

STEVENAGE LOCAL PLAN STAGE 1 EXAMINATION HEARINGS

AGENDA – DAY 3

Thursday 19 January 2017 at 10.00am

Venue: The Ibis Forum, Danestrete, Hertfordshire,
SG1 1EJ

MATTER 3 – STRATEGIC TRANSPORT

Please note:

- All participants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the hearing statements (and any additional evidence) produced by the Council and other parties in respect of the matters addressed at this session. These are available on the examination website.
- Most references to questions refer to those posed by the Inspector in her Schedule of Matters, Issues and Questions (already circulated).
- This session will not consider detailed site-specific representations.
- The hearing will run until around 17:00 with mid-morning, lunch and mid-afternoon breaks.

1. Inspector's Opening, including legal and procedural questions
2. Questions/procedural or programming matters
3. Council's opening statement along with a presentation of the latest highways modelling work and the proposed mitigation measures by the Council. Also an update in relation to the latest Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP).
4. Appearance by Stephen McPartland MP
5. Is the transport modelling based on the same timescales for delivery of individual projects as those set out in the Council's latest IDP?
6. Have the costs of upgrading the strategic transport infrastructure that the modelling is predicated on and other likely infrastructure been identified in the latest IDP and has the necessary funding

been secured? If not, why not and what are the implications for the delivery of the Plan?

7. The Council in their response to my initial questions indicated that funding is available to cover the costs of delivering critical and essential infrastructure. Is that still the case and is this reflected in the Council's latest IDP, so that it is clear how individual transport related projects will be funded, including the public transport projects.
8. Do the Council have a firm commitment from Network Rail in relation to the timing and funding of the station upgrade/extension?
9. A delivery date for the Smart Motorway scheme between A1(M) Junctions 6 and 8 has now been provided by Highways England (2021). Is this in the latest IDP? Will this timescale adversely affect the deliverability of any of the allocated sites in this Plan?
10. In terms of the Integrated Transport Strategy recommended by the AECOM report, dated Dec 2016, is this what is set out in chapter 4 of the Vectos Technical Transport Paper, also dated December 2016? If so, I have the following questions about it:
 - i) Is it proposed to include a reference to this document or the strategy in the Plan? Will it be reviewed and updated periodically?
 - ii) The document refers to numerous initiatives and strategies, but who will complete them and when? Is there a budget for the work? Is there a commitment to this anywhere?
 - iii) Public Transport Strategy - Proposed strategy – when is it expected that the station improvements will take place? Is funding in place for them?
 - iv) Car Parking Strategy - Proposed Strategy – if the Council expects developers to invest in the development and encouragement of car-pooling is a policy needed in the Plan to secure this?
11. More questions may arise as a result of the presentation by the Council and the receipt of the updated IDP.
12. Close