

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

TR010060

5.2 Consultation Report Annex E – Response from local authorities on the draft SoCC

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

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A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

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CONTENTS

1	Responses from local authorities on the draft Statement of Community Consultation	4
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	Table 1 - Full responses received from local authorities on the draft SoCC	4
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1 Responses from local authorities on the draft Statement of Community Consultation

The table below shows the full responses received from local authorities on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

Table 1 - Full responses received from local authorities on the draft SoCC

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
Maldon District Council	19/02/2021	Jackie Longman	<p>Hi Hannah</p> <p>I have circulated the SoCC to colleagues in planning, planning policy, communications, environmental health and community for feedback. I have received the following comments:</p> <p>Communications Currently Maldon DC Offices are being used for the Covid-19 Vaccination Centre and will be in use for this purpose way beyond March and therefore not open to the public. An alternative location for a 'public information point' would be Maldon Library or Maldon Town Council offices if District Council offices remain unavailable. Maldon DC will communicate all public information about the project on its website.</p> <p>Planning Policy Consideration should be given to some people needing help with the 'virtual exhibition to navigate it and that instructions should be really clear.</p> <p>I will chase up colleagues for any further comments.</p> <p>Thanks, Jackie</p>
Colchester Borough Council	23/02/2021	Jane Thompson	<p>Hi Hanna</p> <p>It all looks good to me.</p> <p>Jane</p>

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
Essex County Council	01/03/2021	Matthew Thomas	<p>ECC is a key infrastructure and service provider and is responsible for delivering and commissioning a wide range of strategic and local infrastructure requirements and public services to support and shape inclusive and healthy communities. ECC's role covers a wide range of statutory services including (but not limited to) highways and transportation, education, early years and childcare, minerals, waste, surface water management, passenger transport, adult social care, and public health. We also advise on, and have a material interest in, a number of other related place-making matters to assist in the determination of planning applications.</p> <p>The Growth and Development team at ECC is responsible for coordinating single corporate responses for major development schemes and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects to ensure that the Council's interests and responsibilities to deliver quality and sufficient infrastructure in the right places and at the right time are effectively communicated, and to support good place-making and place-keeping for existing and future communities.</p> <p>The County Council has a considerable interest in the A12 to A120 Widening scheme. Given its geographical location in central and north Essex, this scheme will deliver a major travel artery for Essex, which will have potential far reaching benefits across the county, covering economic and housing growth and post Covid economic recovery. We would like to acknowledge and endorse the positive way in which the project has been developed not only with the County Council but the many organisations and District/City Councils within Essex. The extensive use of workshops has been welcomed, as has the digital information made available both at the workshops and subsequently. We consider this best practice and look forward to this continuing.</p> <p>Inevitably there has been a focus on ongoing direct engagement with the Council's Highway Teams and with elected members as well as with District and Parish Councils; and we expect this to continue. However, we ask that in future, all engagement activities and consultations relating to this</p>

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
			<p>proposed scheme are also communicated to the “Growth and Development Team” in Planning Services, which is tasked with managing and coordinating formal responses to the DCO process. The Growth and Development Team can be engaged with on the email address growthanddevelopment@essex.gov.uk. The lead Growth & Development Contact for this proposal going forward will be Mark Woodger.</p> <p>In terms of this Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) document, which is the subject of this consultation, we provide specific comments below in hope they are helpful pointers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SoCC should reference that consultation documents will be available in alternative formats if required. For example, Braille and translated into other languages, if requested. • There is a lack of detail on how the consultation will reach ‘hard to reach’ groups. Please ensure that the SoCC include specific measures to ensure effective consultation with specific hard to reach groups. • In order to provide confidence that the proposed consultation will be effective the SoCC should detail of the number of consultation events that are proposed. Whilst it is appreciated that there is still some uncertainty over whether in-person consultation events will be possible due to potential COVID- 19 restrictions, details should be provided on the quantity of consultation events. If in-person consultation events are not possible, more detail on other measures such as the number of webinar/phone surgery sessions where members of the public can speak to members of the Project team should also be detailed. Without detail of the number of events, it is not possible to ascertain whether a proposed 8-week consultation period is sufficient. • If exhibition venues are used, it is requested that the SoCC makes it clear that any proposed venue is fully accessible and that the appropriate connectivity is in place to ensure that the consultation is

