


## Introduction

Councillor Vernon Smith in conjunction with Tewkesbury Town Council organised an exhibition on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021 between 10am and 4pm at the Watson Hall, to display future projects which are being considered in the Tewkesbury area, to give members of the public an opportunity to make comments. These comments will be passed to the relevant organisations to advise them on residents feeling. It's important to note that this was an informal consultation exercise and not part of a statutory consultation.

161 feedback forms were completed in total.


# TEWKESBURY



# 2030


## Future Projects Exhibition


Co-ordinated by Councillor Vernon Smith



At: The Watson Hall, Barton Street.  
On: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 10am – 4pm  
**FREE ENTRY**

We invite you to visit the exhibition and welcome your input and comments on the upcoming projects planned for our area.





**Stands will include:**

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| £28M Flood Defence Concept Drawings    | Tewkesbury Civic Society            |
| New Cycleways Proposals                | Tewkesbury in Bloom                 |
| M5/Jon 9 and A46 Improvement Project   | M5/ Jon 10 Improvement Scheme       |
| Ashchurch Garden Town Concept          | New Cycleways Proposals             |
| Carbon Footprint Environment Reduction | Electric Vehicle Charging Points    |
| Upcoming Local Highways schemes        | Tewkesbury Nature Reserve           |
| Future Policing                        | Town Heritage Development Proposals |

And many more...

**EXHIBITION SUPPORTED BY:**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Tewkesbury Town Council                     | TAAG (Teddington and Alstone Advisory Group)  |
| Gloucestershire County Council Highways     | Tewkesbury Growth Hub                         |
| Tewkesbury Borough Council                  | New Police & Crime Commissioner, Chris Nelson |
| Laurence Robertson MP                       | Save our Lanes (SOL)                          |
| Severn and Avon Valley Combined Flood Group |   |

With thanks to Tewkesbury Town Councillors and the volunteers for their hard work and support with this exhibition and to Newtown W.I. for kindly providing the refreshments.

## Displays:

Flood Defence Concept Drawings

New Cycleway Proposals

M5/J9 and A46 Improvement Project

Ashchurch Garden Town Concept

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

Tewkesbury Nature Reserve

Town Heritage Development Proposals.

Tewkesbury Civic Society

Tewkesbury in Bloom

M5/J10 Improvement Scheme

Carbon Footprint Environment Reduction

Upcoming Local Highways Schemes

Future Policing

## A46 display

The display included:

- Changes to the M5 Junction 10 improvement scheme
- Map of the routes put forward in 1993 which included a bypass for Beckford
- Diagrams of the 2018 routes from an Options Assessment Report (OAR) produced by National Highways and obtained by Freedom of Information request). There were three potential routes in this report. - Appendix 1
  - South bound slips on the M5 approximately 2 miles south of the current J9, joining the A435 just north of Oxenton
  - A full junction at the same location with a slightly more southern route joining the A435 just north of Oxenton
  - A route from J 10 of the M5 which would then skirt Bishops Cleeve and join the A435 at Gotherington.
- Cllr Vernon Smith's business case, outlining his reasons for favouring a route from Junction 10 to the A46 west of the A435.
- TAAG provided additional display material giving reasons as to why any route should avoid using the A435, along with maps to allow visitors to orientate themselves.

