

**HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**SCRUTINY COMMISSION**

**8 NOVEMBER 2018 AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT: Mr MR Lay - Chairman  
Mr KWP Lynch – Vice-Chairman

Mr DC Bill MBE, Mr DS Cope (for Mr SL Bray), Mr WJ Crooks, Mr BE Sutton and Mr R Ward

Also in attendance: Councillor M Hall and Councillor MJ Surtees

Officers in attendance: Valerie Bunting, Bill Cullen, Malcolm Evans, Rob Foers, Simon D Jones, Julie Kenny, Jacqui Kissai, Rebecca Owen, Rob Parkinson, Kirstie Rea, Caroline Roffey, Nicola Smith, Sharon Stacey and Ashley Wilson

239 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared at this stage.

247 **LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN**

The Scrutiny Commission gave consideration to the revised Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (SGP). It was acknowledged that this was a standardised report which was being presented to all authorities in Leicester and Leicestershire.

A member queried the proposed 38,000 houses on the A46 eastern bypass. In response it was noted that the defined route had not been determined but that the SGP had a strategy to deal with growth along that corridor in a reasonable way.

The benefits of endorsing the plan were set out, notably commitments to major infrastructure/transport improvements and projects including the A5. The risks to the authority of not continuing to be involved in discussions by failing to endorse the SGP were also highlighted and it was noted that this would mean the council could not progress its own local plan. The importance of retaining involvement in the debate was acknowledged and supported by the Commission.

Concern was expressed about the proposed rail freight depot, the link to the A46 and a recent document from Midlands Connect in relation to the A46 itself. In response, it was noted that the rail freight depot was not part of this plan but was a national scheme which would need to be addressed separately and that the SGP didn't contain a link from the M69 or M1 to the A46 in the location stated and officers had not had sight of the document mentioned.

It was suggested by Councillor Lay that the SGP be acknowledged and a statement be included in the resolution to say "While we understand the benefits of the A46 eastern bypass, the connection is of great concern due to the potentially devastating impact of the location of this". The Commission supported this recommendation.

It was requested that a representative of Midland Connect be invited to a meeting in spring 2019.

RESOLVED –

- (i) The Strategic Growth Plan be acknowledged;
- (ii) It be noted that the connection to the A46 is of great concern due to the potentially devastating local impact;
- (iii) A representative of Midland Connect be invited to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Commission.