

Heathfields New Settlement Position Statement – July 2022

215775/N07

Modelling

1. Further to the completion of the modelling work by Jacobs, Vectos has reviewed and commented on the modelling and have communicated in writing and in meetings around some potential discrepancies around traffic generation (this has been put down to the more detailed understanding of Vectos around the uses within the framework masterplan and corresponding traffic generation). These discrepancies will be the subject of further discussion with Claire Weeks (KCC) over the coming weeks – an approach that both sides are content with.

Key Junctions / Interventions

2. There has been communication between Vectos and KCC (off the back of the modelling) about the local road network around the proposed Heathlands garden settlement and agreement reached that there is a need for further investigation along key routes e.g. the A20 corridor to model junctions, assess the capacity and identify interventions to increase the capacity where necessary, in line with the full build out of the scheme. Some of this work has already been commenced but for absolute clarity, it has been agreed between parties that the following Junctions will be subject to further assessment with some initial commentary to be provided on potential interventions to enable the junction to adapt to the increased vehicle trip generation;
 - A20 Eythorne Rd & Penfold Hill
 - A20/M20 J8
 - A20/Willington Street
 - A20/New Cut
 - M20 J7
 - A20/A249/A229 Town Centre Interfaces
3. KCC asked that local junctions on the A20 close to the site are also considered. This will be undertaken.

Apportionment of Costs towards interventions

4. Whilst Vectos are content undertaking the work to identify some of the interventions to key junctions (as identified above), they would be keen for HE to enter into a SoCG with KCC to cement the

understanding that the associated costs aligned to interventions identified will be met in-part with other landowners where increased highways movements will be contributing to the increased traffic (and hence need for junction interventions).

Junction Modelling (M20)

5. Further to dialogue that KCC have had with National Highways, there is an acknowledgement that Jacobs will undertake further junction modelling work on the following junctions: M20 J6-J8 and on the M2. This further work is due to be commencing w/c 18th July 2022.

Sustainable Transport Strategy

6. The next stage of work that Vectos will be completing will touch upon the need for a sustainable transport solution - including Public Transport, Cycle and Walking Links including implications on connectivity to Lenham Village, Charing and Harrietsham. This work will require the sighting of and working across the Rail Station work being progressed by JRC to ensure the feasibility of a potential new station but also the implications of rail options on the local road network. This aspect of work will be drawn from the previously submitted Transport Strategy.
7. Agreement between parties has also been reached in that Vectos will engage with KCC's public transport scheme to ascertain the current thinking around future bus demand which will inform the future assessment of routes in and around the proposed Heathlands settlement.
8. Vectos have agreed to issuing this next stage of work before mid-August to enable Claire Weeks to undertake a review. An interim meeting has already been scheduled with Claire Weeks on the 28th July (Vectos, HE and KCC) to discuss progress with the work.