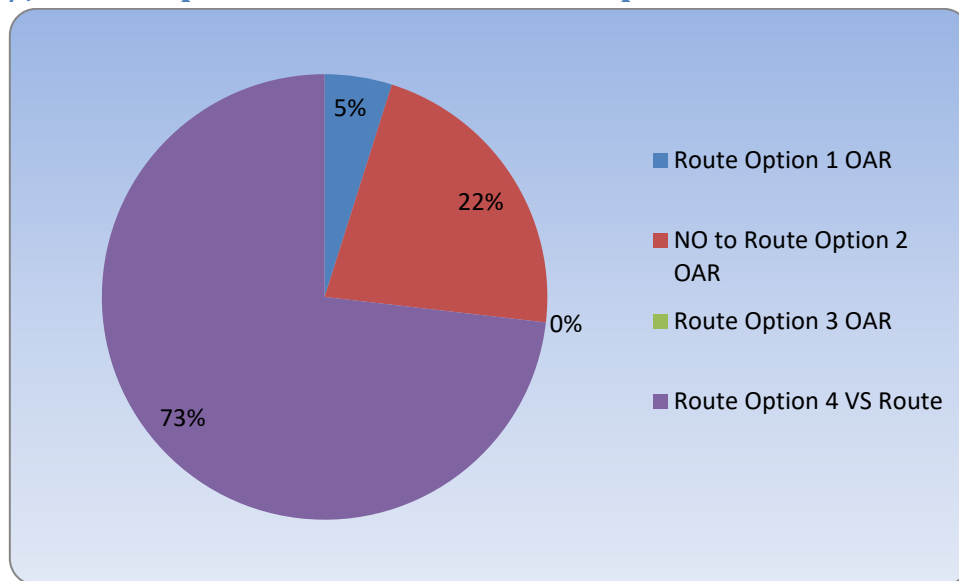
## A46 review of responses

The stand was visited by many of the 520 visitors in attendance, The feedback summarised in this report includes all views based on the exhibition materials that the Council provided on the 18th of September.

The findings are based on feedback forms. All feedback forms were read and analysed using MS Excel, There were 158 comments recorded and these have been categorised into five:

- The M5/J9 A46 Improvement Scheme
- M5/J10 Improvement Scheme
- Carbon/ Pollution/ Flooding
- Highway Schemes/Affects
- Alternatives.

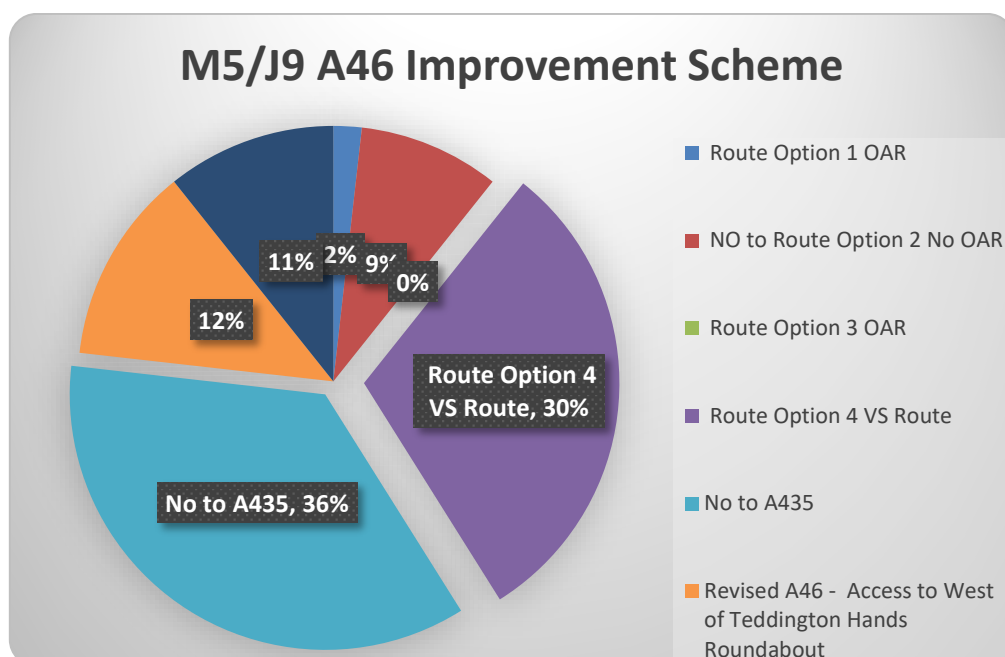
## The M5/J9 A46 Improvement Scheme Route Options



See Appendix 1 for route options 1-3 and Appendix 2 for Option 4

- As can be seen from the graph, with 73% of comments in favour of Option 4 the route from Teddington Hands to J10 M5, avoiding the A435.
- 22% of comments were **against** Option 2 the route from Teddington Hands to a new J9A mainly because of the link to the horses roundabout.
- It should be noted that no comments in favour of Option 3 were received.

## Review of ALL Comments M5/J9 Improvement Scheme



- As part of all the responses not using the A435 was commented on by the majority of respondents (36%)

## Other notable comments

The vast majority of visitors to the stand were concerned about the rerouting of the A46 (Ashchurch bypass). Some (20%) mentioned the cost of a scheme, as well as road planning should be decided upon before finalising any Garden Town plans. However, the vast majority were concerned about the actual route.

20% asked why a northern route hadn't been discussed and felt this would be a better solution.

Respondents were upset about the possibility of route option 2, especially if it includes the A38 link to the "horse" roundabout. They live on the Bloor estate and felt their quality life would be ruined.

5% of respondents said we shouldn't have a new road scheme at all and a further 5% were worried about induced traffic.

30% of respondents said they supported Cllr Vernon Smith's proposed route in its entirety.

