

Response to Cross Rail 2 Consultation

Summary

Officers are seeking endorsement from Executive to the response sent to the Cross Rail 2 Consultation. The response is set out in Annex 1 of this report. The response supports in general Cross Rail 2.

Portfolio - Regulatory

Date Portfolio Holder signed off report: 11 December 2015

Wards Affected

ALL

Recommendation

The Executive is advised to resolve to endorse the response set out in the letter at Annex 1 of this report as the Council's formal response to the Cross Rail 2 consultation.

1. Resource Implications

- 1.1. There are no resource implications beyond that provided for within the agreed budget for 2015/2016.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 A key issue for rail services in Surrey Heath is the constrained capacity on the South West Main Line which has implications to the Windsor line service from Guildford to Ascot which serves Bagshot, Camberley and Frimley.
- 2.2 Cross Rail 2 could deliver further South West Main Line capacity which could deliver released capacity for the Bagshot, Camberley and Frimley route and released capacity at Ash Vale. Both these options help Surrey Heath's ambitions to seek an improved service to Waterloo.
- 2.3 Surrey Heath Borough Council has had positive input both into the Surrey Rail Strategy produced by Surrey County Council and Network Rails Wessex Route Study. The Council's Executive have previously agreed Surrey Heath's position on both these studies. The Wessex Route Study identifies priority interventions, including the Woking grade separation which will improve capacity on the South West Main Line.
- 2.4 Surrey Heath Borough Council supports the provision of the Woking Grade Separation and Woking Platform capacity work. Provision of the flyover could improve connectivity of Windsor line trains to the South West Main Line to Woking and London which could allow for a faster journey times to Waterloo with an improved waiting time at Ash Vale. Any proposal to terminate Cross Rail 2 services at Woking should not

have a detrimental impact on the benefits from the proposed Woking flyover.

- 2.4 Surrey County Council, as part of the Surrey Rail Strategy, has appointed Arup to undertake an assessment of Cross Rail 2 and Surrey Heath has commented on the scope of the Arup report and has had regard to the report in the consultation response to Cross Rail 2. The report recognises the potential of Cross Rail 2 in releasing capacity on the South West Main Line and the benefit of release capacity for stations within Surrey, including the Camberley line.
- 2.5 The Arup report recognises that the Camberley route is not directly linked to the main line and the need for a grade separated connection. A separate Feasibility Study on the Sturt Cord option is being undertaken by Arup and will be reported to a future Executive.
- 2.6 It is noted that the consultation states that Cross Rail 2 could support the delivery of 200,000 new homes across London and the wider south east. It will be for the plan making process to determine the level of development within Surrey Heath rather than it be determined by Cross Rail 2. Development would need to have regard to the constraints which the Borough faces such as Green Belt, flood risk and other infrastructure capacity issues.

3. Options

- 3.1 The options for the Executive to consider are:-
 - (i) To **AGREE** the response set out in the letter at Annex 1 of this Report as the Council's formal response to the Cross Rail 2 consultation.
 - (ii) To **AGREE** the response set out in the letter at Annex 1 of this Report as the Council's formal response to the Cross Rail 2 consultation and any additional comments which the Executive may wish to make.
 - (iii) To **NOT AGREE** the response set out in the letter at Annex 1 of this Report.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 It is proposed to submit the consultation response attached as Annex 1 following Executive agreement.

5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 None.

6. Corporate Objectives and Key Priorities

- 6.1 Underpins Objective 1 to make Surrey Heath an even better place where people are happy to live.

6.2 Underpins Objective 2 to sustain and promote the local economy so that our people can work and do business across Surrey Heath by promoting improvements to local transport and infrastructure.

6.3 Underpins Objective 3 to build and encourage communities where people can live happily and healthily.

7. Consultation

15.1 The consultation ran until 8 January 2016.

8. PR and Marketing

16.1 Consultation was advertised on the Council's website.

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| Annexes | Annex 1 - Officer response to Cross Rail 2 Consultation |
| Background Papers | |
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| Head of Service | Jenny Rickard – Executive Head of Regulatory |

Consultations, Implications and Issues Addressed

| Resources | Required | Consulted |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Capital | | |
| Human Resources | | |
| Asset Management | | |
| IT | | |
| Other Issues | Required | Consulted |
| Corporate Objectives & Key Priorities | ✓ | |
| Policy Framework | | |
| Legal | ✓ | |
| Governance | | |
| Sustainability | | |
| Risk Management | | |
| Equalities Impact Assessment | | |
| Community Safety | | |
| Human Rights | | |
| Consultation | | |
| P R & Marketing | ✓ | |