A320: The Next Steps

Runnymede Borough Council is undertaking the following work to address Highway England’s outstanding objections to the Runnymede 2030 Local Plan.

**What issues are to be addressed?**

The issues that are being addressed are:

1. The impact of development along the A320 corridor on the safe and free flow of traffic at junction 11 of the M25 to help better understand any potential impact on the SRN.

2. Specification at a strategic level of any works that need to be undertaken on the SRN to ensure that development arising from the Local Plan does not impact severely upon it.

**What work is to be undertaken?**

Arcadis will be commissioned by Surrey County Council and Runnymede to carry out an assessment of Junction 11 of the M25 to help better understand any potential impact on this part of the SRN as part of the five case business model (Strategic, Economic, Commercial, Financial, and Management). The Council will liaise with Highway England. If necessary a scheme will be formulated to protect the safe and efficient operation of the M25 following consideration by Highways England of the outputs of the technical assessment. If a scheme is required, it will be included within the HIF submission.

The Council has agreed that prior to finalising Arcadis’ project brief, Arcadis will consult Highways England to ensure that their requirements are reflected in the final specification. Runnymede anticipates that they will consult Highways England during w/c 3rd December.

**When will the work be completed?**

The intended outputs are:

1. A HIF funding submission with the appropriate detail to be submitted to Homes England no later than 28th February 2019

2. A scheme, recognised within the HIF funding bid, for junction 11 for submission to Highways England for a technical consideration no later than 14th February 2019.

**Other observations**

The Council has agreed to engage proactively with Highways England during the course of the commission to ensure that Highways England requirements are met in terms of the further assessment of junction 11 and any mitigation proposed.

Runnymede Borough Council, Surrey County Council and Highways England have agreed to meet to discuss progress with the project during w/c 7th January 2019.

This work programme has been produced following discussions with Highways England and Surrey County Council. Runnymede Borough Council is confident that its outputs will overcome the concerns of Highways England. However, for the avoidance of doubt, Highways England reserves their position.
Note for assistance of the Inspector: During discussion of the Statement of Common Ground between Runnymede and Highways England, Highways England mentioned that they are concerned about the potential for development contemplated in the Local Plan to impact on junction 13 of the M25. Therefore, Runnymede and the Local Highway Authority will undertake work that seeks to better understand in broad terms how the growth associated with the Runnymede Local Plan (to any significant extent) on junction 13 of the M25.