



**GREATER
CAMBRIDGE
CITY DEAL**

Date: 14 September 2016

The City Deal Team
SH1311
Shire Hall
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

Councillor Jocelyne Scutt
Chair- Milton Road Local Liaison Forum

Councillor Roger Hickford
Chair, Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly
cc Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly

By e-mail

Dear Roger and Jocelyne

PROPOSALS FOR MILTON ROAD

I am writing on behalf of the City Deal Board, as I committed to do within a fortnight of our meeting on Thursday 1st September, to address three key inter-linked issues on the City Deal proposals for Milton Road and respond to the Milton Road Local Liaison Forum (LLF), petitioners and the City Deal Assembly.

We welcome the input from residents, the work begun by the Milton Road LLF and the consideration given by the Assembly. The LLF discussions and the forthcoming workshops will make a crucial contribution in influencing the shape of the final scheme design on the Milton Road proposals.

On the first issue raised, independent external consultants with expertise in public realm, landscaping, trees and verges will be appointed as part of the Milton Road project, and will attend the Milton Road LLF and workshops. We will confirm the detailed arrangements with the Chair of the LLF, and ensure that their advice enables different design and public realm options to be considered including proposals from the LLF.

The Board, like the City Deal Assembly, is committed to a successful future design for Milton Road that achieves and integrates the following three core objectives in the final design for Milton Road

- increased bus reliability and improved journeys, leading to new services, increased frequency and reduced congestion
- high-quality cycling infrastructure and pedestrian provision

- high-quality design and public realm

linked to wider measures to cut peak-time congestion, and other elements of the City Deal transport strategy.

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Therefore, on the second and third issues raised on the Milton Road proposals

a we want to be clear as a Board that we support an avenue of mature trees as a core design element along Milton Road, and also the provision of grass verges and planting, and effective wider public realm and landscaping

b we also state that the Board's preference will be for a design, as was said by Board members at its earlier June meeting, that avoids the need for double bus lanes on any stretch of the road including the section from Hurst Park Avenue to Oak Tree Avenue, so that this stretch would have a maximum of three motorised lanes.

On the detail of both, as on other aspects of the proposed Milton Road design and future journey projections, we ask the LLF to give these issues and tree choice careful consideration, and look forward to seeing your recommendations in your final report, consistent with achieving the three core objectives of the scheme.

We also ask the LLF to consider tree provision for sections of the road, such as the southern end from Mitchams Corner to Highworth Avenue, where provision is currently low and can be improved.

We look forward to seeing the LLF final report and conclusions later. Board members will also want to meet the chair and vice chair of the Milton Road LLF, as we will for Histon Road and for all LLFs, to discuss their final reports. The Board and Assembly will then consider the LLF recommendations and wider analysis before reaching conclusions.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Lewis Herbert
Chair – Greater Cambridge City Deal Executive Board