

From: **Laura Chase**
Date: Tue, Nov 5, 2019 at 10:46 AM
Subject: Consultations
To: Andrea Copsey

Dear Andrea –

Please can the Inspector be advised of the following two consultations:

1. ECC consultation on proposals for a Rapid Transit System and A133/A120 link road

ECC press release:

A consultation on proposals for a new dual-carriageway Link Road between the A133 and the A120, and the first stage of new Rapid Transit System (RTS) across Colchester opens today (4th November).

The infrastructure plans, will make it easier for traffic to flow on to the A120 and A12, and offer alternative travel options for those travelling across the town.

Cllr David Finch, Leader of Essex County Council said: “Colchester has seen rapid growth over the past decade, both in terms of meeting its housing needs, but also its thriving economy.

“As this growth continues, with a new community proposed for the east of Colchester, it is critical that an infrastructure-led approach is taken, helping manage traffic; working to better connect the town and reducing the reliance on the car through encouraging more sustainable means of travel.”

Half of journeys coming out of Tendring currently head into Colchester and, alongside future traffic generated by the new community proposed to the east of the town, the Link Road, will make it easier for drivers to access strategic roads like the A120 and A12, reducing the reliance on the more local roads. Alongside this, an RTS will bring together key parts of the town, offering a dedicated public transport route, enabling people to move quickly around Colchester without having to use their car.

The consultation, which runs until the 16th December, looks at high level route options for both schemes ahead of more detailed design.

Cllr Finch added: “This new infrastructure is dependent on the Borough/District Council Local Plan process which sets out where future housing and business growth should be located. Their plan needs to be approved by the Planning Inspector, but it is critical that we look at preparing for this by setting out how the transport network will be evolved to meet future growth.

“Both the Link Road and RTS system have differing route alignment options, and within this consultation it is important to get views on these. Local people and businesses are best placed to tell us what does and doesn’t work in terms of the journeys they make, and their insight on the various options will allow our engineers and designers to take forward and evolve the plans.”

For more information on the consultation and dates of drop-in sessions visit www.essex.gov.uk/link-road-and-rapid-transit.

2. Highways England consultation on A12

Links to information on Highways England website:

https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/supporting_documents/S160570%20A12%20Chelmsford%20to%20A120%20Consultation%20bookletlow%20maps.pdf

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>

Regards, Laura

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Colchester Borough Council