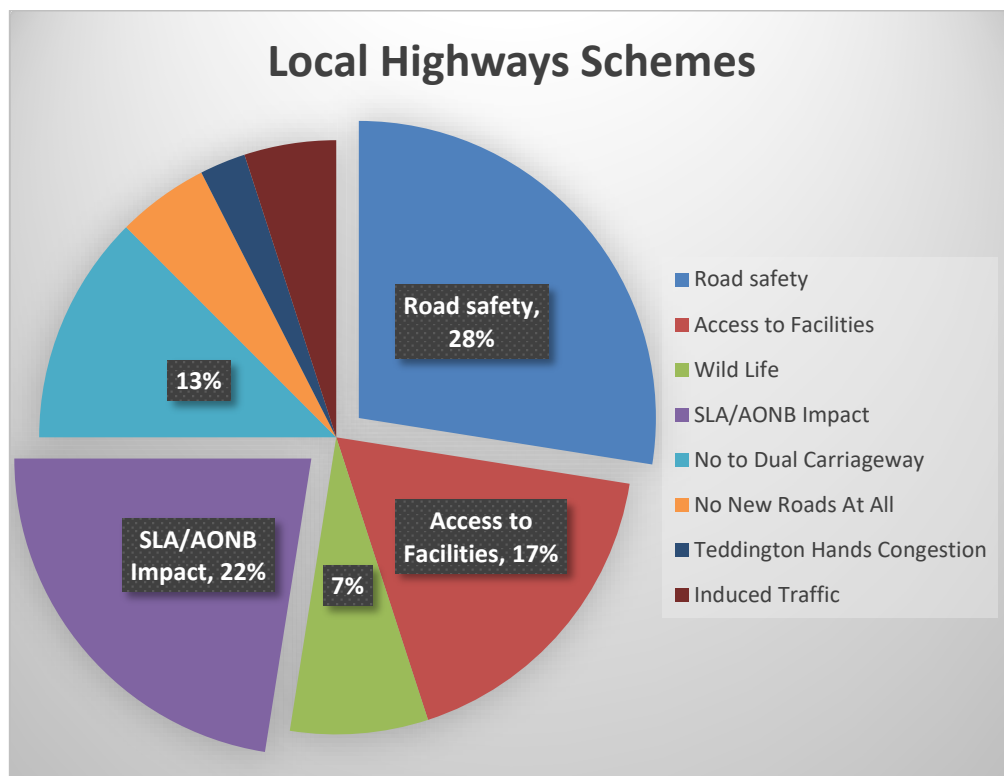
36% said the A435 should not be used as part of the road scheme and that whatever route was chosen this new route should join the present A46 between the Aston Cross lights and Teddington Hands roundabout (13%). Many reasons were cited including road safety (28%) see Appendix 3 for an example, the impact on the AONB and Special Landscape Area (23%) and the difficulty in accessing local facilities at Teddington Hands roundabout (18%). Other concerns regarding using the A435 included flood risk (20%), increased levels of pollution (27%), unacceptable noise levels (24%) and the Environment/Climate Emergency (7%). With 15% expressing concerns as to the environment in general.

## M5/J10 Improvement Scheme

Regarding the reconfiguration of M5 Junction 10 a respondent asked about the park-and-ride scheme that features in the 2016 Joint Core Strategy that does not seem to feature in the present plans.

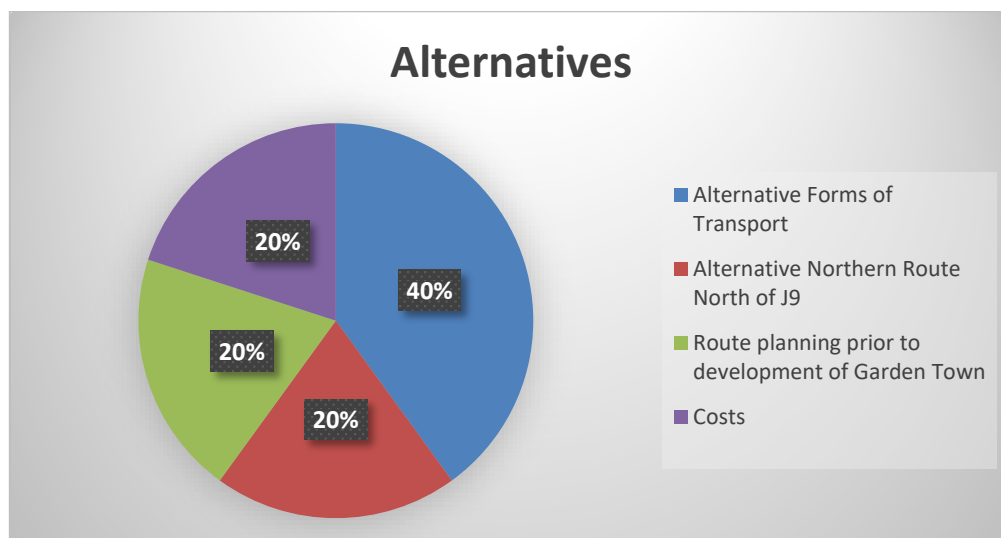
One respondent mentioned that if the A46 was to join a roundabout on the A4019 that this would lead to overcapacity and traffic on the A4019 would "grind to a halt."

