

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET MEMBER MEETING – JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

18 June 2013

Joint Report of the Director of Legal Services and the Acting Strategic Director
– Environmental Services

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE A38(T) ABBEY HILL
ROUNABOUT**

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval for a legal agreement to be entered into between the County Council and the Highways Agency on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport for an improvement to the A38 Abbey Hill Junction, Little Eaton (Derby).

(2) **Information and Analysis** The Highways Agency is an executive agency of the Department for Transport (DfT) and is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving England's strategic road network. This includes the A38 between Burton and junction 28 of the M1 motorway. In his autumn 2011 statement, the Chancellor announced a programme to enable the Highways Agency to address specific 'pinch points' on the strategic road network.

The Little Eaton roundabout in Derby suffers from serious peak time congestion, predominantly due to the heavy north-south flows along the A38(T) conflicting with turning and cross movements at the junction. A scheme for the A38 Little Eaton roundabout is included in the Highways Agency Pinch Point Programme.

A plan indicating the proposed general arrangement for the improvement scheme is shown on drawing number 530007/00/04 appended to this report. The scheme involves conversion of the existing traffic signals to run on a full time basis together with significant widening of the A38(T) northbound approach and northern circulatory carriageway. Widening is also included on the A61 approach and exit along with re-alignment of the B6179 arm. The work will involve improvements to the existing traffic signal controlled arrangement, associated cable ducting, and carriageway widening together with minor alterations to drainage and lighting.

The scheme will also involve partial widening to both the A61 and B6179 approaches to the junction. These are County roads and the responsibility of

the County Council as local Highway Authority. It is proposed that as part of the scheme, these works are managed by the Highways Agency and undertaken by a contractor appointed by the Highways Agency. This will require a legal agreement between the County Council and the Highways Agency.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The cost of construction of the improvements to the Abbey Hill roundabout would be met by the Highways Agency.

(4) **Legal Considerations** Section 4 of the Highways Act 1980 allows local Highway Authorities to enter into agreements with the Highways Agency in relation to a highway which crosses or enters a trunk road or which will be affected by the construction or improvement of a trunk road.

The effect of an agreement under Section 4 is to transfer to the Highways Agency the functions of the local Highway Authority. The transferee authority stands in the shoes of the transferor authority, and has the same rights and liabilities as would the transferor.

(5) **Property Considerations** There are no property considerations associated with this report.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health and transport considerations.

(6) **Key Decision** No.

