

Regarding the recent survey, there had been 3,300 responses on line, 400 on paper. Because so many, not yet fully analysed. Members will be informed as soon as available.

Ash Pal, who ran the meeting, gave a report of a recent meeting between Highways England and WSCC. The gist of it was that H.E. definitely want to do something re the A27. They came to brief and listen. Minutes sent last Saturday (presumably to Roger in our case).

1. RIS2 scheme still has no timing, therefore no budget, nor evaluation measures.
2. This does not mean we can have more time.
3. RIS1 was very prescriptive about upgrading 4 junctions. H.E. says we are no longer tied to that, so would like us to be more flexible.
4. H.E. is not responsible for RIS schemes, just run it for Dept of Transport, which is responsible for RIS.
5. **If there is no community consensus there will be no RIS scheme for us. MP, CDC and WSCC need to be in unison. This community consensus is the most important thing to get right.**
6. H.E. think our current level of detail (i.e. what was put out in the survey) is fine. They are happy with a 'concept'.
7. It will be evaluated against other projects nationally.
8. H.E. did not say "take northern option options off the table as absolutely no go", therefore these options remain for evaluation.

From then on the talk was all about 'concepts'.

What we offer must be different to before; the idea is to offer three possible options, Good, Better and Best.

Ash then gave an update on the responses from the last BABA27 meeting, though he said these were still being evaluated:

1. Tweaking of junctions not ambitious enough.
2. *Some* measures at junctions plus technology potential way of moving forward.
3. Avoid flyovers, and left-hand only turns not popular.
4. Southern off-line has challenges.
5. Split views on northern off-line routes. Would require significant mitigation of environmental and business impacts.
6. No appetite for improving northern local roads.

Answers to questions:

- No representative present from Road Haulage Association.
- Goodwood rep was there but did not wish to speak.
- West Sussex Growers' Association – let's just move forward.
- Brian Hepplethwaite – Cycling: we should have these extras as part and parcel of what we put forward.
- Stockbridge: Air pollution a big concern. Don't let this opportunity to improve it pass.
- Emergency diversionary route needed.
- Agreed local and through traffic needs to be separated. Should we add cyclists and pedestrians to this?
- Chichester Society is divided.
- Sidlesham praised Systra for their long list.
- Southbourne: no-one is thinking about the west, though there is a lot more housing going on there. Worried about construction disruption.

I then asked "How do we evaluate a concept if we are only given patchy information, i.e. no costs, no maps?". I was told we would not be given any costs, that would come later. Ash Pal said that it is not Systra's job to produce costs.

Next meeting will be announced asap. It will be an important one. We were told to 'get ready, and get your group together', so it sounds as if we may have to have another committee meeting at short notice to put in a response.

Sue Spooner

for Summersdale Residents Association