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
			<p>open to all. Opening times of engagement events should include a variety of times including evenings to ensure accessibility to all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft SoCC should explicitly recognise current and potential NSIP and large-scale projects within Essex and beyond, such as but not limited to the Lower Thames Crossing and works to Junction 28 of the M25, and how they interlink with this proposal. • Close engagement should be conducted with all relevant Local Authorities to ensure that the Consultation Target Area remains up-to-date and agreed across all Authorities. • It needs to be ensured that all relevant consultees are given sufficient notice of the start of any consultation. This would enable consultees and other interested groups to prepare more effectively for engagement with the proposals. The timescale and schedule communicated should also include how and when the Project team will respond to the consultation feedback for each stage of consultation to enable the process to be open, transparent and understandable to consultees. <p>I hope the above is of assistance – if you require further information on the contents of this response, please contact the Growth & Development team and ensure that the team are actively communicated with going forward on this proposal.</p>
Braintree District Council	01/03/2021	Gary Sung	<p>Hi Hannah,</p> <p>Thank you for inviting Braintree District Council to comment on the Statement of Community Consultation, we have decided to respond by email only - please see our response attached. I can also confirm that no tracked changes to the SoCC document has been included as we do not propose changes.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing from you soon.</p>

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
			<p>Planning Act</p> <p>Thank you for consulting Braintree District Council on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) document, our comments are as follows:</p> <p>The A12 is one of 3 strategic transport routes in the District and the A12 upgrade would support the Local Plan's vision for growth and economic development. The A12 links London and the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich to the town and villages of Witham, Hatfield Peverel, Kelvedon, Feering and Rivenhall, and it affects communities in the wider area such as Silver End, Cressing, Coggeshall and Braintree. The Council fully supports the community engagement efforts in the SoCC. This project had been designed over a period six years and two rounds of route options consultation have already taken place. As the SoCC follows a similar methodology to previously undertaken route options consultations the Council is familiar with the process however the consultation methods being proposed this time are understandably based online due to the Covid19 pandemic subject to review on the 1st of April. Our preference is for public information events to be held as well as online events, if it is safe to do so, such that residents who are not online will be given the opportunity to engage with National Highways in person. We agree with the proposed locations and event plans contained within appendix A of the SoCC. As you will be aware the importance of this project for local residents and businesses cannot be underestimated and it is critical that engagement is positive, proactive and inclusive and that the project progress is transparent and well communicated.</p> <p>Yours Sincerely</p> <p>Gary Sung</p>

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
			Senior Planning Policy Officer Braintree District Council
Chelmsford City Council	26/02/2021	Jenny Robinson	<p>Consultation (SOCC).</p> <p>The SOCC looks very comprehensive and shows a clear commitment to ensure all the relevant people and interested parties are involved in ways, which are accessible to them.</p> <p>We have only a small number of detailed observations, as set out below:</p> <p>Page 5 – Image 1</p> <p>Please consider adding Springfield Parish area to the mailout zone. Junction 19 serves this area for local traffic and work here is likely to have an impact on residents.</p> <p>The Springfield Parish boundary can be found on this page; https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/your-council/data-and-statistics/parish-profiles/</p> <p>Page 8 – top Method image</p> <p>The last line should read City Times rather than City Life</p> <p>Page 12 – 10.3 and table</p> <p>Suggest adding the following to the end of this paragraph: Please check before making a special journey.</p>

Local authority	Date of reply	Person	Comment
			<p>Suggest the addition of Council website addresses and telephone numbers to the table, to enable people to check latest Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Page 14 – 13.3</p> <p>Suggest additional public information event locations</p> <p>Beaulieu Community Centre, due to proximity of Beaulieu to the A12 and the potential impact on work or leisure related travel. Contact [REDACTED]</p> <p>High Chelmer Shopping Centre, Chelmsford City Centre. Contact [REDACTED]</p>