

From: [Brendan.Wright](#) [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 December 2016 14:13
To: Andrew Thompson
Cc: Mark Egerton; Paul Goodenough; [Tim.Read](#) [REDACTED]; [Stephen.Whittaker](#) [REDACTED]; Rob Jarman; [David.Joyner](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss M20 J5-8 modelling work

Andrew

We have now completed our review of the November 2016 version of the 'M20 Junction Assessments' report prepared by Mott MacDonald.

The County Council acknowledges that the capacity modelling presented in the report provides a logical and robust basis for the assessment of impact of planned development. The modelling outputs demonstrate that, in overall terms, suitable improvements can potentially be provided at each of the M20 junctions in a manner that will effectively mitigate any impact on their interfaces with the county road network. Our additional observations are summarised below:

- The report is silent on whether a range of junction improvement options were considered in arriving at those now proposed as mitigation. In the absence of any such exercise, this may mean that the proposals do not represent the optimum achievable arrangements.
- The junction improvement proposals are presented as concept designs and will therefore need to be the subject of further assessment and review, having regard to design standards and highway safety considerations. This is highly pertinent in view of the potential departures from standard that are flagged in the report in relation to Junctions 6 and 7.
- In the case of Junction 6 (Cobtree roundabout), the capacity gain demonstrated for the A229 South arm is somewhat greater than might be expected in view of the low opposing flow that will exist at this location.
- It is noted that the findings of the report have now formed the basis of a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between Highways England and Maidstone Borough Council (dated 7 December 2016). Within the SoCG it is highlighted that the delivery of the mitigation identified for Junctions 5 and 7 is dependent on the implementation of planning permissions which, if not implemented or brought forward in a timely fashion, would result in the need for alternative (or equivalent) mitigation to support planned development. Under such circumstances the County Council would reaffirm its willingness to work with all parties to help ensure that the necessary transport infrastructure is delivered when it is needed. Indeed, the design work for Junction 5 that is currently being progressed by the County Council as part of the Maidstone Integrated Package offers scope for the delivery of improvements to be accelerated through the use of available Local Growth Fund monies.

Regards

Brendan

Brendan Wright | Strategic Transport and Development Planner | KCC Highways and Transportation | Ashford Depot | Javelin Way | Henwood Industrial Estate | Ashford | TN24 8AD | Internal: 419930 | [REDACTED]

From: Andrew Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 November 2016 19:58
To: Wright, Brendan - GT HTW
Cc: Mark Egerton; Paul Goodenough; Read, Tim - GT HTW; [Stephen.Whittaker](#) [REDACTED]; Rob Jarman
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss M20 J5-8 modelling work

Hi Brendan,

My understanding is that the report sent to HE and KCC in early November is the final version of the modelling work. Subsequent HE queries have been resolved without amendments to the report itself. I understand that HE have now accepted the modelling outputs and the mitigation schemes, and the outstanding issues are those of funding and delivery, as set out by MBC and HE at the EIP transport session.

Perhaps then the next step is to complete the KCC review of the report and proposed mitigation schemes and we can take it from there. The Inspector indicated yesterday he will be issuing his interim findings report during the week commencing 5 December, so it would be helpful to have your views by then. Is that achievable?

For convenience I will re-send the modelling report in a separate email (it's a very large file).

Kind regards
Andrew

From: [Brendan.Wright](#) [REDACTED] k [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 November 2016 16:12
To: Andrew Thompson
Cc: Mark Egerton; Paul Goodenough; [Tim.Read](#) [REDACTED]; [Stephen.Whittaker](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting to discuss M20 J5-8 modelling work

Hi Andrew

Unfortunately I am unavailable to attend a meeting on Tuesday.

I have previously been copied into e-mails that contain two versions of the Motts technical report that Paul sent to HE. I understood both to be working drafts at the time of issue and part of an ongoing dialogue between MBC and HE on the assessment and mitigation required for the M20.

KCC has not provided comments on the reports to date as, to the best of our knowledge, your discussions with the HE had not progressed to a sufficiently advanced stage to enable firm conclusions to be drawn on the potential implications for the county highway network. Atkins, on behalf of HE, had raised a number of fundamental concerns on the traffic modelling in their review (dated 27th September) and, having not been party to the subsequent dialogue, we did not know whether these had been resolved ahead of the update provided at the 17th November Inquiry session.

It would be helpful to receive clarification on what mitigation is now proposed and the modelling evidence to support it (i.e. is there a further version of the Motts technical report that captures what has now been agreed with HE?) so that we can review it from a county network perspective. The discussion requested by HE on funding and delivery will also clearly be of relevance so any update on this will be helpful.

Many thanks.

Regards

Brendan

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From: Andrew Thompson [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 November 2016 09:31
To: Wright, Brendan - GT HTW
Cc: Mark Egerton; Paul Goodenough
Subject: Meeting to discuss M20 J5-8 modelling work

Hello Brendan,

During the Transport session last week you indicated you would like to be involved in a meeting to discuss the M20 modelling work undertaken by Mott McDonald. I understand from Paul Goodenough, that copies of the reports were sent to KCC in September, and again in early November but to date no concerns have been raised by KCC in regards to this work.

Depending on the scope of what you wish to discuss, it's likely that Paul would need to attend. He's been on leave this week and is only due in the office on Tuesday next week. I've spoken to Kevin Bown at HE and he can attend a meeting on Tuesday between 11am and 1pm here at Maidstone. Can you confirm please if you could attend a meeting then?

Ahead of the meeting, it would be helpful if you could set out what it is you'd like to discuss so we can make best use of the time.

Many thanks
Andrew

Andrew Thompson
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