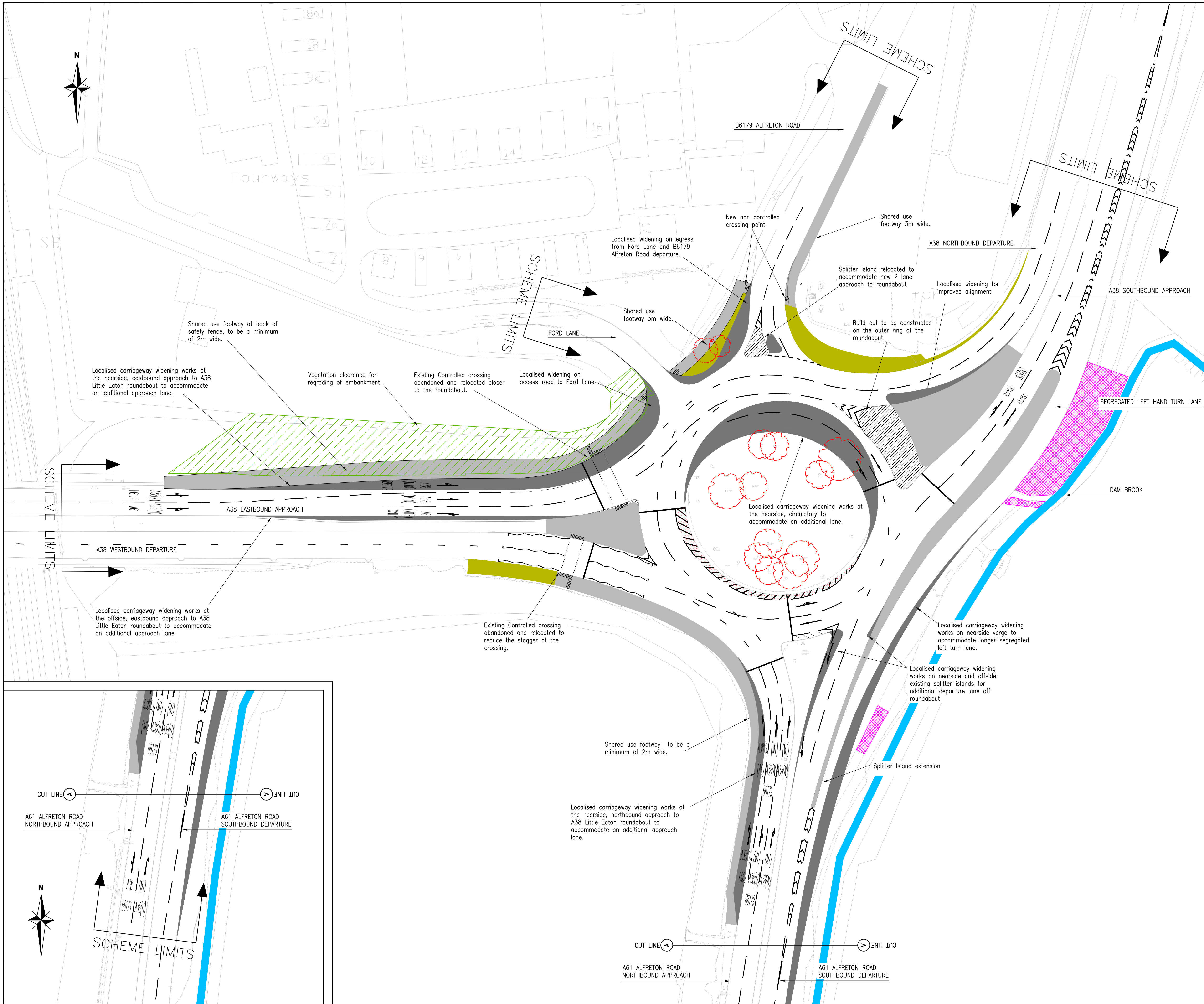
(7) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(8) **Background Papers** Draft Section 4 details. Officer contact details – Geoff Blissett, extension 38646.

(9) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That Derbyshire County Council enters into an agreement under Section 4 of the Highways Act 1980 with the Highways Agency to enable improvements to the A38 Abbey Hill junction to be carried out.

John McElvaney
Director of Legal Services

Mike Ashworth
Acting Strategic Director -
Environmental Services



NOTES:

- 1. General Arrangement for partial signalisation of the A38 Little Eaton Roundabout.
- 2. Traffic Signal detail omitted for clarity.
- 3. Proposed alignment is subjected to detailed design.

KEY:

- Proposed carriageway widening works
- Proposed footways, physical islands and hardstanding areas
- Proposed topsoil and seed reinstatement
- Existing Vegetation cleared
- Proposed Build-out Areas
- Japanese Knotweed
- Proposed tactile paving
- Existing mature tree cleared
- Dam Brook

PRELIMINARY

Rev	By	Chk	App	Date	Description
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Project
A38 LITTLE EATON ECONOMY

Drawing
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

Drawn by	MTW	Date:	19/10/12
Designed by	MTW	Date:	19/10/12
Checked by	SF	Date:	22.10.12
Approved by	NSL	Date:	23-10-12

Drawing No.	Revision
530007/00/04	-

Drawing Scale: 1:500 @ A1
DO NOT SCALE FROM DRAWING Sheet size A1