

## CABINET 23 MARCH 2022

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS

<b>Question from:</b>	Mike Streetly
<b>Subject:</b>	NWRR
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Dean Carroll

In his response to a question from Councillor Rob Wilson about the proposed Shrewsbury North West Road to the Shropshire Council Cabinet meeting on 16 Feb 2022, Councillor Dean Carroll said that *'planning determination has now been pushed back to summer 2022'* with the Full Business Case (FBC) being submitted to council by Dec 2022 but that *'The delay in submission of the FBC does not, at this time however, mean that the NWRR programme overall is critically impacted around the forecast construction and road opening dates.'*

First, could the council please confirm whether it is still allowing for the risk that the planning application might be subject to a Public Inquiry and what effect a Public Inquiry would have on the programme outlined by Councillor Carroll?

Second, noting the council's report to the Scrutiny – Place Overview Committee on 5th November 2020 which indicated the following dates in the NWR programme:

- the planning application would be determined by Autumn 2021 (slippage of 9 months)
- a Public Inquiry from Autumn 2021 to spring 2022
- DfT endorsement of the Full Business Case (presumably several months after it was signed off by full council) in Winter 2021 (slippage of at least 1 year)
- construction starts spring 2022
- road opening in Winter 2023

can Councillor Carroll please be specific about what the programmed construction start and road open dates are now expected to be?

**Response:**

In answer to the first question raised, the Council has consistently, within its project programming, allowed for the potential for an application for Public Enquiry or Judicial Review. This has been communicated and agreed with DfT as part of our ongoing engagement over programme funding and delivery, and can be accommodated if needed, within the requirements of the Large Local Majors funding window.

In answer to the second question, the Council will consider and confirm the North West Relief Road construction start and completion dates as part of its Full Business Case approval. As has been previously reported, this remains due winter 2022.