## Highway Schemes/Effects



The comments here were concerned with the local environment/landscape and how any road scheme would negatively affect the AONB. Road safety was a major concern with people saying that the A435, with the present level of traffic, is a dangerous road and that increased road traffic volumes would only make the situation worse. One respondent told of a very dangerous situation that could have been fatal. (INF 7)

## Alternatives



Several respondents talked about alternative forms of transport being a better solution, “getting freight back on railways” and improving local transport systems etc.

Whilst electric charging points were not mentioned on the infrastructure stand there were three comments relating to EV charging. All said that more charging points were needed in Tewkesbury and the surrounding area.

## Conclusion

Based on the comments received from the material displayed on the Infrastructure stand people were in favour of Cllr Smith's business case and for any scheme to avoid the A435. 'Developments' display

## Developments display

Tewkesbury Borough Council Supplied, **Tewkesbury Garden Town Masterplan** drawing, plus a document entitled '**Tewkesbury Garden Town Programme Introduction**'. In addition a map 'Figure 28': **Tewkesbury Garden Town Concept Masterplan in context** was displayed.

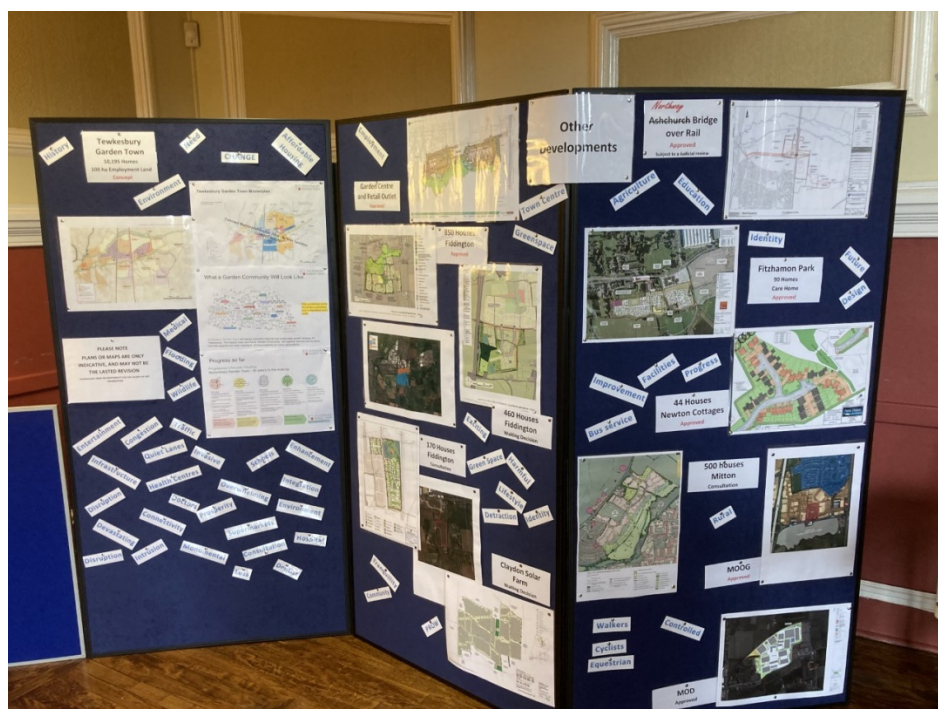
Other developments which have either been approved, are waiting a decision or are under consultation by the developers, basic plans were also displayed.

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Ashchurch Bridge over Rail (ABoR)   | Garden Centre and Retail outlet Ashchurch |
| 90 Homes + Care home Fitzhamon Park | 44 homes Behind Newton Cottages           |
| 850 Homes Fiddington                | 460 Homes Fiddington                      |
| 170 Homes Fiddington                | Claydon Solar Farm                        |
| 500 Homes Mitton                    | 235 Homes The Mythe                       |
| MOOG factory                        | MOD Regeneration                          |

It was noted that the poultry farm at Starveal (Pamington), regeneration of the town centre including Healings mill and the old Cascades site would be a good additions for future events.

