

Impact Assessment

Version 2017

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Assessment of:	Eastern Junction and Interim School Access Junction, South West Exeter
Service:	Planning, Transport and Environment

Head of Service:	Dave Black
Date of sign off by Head of Service/version:	20 September 2019
Assessment carried out by (incl. job title):	Sarah Ratnage, Special Projects and Planning Manager

Section 1 - Background

Description:	<p>South West Exeter is a strategic allocation of 2,500 dwellings and 5 hectares of employment on the edge of Exeter, which spans two administrative areas – Teignbridge District Council and Exeter City Council. The Teignbridge Local Plan allocates land for 2,000 dwellings and the Exeter Core Strategy allocates land for 500 dwellings. SW Exeter is a complex site. The development straddles a key arterial road (the A379), is close to the Exe Estuary Special Protection Area requiring additional mitigation and has multiple land ownerships. It requires a significant amount of infrastructure to enable the development to come forward, much of which is needed early, and involves coordination to minimise disruption.</p> <p>The Eastern Junction will provide access to two parcels of development land at South West Exeter. The Interim School Access Junction will provide access to a further development site and importantly will provide access to a new all-through school.</p>
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Reason for change/review:	<p>The Eastern Junction will unlock two parcels of land and has the potential to speed up delivery of housing.</p> <p>The Interim School Access junction is critical to the delivery of a new all-through school. This is an approved free school to be delivered by government and delivery of the junction will help to prevent delay in the delivery of the school.</p>
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Section 2 - Impacts, options and recommendations

See sections 3, 4 and 5 for background analysis

Options Appraisal and Recommendations:	<p>The Eastern Junction has been proposed by the developer and has planning permission, which was subject to public consultation. As such, alternatives have not been considered.</p> <p>The Interim School Access Junction is proposed to be delivered in advance of a larger junction in this location to expedite the delivery of the access. An alternative would be to not deliver the interim junction and to deliver the full access. As the full junction is larger, and links to other new proposed junctions, this would delay the delivery of the access and have a knock on impact on the delivery of the new school.</p>
Social/equality impacts (summary):	<p>The positive impacts outlined below will be achieved through this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of new homes within the local area, including affordable housing • Delivery of a new all-through school, including nursery provision <p>The following negative impacts may be realised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the short term, during the construction works, it is anticipated that some negative impact will be realised as a result of traffic management.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The negative impact will be mitigated through liaison with Devon County Council's highway co-ordination and traffic management groups. <p>Throughout the construction, local businesses and stakeholders will be kept informed of the proposed works and necessary traffic management.</p>
<p>Environmental impacts (summary):</p>	<p>The following negative impact will be realised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality, introduction of new signal junctions may have a slight impact on air quality as vehicles will be required to stop at red lights There will be the removal of vegetation to enable the delivery of the junctions. This has been considered through the planning application process Lighting – the scheme will require the introduction of some new street lighting <p>The is expected to be a neutral impact on noise, given the existing road.</p>
<p>Economic impacts (summary):</p>	<p>The positive impacts outlined below will be achieved through this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlock housing at South West Exeter and associated employment during construction <p>The following negative impact will be realised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the short term, during the construction works, it is anticipated that some negative impact will be realised as a result of traffic management. <p>This negative impact will be mitigated as far as possible by liaising with Devon County Council's highway co-ordination and traffic management groups.</p>
<p>Other impacts (partner agencies, services, DCC policies, possible 'unintended consequences'):</p>	<p>Unlocking of all-through school at South West Exeter.</p>

How will impacts and actions be monitored?

Housing completions at South West Exeter

Background Analysis

This section describes how relevant questions and issues have been explored during the options appraisal.

Section 3 - Profile and views of stakeholders and people directly affected

People affected:	The delivery of the junctions will affect all road users of the A379.
Diversity profile and needs assessment of affected people:	The proposals have no adverse impact on a specific audience, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation and religion / belief. Improvements to the roundabout approaches improves journey time reliability benefitting all road users. Improvements to the shared paths benefit pedestrians and cyclists.
Other stakeholders (agencies etc.):	Key stakeholders involved in the project include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Members• Developers• Exeter City Council• Teignbridge District Council
Consultation process and results:	Proposals for development have been through the planning process. This includes a consultation process and the acceptability of the proposals are considered as part of this. The planning process includes direct consultation with statutory consultees as well as site notices.
Research and information used:	The Moor Lane roundabout is on Exeter's strategic highway network and as such it was felt appropriate to use the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges to design the highway improvements. Improvements for vulnerable road users were based on the Sustrans Design Manual.

Section 4a - Social Impacts

Giving Due Regard to Equality and Human Rights

The local authority must consider how people will be affected by the service, policy or practice. In so doing we must give due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity and
- Foster good relations.

Where relevant, we must take into account the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, sexual orientation, race, and religion and belief.

This means considering how people with different needs get the different services they require and are not disadvantaged, and facilities are available to them on an equal basis in order to meet their needs; advancing equality of opportunity by recognising the disadvantages to which protected groups are subject and considering how they can be overcome.

