

Meeting with DfT - 13 October 2015

South Wye Transport Package

Hereford Relief Road

South Wye Transport Package (SWTP)

- The scheme is crucial for the long term vision for growth in Herefordshire and is a key part of the infrastructure requirements set out in the Council's Core Strategy, the Marches LEP Strategic Economic Plan and National Growth Agenda.
- The aim of the SWTP is to promote economic growth within Hereford while tackling specific problems in the South Wye area.
- It enables access to the Hereford Enterprise Zone by means of a new road.
- New road and active travel measures will reduce congestion and delay, reduce traffic noise and accidents in the South Wye area as well as encouraging physical activity. The scheme is consistent with the objectives of the Council's Local Transport Plan.

Southern Link Road- Scheme Update

- Planning Application Submitted – May 2015
- Planning Determination – Scheduled November 2015 (following adoption of Core Strategy)
- Complete Detailed Design - late Winter / early Spring 2016
- CPO / SRO Process - Spring 2016
- Construction Commences - late 2016 / early 2017
- Construction Complete - end 2017 / early 2018

SWTP Business Case – Timescales for submission

- Economic Case - Appraisal Specification Report (ASR), Local Model Validation Report (LMVR) – **Submitted**
- DfT consideration of the ASR and LMVR – **Oct 2015;**
- Commercial Case – **Early Nov 2015;**
- Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (Management Case) – **Early Nov 2015;**
- Management Case – **January 2016;**
- Completed OBC including all five cases – **Spring 2016;** and
- Completed FBC – **Autumn 2016.**

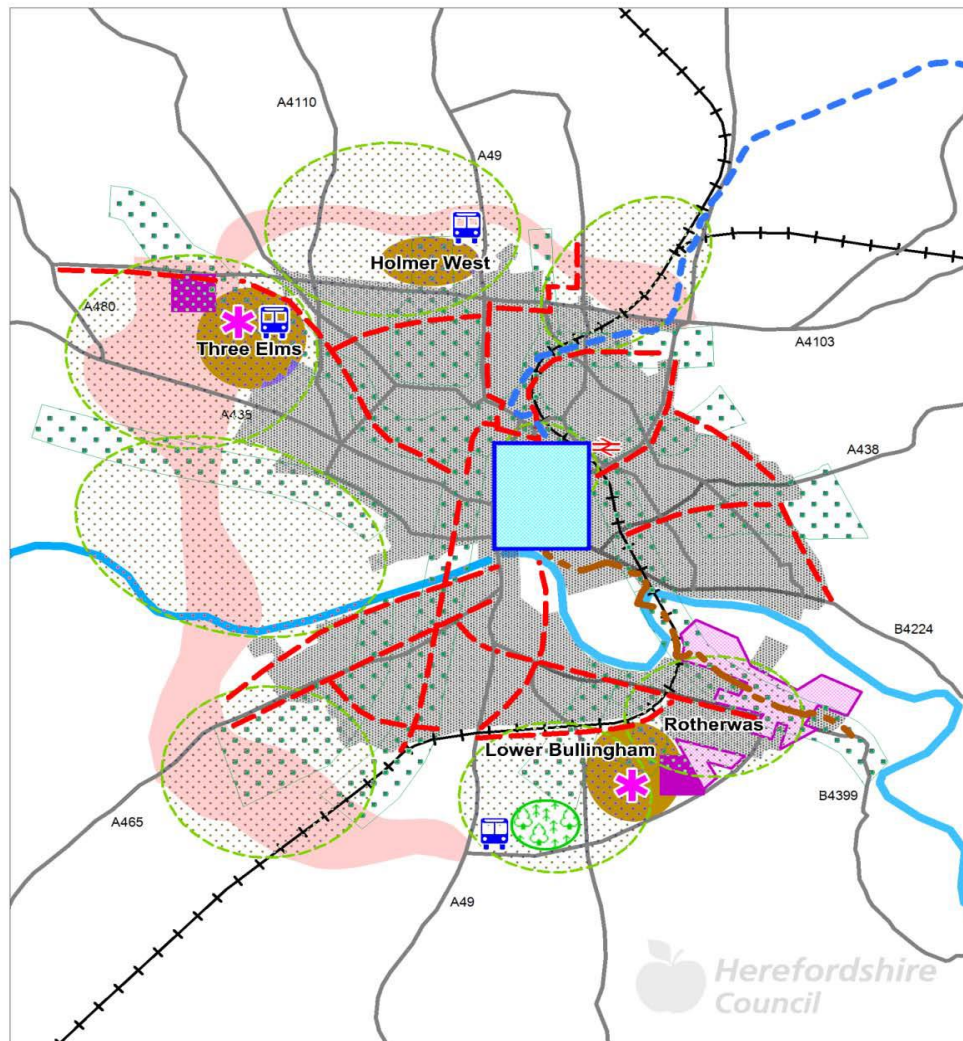
DfT guidance note on “Growth Deal Large Transport Project Portfolio (aka “retained” schemes)”

Key Points/Clarifications

- Role of Marches LTB Independent Technical Evaluator- HC is working with LEP to commission independent scrutiny of the Economic Case by Marches LTB ITE;
- Quarterly Progress Reporting – Timescales and Formats?;
- Funding Arrangements:
 - Can HC start to drawdown funding towards the scheme development costs currently being incurred?

Hereford Relief Road (HRR)

- HRR is a major scheme in terms of engineering complexity and cost - approx.13km of carriageway (including SLR) with an estimated scheme cost of £160m.
- HRR will link from the A465 end of SLR to the A49 north of Hereford to the West of the City.
- Completion of the scheme would provide an alternative high quality route to the existing A49 trunk road that runs through the city centre.



Hereford Key Diagram



Hereford Relief Road (HRR) – An Infrastructure Project of National Significance.

Economic Growth

- HRR is crucial to the growth of Hereford and will enable significant levels of growth in employment and housing which will contribute to the long term growth agenda for the Marches LEP area and the National Growth agenda.
- The scheme is the key infrastructure project set out in the Council's Core Strategy. It will provide access to new development areas and enable even more city centre development,
- HRR supports the delivery of the Marches Enterprise Zone – Skylon Park in Hereford.

Hereford Relief Road (HRR) – An Infrastructure Project of National Significance.

Connecting Regional Economies

- An improved route connecting economies of North and South Wales and the North West.
- Supports aims of Midlands Connects to improve access for the Marches economy to markets in the Midlands and beyond.
- Potential to provide relief to the congested M5 / M6 corridor.
- Part of the strategic trunk road network providing an improved A49 route south to north of Hereford.

Discussion Points:

LEP View of National Significance of HRR

Highways England View of National Significance of HRR

DfT Comments / Advice