Meeting: EWR & Bedford Borough Council Highways Catch-up

Held on: Friday 13 March (10:30 – 11:50)

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Bedford Borough Council

- Matthew Soper (MS)
- David Bennett (DB)
- Andrew Prigmore (AP)

Representatives also from EWR Co

Meeting objectives: To review and better understand DB's Highways concerns and to get sight of DB's written comments from the previous Highways Working Groups

Meeting summary:

1. **Group Discussion**: EWR Co sought to better understand BBC/DB's concerns and stressed the need for written feedback to support effective tracking ahead of the Statement of Common Ground.
2. **Review of DB's Draft Written Responses:** DB confirmed satisfaction with the departures process while EWR Co outlined progress on audits and committed to improving issue-tracking and document sharing.
3. **Design Speeds by Route Section:** DB raised concerns mainly around the Colesden Road diversion, with both sides agreeing to review geometry, visibility, and potential construction diversions.
4. **Colesden Road Diversion – Route Section 4:** DB highlighted that the proposed geometry could encourage higher speeds, prompting EWR Co to explore refinements, mitigations, and improved document coordination.
5. **Route Section 3:** DB/MS raised issues with the Britannia Road layout and crossings, leading EWR Co to commit to further modelling and to request clarity on council-led schemes and future-proofing needs.
6. **Route Section 2 – Broadmead Road & Universal:** BBC noted limited detail on Universal's plans, and EWR Co agreed to follow up on previously submitted comments to address outstanding issues.
7. **Upcoming Meetings, Working Groups, and Workshops:** The group confirmed the April sessions and agreed to schedule an additional focused design workshop in the following weeks.**]**

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