from the south and currently causing safety concerns at peak travel times as stationary traffic backs up onto the main carriageway
4. Phase 2 would provide a high capacity connection from the A46 to Westwood Heath, providing an alternative route for traffic from the Business Park, improving connectivity across campus, and providing a new entrance to the University from the south.
5. Phase 3 would enhance access to UK Central, the HS2 Interchange and the Airport which would further add to the University's international connectivity, important for its global reach

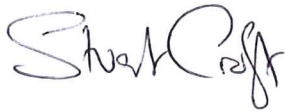
**Professor Stuart Croft**  
Vice-Chancellor and President  
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6. It also creates the potential for a Parkway station where the Coventry-Kenilworth railway crosses the new Link Road which could further support an integrated transport network including bus rapid transit, serving the University, other economic assets and residential areas around the city.

The Link Road will help to underpin the University's continued growth and success as a leading academic institution, creating new opportunities and building long term capacity.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Croft'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Stuart' and the last name 'Croft' clearly distinguishable.

**Professor Stuart Croft**  
**Vice-Chancellor and President**





Mr. Stephen Weir  
Coventry City Council  
Civic Centre 4, Floor 11  
Much Park Street  
Coventry  
CV1 2PY

By email: [Stephen.Weir@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:Stephen.Weir@coventry.gov.uk)

25<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Stephen

### **Phase 2 A46 Link Road – Large Local Majors Scheme Funding**

I write to provide evidence in support of the above proposed funding application and present commentary of how collaboration with Commercial Estates Group (CEG) would positively strengthen the case for investment for the Phase 2 of the A46 Link Road as part of the Large Local Major Scheme competitive funding proposition.

CEG recognises the regenerative benefits of infrastructural investment and in this instance of how investment to improve transport connectivity and capacity could unlock significant housing growth associated with the Westwood Heath site and wider Coventry and Warwickshire functional economic market area. Working in partnership we believe we are able to strengthen the initial Expression of Interest, referencing the requirements identified in the DCLG communication and future investment (business) case by providing supporting evidence to components of the 5 part investment case, including:

- Strong collaboration between the LEP and the local area – defining support from business and the ability to define the benefits of accelerated growth; and
- Greater level of private sector support – negotiation relating to land holdings under CEG control could support the value for money proposition of the funding bid and also help demonstrate early delivery of the Phase 2 A46 Link Road without the need for protracted statutory processes required to secure the requisite land.

Discussions with the respective local authorities to date has identified the ability to deliver 2,500 dwellings at the Westwood Heath site, which preliminary appraisal predicts would deliver significant wider economic benefits. The use of employment statistics from a range of industry sources and salary statistics from ONS predict the delivery of housing at the Westwood Heath site would generate in excess of 10,500 FTE (direct and indirect) jobs and in excess of £340m to the regional economy. Funding secured through the competitive Large Local Major Scheme programme would accelerate the delivery of housing at the Westwood Heath site, contributing to the revised (Coventry and Warwick District) housing targets and significantly enhance the local economy.





We therefore present our support to the Phase 2 of the A46 Link Road and look to work collaboratively to enhance the case for investment as part of this initial EoI and future development of the supporting business case.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.J. Burke'.

**Richard J. Burke**

Regional Head of Strategic Development - Midlands

**CEG**

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Programme Development Manager  
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25<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Stephen,

**RE: COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE A46 LINK ROAD (PHASE 2) – DFT BID FOR  
LARGE LOCAL MAJOR SCHEME FUNDING**

Further to our recent discussions relating to Crest Nicholson's promotion of a residential development scheme to the south of Westwood Heath Road, Burton Green, we are pleased to offer a letter of support to the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP for Phase 2 of the Coventry and Warwickshire A46 Link Road bid to the Department for Transport (DfT).

As we have previously discussed our site has been identified for 425 dwellings in the Warwick District Council emerging Local Plan. There is agreement between all parties that the quantum of development identified for our site in the emerging Local Plan is not reliant on the delivery of the A46 link road to come forward.

Notwithstanding this, there are expected benefits that the Phase 2 scheme (which will route from the Phase 1 junction works from the A46/Stoneleigh Road junction through to the University of Warwick campus, to the east of our site) which will provide improved strategic access to the University and support its emerging revised masterplan. You have explained that the Phase 2 route will also facilitate major planned residential housing growth along this route in the Warwick District and South West Coventry.