We also need to ensure that human rights are protected. In particular, that people have:

- A reasonable level of choice in where and how they live their life and interact with others (this is an aspect of the human right to 'private and family life').
- An appropriate level of care which results in dignity and respect (the protection to a private and family life, protection from torture and the freedom of thought, belief and religion within the Human Rights Act and elimination of discrimination and the promotion of good relations under the Equality Act 2010).
- A right to life (ensuring that nothing we do results in unlawful or unnecessary/avoidable death).

The Equality Act 2010 and other relevant legislation does not prevent the Council from taking difficult decisions which result in service reductions or closures for example, it does however require the Council to ensure that such decisions are:

- Informed and properly considered with a rigorous, conscious approach and open mind, taking due regard of the effects on the protected characteristics and the general duty to eliminate discrimination, advance equality and foster good relations.
- Proportionate (negative impacts are proportionate to the aims of the policy decision)
- Fair

- Necessary
- Reasonable, and
- Those affected have been adequately consulted.

Characteristics	<p>In what way can you eliminate or reduce the potential for direct or indirect discrimination, harassment or disadvantage?</p> <p>Are there any lawful, reasonable and proportionate, unavoidable negative consequences?</p>	<p>In what way can you advance equality (meet needs, encourage participation, make adjustments for disabled people, 'close gaps').</p> <p>In what way can you foster good relations between groups (tackle prejudice and promote understanding), if relevant?</p>
All residents (include generic equality provisions):	The proposals allow for vehicular access to the site. Provision is also made for pedestrian / cycle access along the A379, with the addition of a separate crossing across the A379 in relation to the Eastern Junction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of connection across A379 to connect to existing pedestrian / cycle route
Age:	Not relevant	Supports provision of all-through school which will benefit school age children.
Disability (incl. sensory, mobility, mental health, learning disability, ill health) and carers of disabled people:	Not relevant	Not relevant

Culture and ethnicity: nationality/national origin, skin colour, religion and belief:	Not relevant	Not relevant
Sex, gender and gender identity (including men, women, non-binary and transgender people), and pregnancy and maternity (including women's right to breastfeed).	Not relevant	Not relevant
Sexual orientation and marriage/civil partnership:	Not relevant	Not relevant
Other socio-economic factors such as families, carers, single people/couples, low income, vulnerability, education, reading/writing skills, 'digital exclusion' and rural isolation.	Not relevant	Not relevant
Human rights considerations:	Not relevant	

Supporting independence, wellbeing and resilience?

Give consideration to the groups listed above and how they may have different needs.

In what way can you support and create opportunities for people and communities (of	Provision of new junctions will support the delivery of a new development, including associated community facilities.
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place and interest) to be independent, empowered and resourceful?	
In what way can you help people to be safe, protected from harm, and with good health and wellbeing?	The provision of a crossing facility to connect to an existing cycle route will contribute to the independence and wellbeing of the general public.
In what way can you help people to be connected, and involved in community activities?	The infrastructure will help support the delivery of new development, including future community facilities.

Section 4b - Environmental impacts

An impact assessment should give due regard to the following activities in order to ensure we meet a range of environmental legal duties.

The policy or practice does not require the identification of environmental impacts using this Impact Assessment process because it is subject to (please select from the table below and proceed to the 4c, otherwise complete the environmental analysis table):

	Devon County Council's Environmental Review Process
X	Planning Permission
	Environmental Impact Assessment
	Strategic Environmental Assessment

	Describe any actual or potential negative consequences.	Describe any actual or potential neutral or positive outcomes.
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	(Consider how to mitigate against these).	(Consider how to improve as far as possible).
Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost:		1
Conserve and enhance wildlife:		
Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of Devon's landscape:		
Conserve and enhance Devon's cultural and historic heritage:		
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions:		
Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise):		
Contribute to reducing water consumption:		
Ensure resilience to the future effects of climate change (warmer, wetter winters; drier, hotter summers; more intense storms; and rising sea level):		

Other (please state below):		
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Section 4c - Economic impacts

	Describe any actual or potential negative consequences. (Consider how to mitigate against these).	Describe any actual or potential neutral or positive outcomes. (Consider how to improve as far as possible).
Impact on knowledge and skills:	Not applicable	Enables delivery of new all-through school at South West Exeter
Impact on employment levels:	Not applicable	Enables delivery of new all-through school at South West Exeter which will provide employment.
Impact on local business:	Potential negative impact on local business e.g. at Marsh Barton during construction.	

Section 4d -Combined Impacts

Linkages or conflicts between social, environmental and economic impacts:	The implementation of the schemes will unlock housing at South West Exeter. Providing housing in areas where people want to live is one of the key aims of the Government.
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Section 5 - 'Social Value' of planned commissioned/procured services:

How will the economic, social and environmental well-being of the relevant area be improved through what is being	The proposals will support the delivery of development and a new all-through school, supporting social value in the area.
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proposed? And how, in conducting the process of procurement, might that improvement be secured?