The display also included some positive and negative 'mood' words such as –

|                    |              |                |             |              |              |           |          |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Need               | Loss         | Exciting       | Intrusion   | Employment   | Environment  | Lifestyle | Flooding |
| Affordable Housing | Facilities   | Infrastructure | Greenspace  | Congestion   | Supermarkets |           |          |
| Entertainment      | Identity     | Wildlife       | Community   | Town Centre  | Quiet Lanes  | Change    |          |
| Prosperity         | Future       | Improvement    | Health Care | Connectivity | Enhancement  | Progress  |          |
| History            | Consultation | Design         | Disruption  | Education.   |              |           |          |



## Developments

The following comment headings were identified from the feedback sheets and entered into a spreadsheet (see Appendix A). From the **58 Forms** with comments relating to **developments 110 comments** were identified. Unfortunately, no positive feedback was left; therefore the results of the comments below are negative.

|                                     | Number of times comment appeared |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>1. Roads/Infrastructure</b>      | <b>31</b>                        |
| a. Congestion A46 – ABoR – Northway |                                  |
| b. Alternative modes of transport   |                                  |
| <b>2. Flooding</b>                  | <b>26</b>                        |
| a. Climate Change                   |                                  |
| <b>3. Suitable housing</b>          | <b>1</b>                         |
| a. Housing Type                     |                                  |
| <b>4. Services</b>                  | <b>3</b>                         |
| a. Sewage – Water                   |                                  |
| <b>5. Facilities</b>                | <b>5</b>                         |
| a. Schools                          |                                  |
| b. Bus Service                      |                                  |
| c. Railway                          |                                  |
| <b>6. Communication</b>             | <b>11</b>                        |
| a. Poor – unaware of developments   |                                  |
| b. No feedback to concerns          |                                  |
| <b>7. Overdevelopment</b>           | <b>12</b>                        |
| <b>8. Road safety</b>               | <b>4</b>                         |
| <b>9. Pollution</b>                 | <b>4</b>                         |

## 10. Loss of amenity

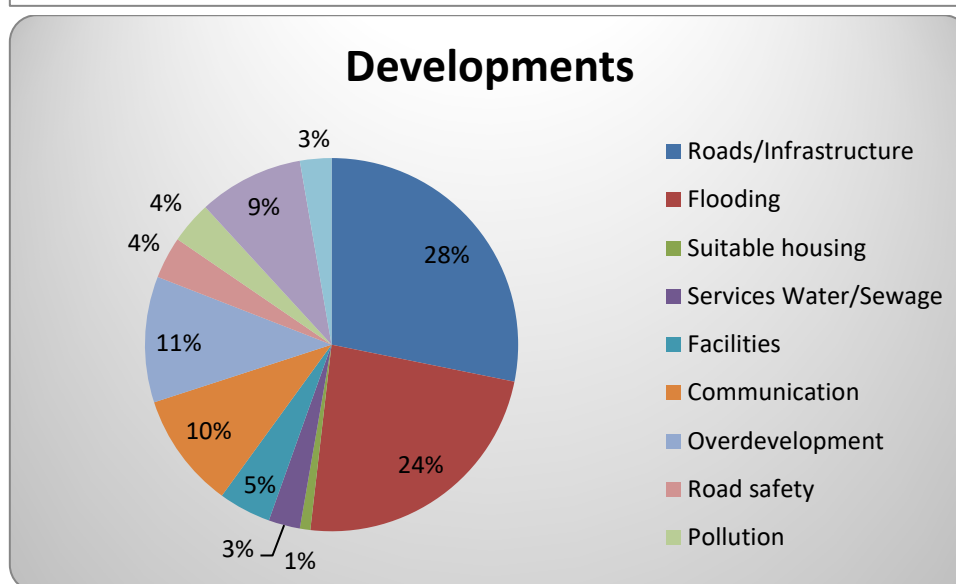
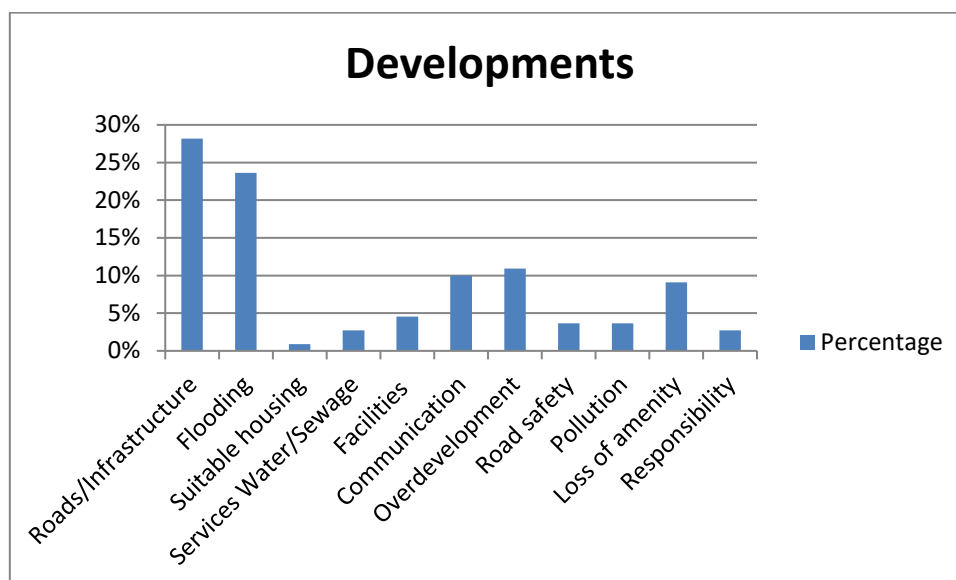
10