We understand that the Phase 2 route will have no direct effect on our scheme boundary, but has the potential to offer connectivity benefits for pedestrian, cycle and vehicular traffic from our site eastwards around the university campus and towards the A46. Any improvement to accessibility in this location are supported, in particular opportunities to improve sustainable access in this location.

From our discussions we are also aware that Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council are considering the alignment of the Phase 3 link (from Phase 2 west to the A45). You have previously explained that Phase 3 would see the road extended towards UK Central and the HS2 interchange via either the A45 or A452.

Whilst we understand that no preferred alignment for Phase 3 has been agreed, we look forward to continuing our discussions to ensure that if Phase 3 were to proceed

an acceptable route supported by all parties (including the Councils, neighbourhood groups and developers) is promoted for delivery.

We trust this letter is useful to the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP in the promotion of the Phase 2 Link Road Bid to the DfT, and look forward to hearing how the submission proceeds.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. A. King', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Director

SK Transport Planning Ltd (on behalf of Crest Nicholson)

# LIONCOURT STRATEGIC LAND

By email only

Adrian Hart, Team Leader – Strategic Transport Policies and Projects  
Advisor to Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Transport and  
Infrastructure Business Group  
Highways and Transport  
Communities  
Warwickshire County Council

19/07/2016

Dear Mr Hart,

**RE: Letter of Support for Phase 2 of the A46 Link Road**

Lioncourt Strategic Land Limited is a privately owned land trading company based in Worcestershire. The main focus of the business is delivering consented residential schemes to the open market. Lioncourt is currently promoting a scheme to deliver circa 4,000 dwellings at the Kings Hill site in Warwickshire.

Lioncourt and our team of appointed consultants is currently engaged with key stakeholders including the local highway authorities. Through these discussions we understand that Phase 1 of the A46 Link Road involving a major upgrade of the A46 / Stoneleigh Road junction is scheduled for completion in 2019. Phase 2 of the scheme involves a new road linking the A46 with the University of Warwick, Westwood Heath and Kirby Corner. A further link, Phase 3, is planned which would see the road extended towards UK Central and the HS2 Interchange via either the A45 or A452.

This scheme will improve east-west connections in this area and will support growth in jobs and housing in South Coventry, Kenilworth and Rugby. It will improve network resilience and relieve baseline and future stress on the A45 through Coventry and the A452 through Kenilworth. Phase 3 of the scheme will mean future residents of the Kings Hill development are within a circa fifteen-minute drive time of Hs2 and UK Central and have improved connectivity to the Birmingham and Solihull areas.

**LIONCOURT STRATEGIC LAND**

Lioncourt House, 3 Apex Park, Wainwright Road, Warndon, Worcestershire, WR4 9FN

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Registered No. 5733989. Registered address as above.

Lioncourt welcomes improvements to highway infrastructure, supports the delivery of this scheme and furthermore would welcome the construction of Phase 3.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'A. Faizey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andy Faizey  
Strategic Land Director

CC Steve Weir, Coventry City Council  
Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership



Andy Williams  
CWLEP

Civic Centre 4,  
Much Park St,  
Coventry,  
CV1 2PY

**Please contact Nigel Clews**  
[nigel.clews@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.clews@coventry.gov.uk)

25 July 2016

Dear Andy

**Re: A46 Link Road Proposal and Westwood Business Park**

Thank you for providing me with information about CWLEP's bid to Department for Transport to secure funding for a new A46 Link Road.

As you know, Coventry City Council owns and operates Westwood Business Park, which is on the south-western edge of the city, immediately north of the proposed route of the link road, and consists of approximately 800,000 square feet of business space which is home to over 50 businesses.

Currently, getting on and off the business park at peak times can be difficult due to traffic backing up onto the Westwood Heath Road. I am therefore very pleased to hear about the proposal for the link road to provide a new entrance to Westwood Business Park, as well as serving other important sites in the area.

When the scheme's options have been developed sufficiently, I will arrange for details to be provided to the Business Park Committee so that they can brief their members about the plans. In the meantime, I am happy to provide the Council's support your bid as manager of Westwood Business Park.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Clews  
**Assistant Director Property Asset Management**