

SUBJECT:	<i>M4 widening Junctions 3-12</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>Sustainable Development Portfolio Holder</i>
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	<i>Peter Beckford, Head of Sustainable Development</i>
REPORT AUTHOR	<i>Graham Winwright gwinwright@chiltern.gov.uk</i>
WARD/S AFFECTED	<i>None</i>

1. Purpose of Report

This report considers a proposed scheme by Highways England, the subject of a Development Consent Order for the widening of the M4 between junctions 3 and 12. Members will be aware that the M4 is not within Chiltern District.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Council respond to the application as follows, "Chiltern District Council has no comment to make on the Development Consent Order"

2. Discussion

- 2.1** The widening of this part of the M4 is identified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project and is thus dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate through the Development Consent Order process. The Council is consulted at various stages in the process. The current consultation started on 28th May and has to be responded by 3rd July.
- 2.2** Widening of the M4 aims to support economic success and decrease congestion along major arteries linking the Thames Valley, the West of England and Wales to Heathrow and London and can be supported in principle. The M4 itself, the proposed widening and associated construction works/facilities are outside of the District and are considered to be sufficiently far away so as to not unduly affect Chiltern District local residents or local highway network.
- 2.3** The proposal is for widening within the existing boundaries of the M4 except where bridges are demolished and rebuilt where additional land will be taken for construction purposes. Bridges affected by the proposal include Old Slade Lane Bridge in Iver and 4 bridges in Dorney including the Thames Bridge, Marsh Lane Bridge, Lake End Bridge and the bridge at Junction 7 at Huntercombe.
- 2.4** The evidence base accompanying the Order indicates minimal impact on the local area within the M4 corridor in terms of increased noise and pollution levels and no impact within Chiltern District.
- 2.5** It is suggested that the Council responds as recommended, in effect to say no comments.

3 Corporate Implications

3.1 None identified

4 Links to Council Policy Objectives

The M4 widening proposal does not link with any of the Council's objectives..

5. Next Steps

To submit the Council response..

Background Papers:	DLA Piper UK LLP letter of 28 th May 2015 entitled "M4 Motorway (junctions 3 to 12) (Smart Motorway) Development Consent Order Application ("Application) Reference Number TR010019 Planning Act 2008 – Section 56 Notification" and enclosed Development Consent Order Application.
---------------------------	---