- a. Existing peaceful location
- b. Loss to Town
- c. Character
- d. Wildlife habitat

## 11. Responsibility

3

- a. Concerns that developers do not take future responsibility.



## Review of comments

From the above information it can be clearly seen that the majority of concerns are with the amount of developments that have planning permission, are awaiting a decision or are in consultation, mainly relating to the infrastructure, particularly traffic congestion (A46 & Northway) followed by concerns of flooding and the impact of climate change and the predicted increase in flooding



events. Loss of amenity, such as the Tewkesbury area's existing character, the impact on the town centre, and wildlife, with what was considered to be overdevelopment. .

**Communication was identified and needs to be improved** by the various stakeholders, many of the concerns are either being addressed or being looked into, **however** the vast majority of people who commented either by the feedback forms or who we spoke at the exhibition, were unaware of the proposed solutions and where people had taken an interest they found the information longwinded and complicated and when they took the time to respond to planning applications or consultation, they **felt that they were not listened too** particularly in the case of the ABoR, where apart from the bridge, no other details (roads/housing) were made available.

Comments made - *no one cares – no one listens – only ask for comments but never give feedback – Furious*

Other notable feedback:-

- Tewkesbury should be taken as a special case, due to the location next to two rivers and the associated flooding.
- Interconnection between developments is key.
- More consideration for greenspace, trees and wooded areas.
- Developers are not held responsible or use loophole in planning procedures.

## Conclusion

Although many people were accepting of the need for more housing, and welcomed new employment opportunities, developments of the size displayed were generally not wanted due to the impact on the existing communities' lifestyle. Significant consideration should be given to the location and how such developments should be integrated with existing communities.

It should be noted the lack of positive comments, it is understood that there are members of the community that welcome large scale development, however they were not representative of the visitors who made comments at the exhibition.

Consideration should also be given as to how communication from the local authorities can be improved, it is understood that the nation has been in a pandemic but it was still felt that communication has been very poor.

Some suggestions for better communication, these need to be in laymen's terms and could be communicated by, Newsletter, Post, Facebook.

- Why the need for large scale developments.
- Abridged versions of planning applications.
- Consultation meetings.
- Solution reviews.
- Honest feedback on consultations.

