1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide update on the SMART M4 scheme and consider further mitigation requests on the PRoW network in Slough.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

The scheme is currently in development phase, Development Consent Order process at examination stage until March 2nd 2016. The Examiner has then 3 months to make her recommendation and the SoS then has 3 months to approve or reject the application. So the Development Consent Order approval could be in late 2016.

It is proposed that construction of bridges will begin in Sept 2017 – July 2020 with the M4 Jct 3-8 proposed mid-2019, open to traffic late 2021.

Bridges in Slough

Oldway Lane Overbridge

(Mercian Recreation Ground to BR9 to Jubilee River)

On-line option so no permanent diversion is required. This is the only vehicular access to this bridleway for maintenance purposes, may need compensation if route is obstructed due to long closure and no maintenance has been possible. Proposed replacement bridge to be lightweight truss bridleway structure vehicle load limit 18 tonnes. There will be lockable bollards at either end of bridge. Consultants will supply details of where the same design has been used in Surrey.

Wood Lane Overbridge

Off-line option, so a permanent diversion of the public bridleway is required. This will be the diversion route for the closure of Oldway Lane

Datchet Road

(affecting FP78 The Myrke)

Offline option – FP78 will be extended to link to the new bridge.

Recreation Ground Overbridge

(FP leading to Upton Court Park – Slough Linear Park)

On-line works, so there will be a closure

Junction 5 subway (FP9)

No change to width of the subway only that the structure will be extended at both ends. Request made for new lighting in the existing tunnel.

Old Slade Lane Overbridge

(Iver to Colnbrook, part of Colne Valley Trail).

New bridge to be constructed online, 12 month closure – no realistic diversion possible, though Bucks CC row Officer is going to ask for an off road cycle path along North Park between Sutton Lane and Old Slade Lane.

3. Further Mitigation?

Bucks CC Row Officer and Colne Valley Park have become aware from the Inspector's comments at the public inquiry that HE have not done enough in terms of mitigation for Rights of Way due to the long closures and disruption to the PRoW network and negative impacts on the environment.

Bucks CC asked the Chairman of the Iver & District Countryside Association, to report on ideas about potential improvements to Iver ROWs if the Old Slade Lane bridge is inaccessible because of the M4 widening. This report is detailed in the LAF papers and relates to the numbered photos and map printed below.

In terms of Slough ROW on the south side of the Old Slade Lane Bridge, JW will explore further mitigation and the potential for a new ROW between C-D and will forward details to the PINS Case Officer.

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM REPORT – 16th DECEMBER 2015 – AGENDA ITEM 5 SMART MOTORWAY





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