

Scrutiny Areas of Focus following Call In request relating to the A62 to Cooper Bridge Improvement Scheme report which was considered by Cabinet on the 12th of October 2021 *(Updated)

Following consideration of the call in request form, the following areas have been validated as the focus of the call in review meeting [2 November 2021].

Decision making principle	Area of focus
1. Relevant considerations	<p><i>A number of technical questions were asked at Cabinet , following the staff presentation at the start of the meeting and no answers were given meaning that Cabinet were taking a decision without assessment of all the facts</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No data on traffic growth including on Leeds Rd and Bradley Road including the effect on neighbouring roads of banning lorries on Oak Road 2. Does road widening mean going back to 3 vehicle lanes and doing away with the bus lane 3. Concern no dedicated bus lane through the junction 4. Should be compliance checklist carried out on all major schemes in conformity with LTN 120 5. Why no junction assessment tool appraisal and cycle level of service appraisal 6. Was there any input into design principles from experienced road cyclists 7. Why no information on the maintenance regime for segregated active travel 8. Were Desire Lines (of users) assessed and considered as part of the scheme design? 9. What are the detailed mitigating measures to help with the impact on longstanding businesses 10. Why have we not seen the reasons why the flyover option was discounted? 11. Where is the traffic impact assessment on the B1168 (Bob Green Lane, Lila Lane, Bellstring Lane and Grange Moor)

Public Questions unanswered:

- 1. Issues relating to volume of traffic, number of busses passing damage to parked cars and asked for clarity on potential CPO**
- 2. Road safety – Is Kirklees to provide a crossing to access the recreation ground on the opposite side of the road to houses.**

[Council has previously agreed that these works and others which affect the B6118 and subsequently Grange Moor/Flockton should have an impact assessment report, this did not and when questioned cabinet failed to respond]– see Q11

The decision by cabinet to build the major works at Cooper bridge “online” i.e. on or largely on the existing highway will have a massive impact on the locality for the period of the works yet no data is given on this , what impact there is on traffic flow at the strategic junction, no details of the impact on air quality

No reference or proof of compliance has been had with modern transport design guidance and criteria

The plan has no clear bus priority measures, other than possibly transponders when the bus is at the front of a queue, getting there being the main delay. Yet bus travel and modal shift is a key priority for kirklees and west Yorkshire with agreed targets to increase usage

List supporting evidence: Cabinet webcast and supporting agenda papers

2. Clarity	<p><i>The project does not with clarity set out objectives and the measurable outcomes it hopes to achieve, the air quality for example needs to be a holistic view of not only the potential at the end of the project but to factor in any detrimental impacts during construction, offset against the end result and how many years it is to “break even”</i></p> <p>List supporting evidence: cabinet papers and webcast</p>
3. Options	<p><i>Members in the debate said a number of alternatives had been considered but no details were presented for consideration and no reason and data on why some more effective options were not pursued</i></p> <p>List supporting evidence: Cabinet papers and webcast</p>

***Cabinet Decision: 12 October 2021**

Decision:

- 1) That approval be given in principle to the scheme.
- 2) That approval be given to accept and enter into any agreement with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority for the funding to work up the A62 to Cooper Bridge Scheme to full business case.
- 3) That approval be given to incur expenditure in the working up of the scheme if the Council’s application to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority for funding is successful.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director Growth & Regeneration to negotiate and agree the terms of any agreements that may be necessary to work up the A62 to Cooper Bridge Scheme including the funding agreement with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
- 5) That authority be delegated to the Service Director – Legal, Governance & Commissioning to enter into the grant agreement with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority for the funding of the A62 to Cooper Bridge and any other relevant agreements and documents to which the Council is party.
- 6) That authority be given for the acquisition of land in principle as part of a land assembly.
- 7) That it be noted the design team’s commitment to work with and place shape the scheme with residents and businesses.
- 8) That it be noted the land negotiations will commence subject to funding approval of the outline business case.
- 9) That it be noted that the project will return to Cabinet to secure authority to make compulsory purchase orders in relation to the scheme, where necessary.