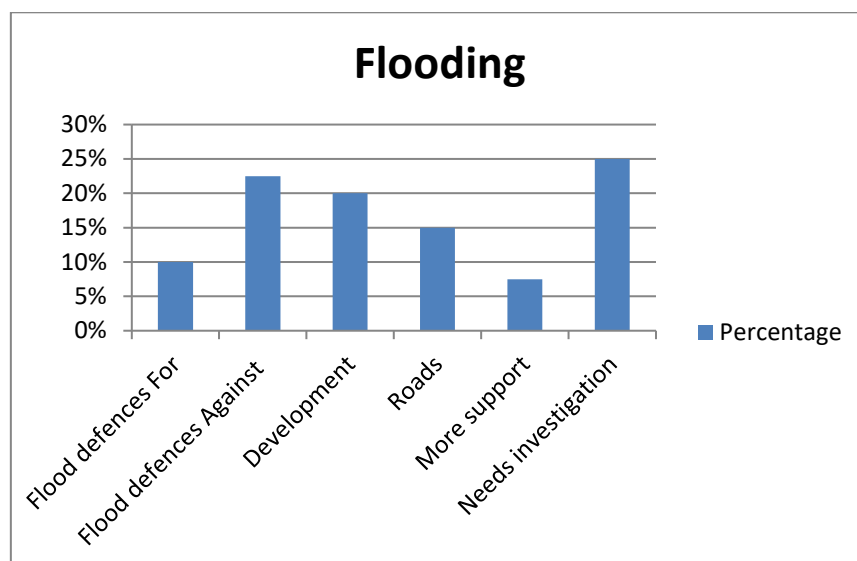
# Flooding

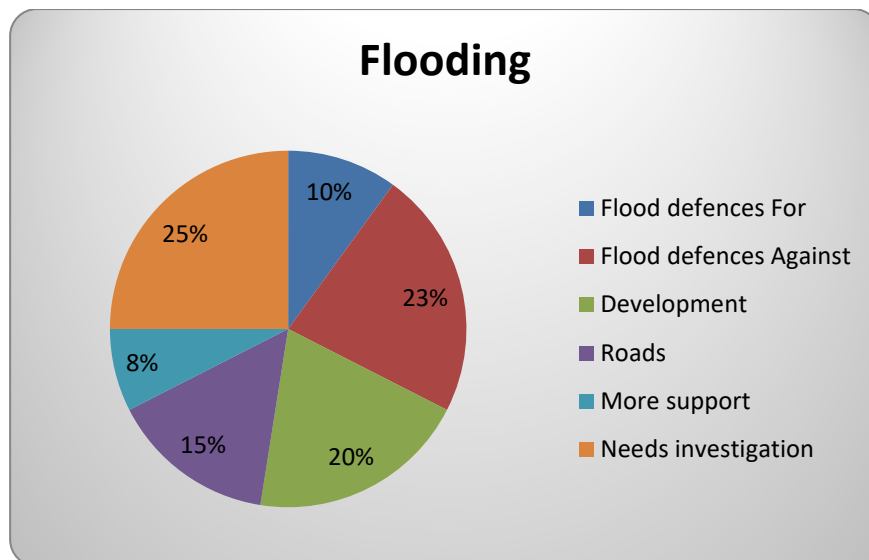
A display of proposed flood defences concept drawings from 2011

The following comment headings were identified from the feedback sheets and entered into a spreadsheet. From the **30 forms** with comments relating to **flooding 40 comments** were identified.

Number of times comment appeared

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Flood Defences For</b>                                     | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>2. Flood Defences Against</b>                                 | <b>9</b>  |
| a. Concerns where water would go                                 |           |
| <b>3. Impact of New Development</b>                              | <b>8</b>  |
| a. Concerns of impact of new Development on Flooding             |           |
| b. Building on Flood Plains                                      |           |
| <b>4. Impact of New Roads</b>                                    | <b>6</b>  |
| a. Concerns of impact of new Roads on Flooding                   |           |
| <b>5. More Support</b>   | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>6. More Investigation of Flooding</b>                         | <b>10</b> |
| a. What can be done to alleviate flooding to existing properties |           |





## Review of comments

### Notable Comments

- Dredging rivers etc.
- Building on flood plains impact on flooding
- Flood defences in other Towns creating problems for Tewkesbury.

Various improvements suggestions were made

- Better support for flood victims.
- Better information regarding what could be done to eliminate flooding.

Although the flood defence concept drawings were welcomed as a concept, it can be seen that the majority of comments were against building them, due to concerns that the flood water would be dispersed and exaggerate the flooding elsewhere.

It can be seen that there are concerns with building whether Properties Roads and the affect it will have on flooding.

More support is needed for flood victims, and investigation on how flooding can be avoided.

## Conclusion

Flooding is of particular interest to residents of Tewkesbury, whether just because of the inconvenience of road closures, or the fear of property flooding. It is important for residents that Flooding and solutions for prevention are investigated; the results of investigations should be regularly communicated to residents.

