

Our ref: MGT0521LT0032

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Date: 10 February 2022

To Stakeholders,

Subject: A701 Relief Road & A702 Link Road, Stakeholder Consultation

Midlothian Council has appointed a project team to deliver the A701 Relief Road & A702 Link Road from initial route selection, through the design and planning process, and onto construction. The project team includes a Lead Designer, Environmental and Planning Consultants and Traffic Consultants. Within the project team RPS has been commissioned as Civils Project Manager

The A701 Relief Road & A702 Link Road scheme represents essential infrastructure required to support planned development and to and ease traffic congestion within the A701 corridor. When the new A701 relief road is in place it will enable the existing A701 to be developed to incorporate improved sustainable transport modes including bus lanes as well as dedicated pedestrian and cycle facilities.

The scheme was identified as a committed project within both the *Midlothian Local Development Plan 2017* and the *City Region Deal 2018*.

Currently, the route selection phase is being progressed and the design team has identified six route options which are available on the project website: www.a701reliefroad.co.uk. The study area, and the indicative area of road development, are shown in the figure below:



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The project team conducted a virtual public consultation event on 5 October 2021. This event was carried out online with stakeholders and members of the public able to connect and watch a video of the project team presenting the range of route options being considered. After the presentation of the options, the project team responded to queries. A recording of this event, and responses to questions raised during the event, is available on the project website: www.a701reliefroad.co.uk.

We would greatly appreciate if you could provide any observations or comments you may have regarding constraints or opportunities within the six routes, or any observations on the project in general to the undersigned by Friday 28th February 2022.

If you have any specific queries you would like to discuss, please contact the undersigned and meetings can be arranged as required.

Please note that comments and feedback provided at this stage will not constitute formal representation to the future planning application. Should you wish to make formal representation to the planning application that would require to be directed to the planning authority (Midlothian Council) when the planning application is registered.

It is our intention to consult with you again as the project progresses.

Yours sincerely,
for RPS Consulting Engineers Limited



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cc: Hugh Meikle, Midlothian Council
Neil Wallace, Midlothian Council
Fraser Gilbert, Midlothian Council
Dermot Harte, RPS