



Meeting	ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY SELECT COMMITTEE	
Date	Monday, 31 October 2005	agenda item number
From:	Cabinet Member for Environment and Sustainability	

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2005

I have reported the following items to Council on 20 October 2005:

- Robin Hood Airport, Doncaster – Transport Feasibility Study
- River Trent Risk Management
- West Bridgford Bus Services
- Sheepbridge Lane Link
- Highways Operation Partner Procurement
- A60 Mansfield Road
- Robin Hood Line – Changes to Services

1. A6075/Skegby Lane, Ashfield: Junction Improvement

Following the recent opening of the Mansfield/Ashfield Regeneration Route to traffic, it was anticipated that there would be substantial growth in general traffic at the A6075/Skegby Lane junction which would significantly exacerbate existing problems at this location.

The proposed highway widening on the A6075 Beck Lane required the acquisition of private land from Dalestorth House which is a listed Grade 2 building. As such, the rebuilding of the perimeter wall required planning consent from Ashfield District Council. This has been granted and following successful negotiations for the purchase of the required land, I have given my approval for the work to proceed.

2. New Ollerton Bus Service

I was very pleased to see the launch of the new local bus service, The Sherwood Sweeper. This is a demand responsive bus service which will allow residents from Ollerton and the surrounding villages to be picked up from their nearest bus stop and taken anywhere in the town centre by making a telephone reservation at least two hours before their journey. The bus will run between 5am and 7pm on weekdays

and is fitted with ramp access for wheelchair users. The County Council was successful in securing money from the Government's Rural Bus Challenge to fund the service.

3. **Broadgate, Beeston – Proposed Prohibition of Waiting**

This proposal forms part of the on-going County Council cycle and pedestrian improvements in Beeston. Broadgate is a well used cycle route between Nottingham University and Beeston Town Centre and it is proposed to introduce cycle lanes to both sides of Broadgate. This will include the introduction of double yellow lines to both sides of Broadgate from Humber Road to University Boulevard to keep the cycle lanes clear of parked vehicles.

During the consultation period 5 objections were received from local residents on the grounds that they will lose on-street parking and will be forced to park on neighbouring streets. No waiting restrictions already exist along this stretch of road between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm Monday to Saturday.

It is felt that the cycle lanes would be safer and more effective if the parking restrictions are implemented. Having carefully considered all the arguments I have agreed that the scheme should be implemented as advertised.

4. **Highways Operations: Vehicle Workshops**

I was extremely pleased to learn that the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service has taken up the option to extend the contract for vehicle and equipment maintenance with the County Council for a further three years. This extension is to the initial two year contract and is testament to the quality of the service provided by our in-house Workshops. I would like to offer my thanks to all those involved in securing this contract.

5. **Replacement Minerals Local Plan**

The replacement Minerals Local Plan is now very close to being adopted.

At the meeting of County Council on 23rd June members approved the County Council's response to the Inspector's Report into the Public Inquiry and Schedule of Proposed Modifications setting out how the Plan should change before it is adopted. These modifications went out to public consultation over the summer and we received just 18 objections. These have now been considered and at the time of drafting this Report the intention is to make no further changes and to proceed towards adopting the Plan in December. This decision is subject to approval by Full Council at the meeting of 20 October.

Once adopted work on preparing new style minerals development planning documents will commence. These documents will eventually replace the Minerals Local Plan and will form part of the new Local Development Framework arrangements brought in by Government in 2004.

6. **Statement of Community Involvement**

A report on the pre-submission draft Statement of Community Involvement is before this Committee today. The Statement of Community Involvement will form a key part of the new Local Development Framework and will set out how we will consult and involve local communities in all of our planning functions. The pre-submission stage is the first of 2 formal consultation exercises that have to be carried out. I will be taking a report to Cabinet on 9th November seeking approval of this draft.

7. **The Waste Development Documents**

Work on preparing a new waste Core Strategy is underway. This will replace the equivalent parts of the adopted waste local plan. The Core Strategy will set out how much waste we will need to manage over the next 10-15 years, what will be the preferred methods for managing it and what new facilities will be required. This document is being prepared jointly with the City Council as was the case with the current Waste Plan.

In July I approved the approach that will be used to publish the Issues and Options consultation which will be the first informal general public consultation stage on the Core Strategy. Work on this is now well advanced and this consultation exercise is expected to commence towards the end of the year.

Councillor Stella Smedley
Cabinet Member for Environment and Sustainability