

DECISION RECORD ¹

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

Subject: Acquisition of Land interests necessary for the delivery of the A602 Improvements
(Please use the same title as provided in the Forward Plan)

Staff Contact: David Burt

Executive Member: Ralph Sangster

Tel: 01992 658177

Portfolio: Resources and Performance

1. Decision

That the County Council enter into a conditional Contract in respect of land required for the A602 improvements (Stevenage to/from Ware)

2. Reasons for the decision

To secure the land interests necessary for delivery of the A602 Improvements (Stevenage to/from Ware) on the section between Watton at Stone to Tonwell.

3. Alternative options considered and rejected ²

Consideration has been given to the acquisition of land required for the A602 improvements (Stevenage to/from Ware) through a Compulsory Purchase Order. The publication of a Compulsory Purchase may have raised objections which could have led to a Public Inquiry. This may have a cost and programme implication for the scheme

The County Council entered into negotiations with the landowners to try and secure the land by agreement (as all the land is held within one family's interest) and reached agreed terms in November 2018 for all the need needed to deliver the project. A Property Transaction Report (Reference CS/AM/4637 dated 15 January 2019) setting out a recommendation to agree the terms and enter into a Conditional Contract

Respective legal teams have been appointed to prepare a Conditional Contract for the land acquisition. The contract would be conditional on the confirmation of the Side Roads Order and the letting of a construction contract

4. Consultation

(a) Comments of Executive Member ^{3 4}

No comments provided

(b) Comments of other consultees ⁵

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The Executive Member for Highways was consulted in relation to the accompanying Side Roads Order needed for the delivery of the scheme. Copy of the Consultation and Decision Record of decision to make a Side Roads Order in respect of highways affected by the A602 improvements (Stevenage to/from Ware) appended.

A statement of consultation was submitted as part of the planning application process. Refer to Planning Applications 3/1737-17 and 3/1770-17 considered at the Development Control Committee on 25 January 2018

5. Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.

Signed:

Title: Date:

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- All consultees
- Chairman, and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Hard & electronic copy available for public inspection both at County Hall and on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk Democratic Services - Room 213 County Hall. democratic.services@hertfordshire.gov.uk

¹ for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

² details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

³ record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. If an Executive Member declares a conflict of interest DO NOT PROCEED without seeking advice from the Chief Legal Officer

⁴ If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted

⁵ If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.