

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEMBER QUESTION TIME
COUNCIL MEETING**

ON 18 MAY 2017

Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

Question

What is the reason for the delay in delivering the Winnersh Relief Road (and all of its ancillary bits (such as Lower Earley Way Expansion) which is sorely needed for relief of the Reading Road and Winnersh Crossroads Chaos (which seems to be almost a car park at times) and the increase in cost of the project (which seems to be not included as a separate budget lines of the MTFP)?

Answer

There is no "delay" in delivering the Winnersh Relief Road. I am assuming you are talking about Phase 2.

All major road schemes and their associated projects have emerging detailed programmes, the durations of which are set by the level of scheme development and the delivery requirements of each project. As development continues on major schemes, the Highways Team are also developing the overall delivery strategy for both the pre-construction and construction phases.

Historically, the estimate for the Winnersh scheme, and others, was only delivered from the basic costs of other similar schemes elsewhere. In April 2016 the cost estimate of all major schemes was reviewed which provided greater accuracy to the Council, however scheme costs will continue to be refined and revised as scheme design progresses.

Supplementary Question:

What is the reason for the King Street Lane intersection part of the Winnersh Relief Road, delay, right now, stopping it in the middle of the project rather than letting it finish?

Supplementary Answer:

The contractor applied for and was subsequently granted a five-week licence by the Council to undertake offline works only. Further work, which requires full occupancy of King Street Lane, is not possible at this time due to other pre-works booked on the highway network. Although no application has been made for further works on King Street Lane, the Council would expect them to begin no later than September 2017.

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