



COMMUNITY JUSTICE SECURITY

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 0055 ROUNDABOUT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE
WOOTTON HALL SITE**

By the authority of the Police and Crime Commissioner as designated by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and, by democratic mandate invested in me by the electorate of Northamptonshire, I have taken the following decisions:

- a. To approve a financial contribution of £500,000 to Northamptonshire County Council towards the capital costs of a new roundabout to improve access to the Wootton Hall Park site;
- b. To authorise the Acting Chief Executive to negotiate and agree a formal agreement to this contribution with the County Council.

ADAM SIMMONDS
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

2nd February 2016

Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

The new roundabout will comply with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements.

Other Advice Taken

Advice was taken from:

1. The Acting Chief Executive (Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commission)
2. The Acting Director for Resources (Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commission)

The relevant officer advice is set out in the attached report dated 5th January 2016.

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**A proposal to approve funding towards the costs of a new roundabout to
improve access to the Wootton Hall site**

Report by the Acting Chief Executive

5th January 2016

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report makes recommendations regarding a proposal that the Commissioner makes a contribution of £500,000 to Northamptonshire County Council towards the costs of a new roundabout to improve access to the Wootton Hall site.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner is **RECOMMENDED** to approve a financial contribution of £500,000 to Northamptonshire County Council towards the capital costs of a new roundabout to improve access to the Wootton Hall Park site.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Wootton Hall Park site is jointly owned by the Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner and Northamptonshire County Council.
- 3.2 Both organisations are pursuing Estates strategies designed to ensure best use of real estate assets in the context of financial austerity and radical changes in their operating models.
- 3.3 The Commissioner and the County Council have jointly commissioned a 'master planning' exercise which is currently in progress. That will identify a range of options for the potential future use and development of the Wootton Hall Park site.
- 3.4 The putting in place of a new roundabout in order to enable easier access and egress from the Wootton Hall Park site in order will facilitate the future development of the site.

4 PROGRESS TO DATE

- 4.1 Northamptonshire Highways have developed a number of concept designs including signal controlled junctions, different roundabout locations and layouts and a hybrid signal junction. These have been modelled using industry standard modelling software and the performance of each option assessed against the existing layout as the benchmark “do nothing” situation. For the purposes of this modelling (only), the development was assumed to consist of 350 residential dwellings (assumed private) and a secondary school of 1680 pupils and the traffic associated with such developments.
- 4.2 The existing junction configuration was tested and found to be already at capacity without the additional traffic generated by the proposed development of the Wootton Hall site. Therefore the existing layout has not been tested with the additional traffic from the development.
- 4.3 Of the options tested, two options were found to offer capacity improvements suitable to accommodate the increased traffic from the development site, a 50m diameter conventional roundabout and a hybrid signalised roundabout. It is the latter scheme that is being taken forward as the signals offer greater control over the Mereway corridor with the existing roundabouts at each end also being signal controlled. Another benefit of the preferred option is the use of traffic signals to control traffic offers the opportunity to include signalised pedestrian crossing facilities to eliminate the need for an expensive pedestrian footbridge.
- 4.4 The modelling undertaken of the revised site access arrangements indicates that it is possible to come up with a junction in the form of a hybrid signalised roundabout that allows the development traffic to access the site whilst minimising the impacts on the traffic currently using Mereway providing the trips generated by the development due not exceed those generated by the level of development assumed for the modelling.

5 COSTS AND FINANCING

- 5.1 The upper scheme cost limit is currently estimated by the County Council to be £2.7m.
- 5.2 At this stage these costs will be financed as follows:
- £1.7m of Growth Deal funding (2016-17) has been secured towards this scheme;
 - PCC contribution of £500k;
 - The County Council will finance the balance of the scheme costs.
- 5.3 The Acting Director for Resources confirms that the Commissioner’s approved Capital Programme includes £500k for this proposal.

6 THE FUNDING CONTRIBUTION OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

6.1 The contribution of the Commissioner to this scheme is limited to £500,000.

6.2 The Funding from the PCC is conditional on the following:

- the County Council reports to the PCC on progress, and discusses with the PCC any key considerations and decisions in respect of the delivery as appropriate;
- the County Council only uses the funding towards the costs of the project;
- the County Council shall not change, amend or vary the scope or nature of the project without the prior written consent of the PCC.

6.3 If the County Council fails to comply with any of the Funding Conditions set out above, then the PCC may withhold payment of any future instalment of the Funding and/or require all or any part of the Funding to be repaid. The County Council must repay any amount required to be repaid pursuant to this paragraph within 30 days of receiving the demand for repayment.

6.4 The County Council confirms that it will act in good faith to secure value for money for the services and works procured in relation to the Project and shall comply (and shall ensure that its contractors, employees, agents and representatives shall comply) with all applicable laws in the procurement and performance of such services and works.

7 NEXT STEPS

7.1 The current thinking is that works on Mereway will start early in 2016 and are programmed to be complete late Spring 2016.

8 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report constitutes formal advice to the Commissioner from the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer on a proposal to contribute £500,000 to a scheme to create a roundabout to enhance the access to and from the Wootton Hall site.

John Neilson – Acting Chief Executive

Report author

John Neilson

END

