

Our ref:
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Mr Jonathan Bore
c/o Programme Officer
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Dear Mr Bore

REQUEST FOR UPDATE FROM HIGHWAYS ENGLAND

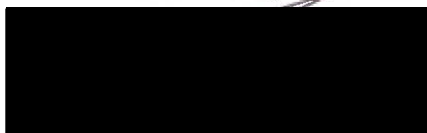
An improvement of the A3 through Guildford was included in the first Road Investment Strategy (RIS1) announced in 2015 as a scheme to be developed for potential construction during Road Period 2, subject to value for money and availability of funding. Highways England is presently undertaking feasibility studies and initial analysis and appraisal in order to assess the viability of potential options for improvement of the A3 at Guildford. There are complex challenges to address and we are currently in stage 0 (pre-project/strategy, shaping and prioritisation) of HE's Project Control Framework. This work is ongoing.

The next Road Investment Strategy (RIS2) will be for the period 2020-2025. The Secretary of State for Transport will decide on the components of RIS 2, such as allocating budget and naming specific schemes. Highways England is currently working with DfT to advise the Secretary of State on potential investment portfolios. The Government is expected to publish the next Road Investment Strategy in summer 2019, at which point commitments to a number of schemes will be made. Until this point, we will not be in a position to make any commitments to the construction of a scheme on the A3 at Guildford. Further, it should be noted that delivery of any proposal named in RIS2 will still require successful completion of the necessary statutory planning process and the continued development of business cases to ensure the demonstration of value for money.

Conversations held between Highways England and Guildford Borough Council representatives held on 4 June 2018 had the primary objective of identifying how relationships and the sharing of ideas/innovations could be improved between the two organisations. From the outset of the meeting it was agreed by all attendees that no formal minutes would be recorded. It should be noted however that the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between Highways England and Guildford Borough Council was agreed after the meeting on 4 June 2018.

It is agreed that due to the Secretary of State's decision in relation to Wisley Airfield which was published on 13 June 2018, there is a need to review and amend the agreed SoCG to reflect possible next steps.

Yours sincerely



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