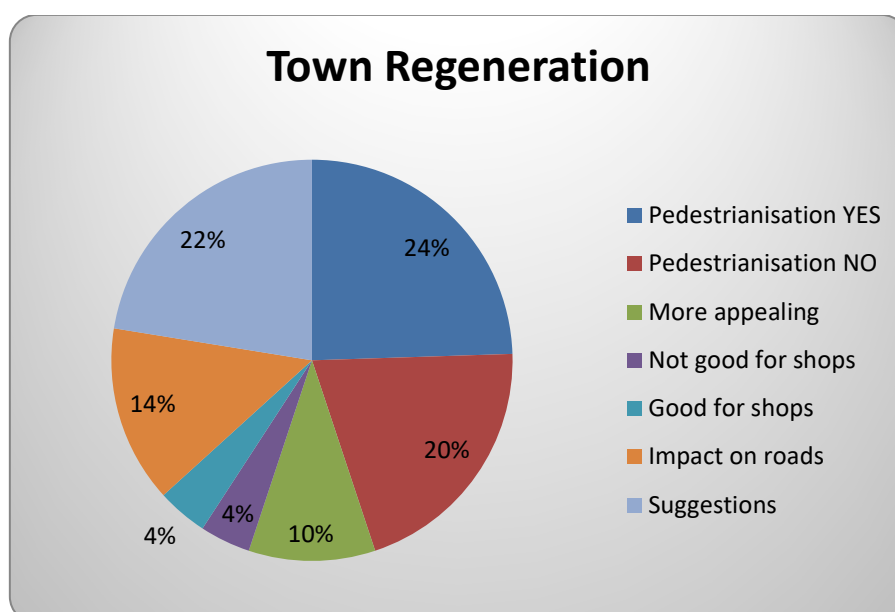
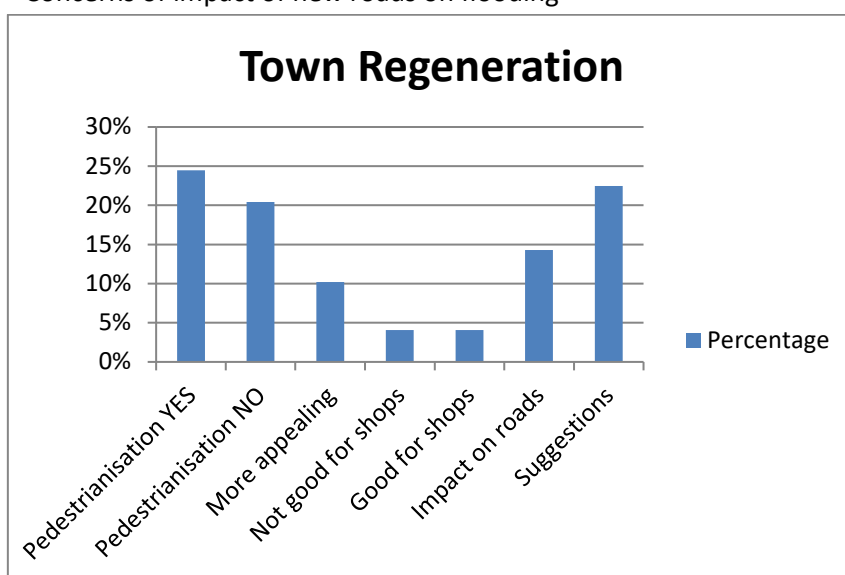
# Town Centre regeneration/improvements

A display of proposed changes to the town centre

The following comment headings were identified from the feedback sheets and entered into a spreadsheet (see Appendix A). From the **28 Forms** with comments relating to **Town Centre Improvements 49 comments** were identified.

Number of times comment appeared

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Pedestrianisation FOR</b>                | <b>12</b> |
| a. More appealing town                         | <b>5</b>  |
| b. Good for shops                              | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>2. Pedestrianisation AGAINST</b>            | <b>10</b> |
| a. Not good for shops                          | <b>2</b>  |
| b. Impact on other roads                       | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>3. Suggestions</b>                          | <b>11</b> |
| a. Concerns of impact of new roads on flooding |           |



## Review of comments

### Notable comments

- Keep one lane open (one-way system).
- Existing bollard should be removed.
- 20mph speed limit.
- More information on grants for building fronts
- Reduction of pollution
- Attract visitors
- Tewkesbury is a lovely town

### Various improvements suggestions were made

- Privacy film on vacant shops, possibly with suitable image related to Tewkesbury
- Spring gardens (Cascades) – Park area green space
- Pedestrian crossing on Mythe road to service PROW
- Weeding on paths (Northway)
- Changes to St Mary's lane junction with Church St to avoid collisions.

## Conclusion

The regeneration and improvements to the town centre is very welcome, pedestrianisation of the High Street was 12 for 10 against, with an equal number who thought it would be good for shops as those who thought it would not be good for shops. All those who commented for or against pedestrianisation were enthusiastic so further investigation would be required.

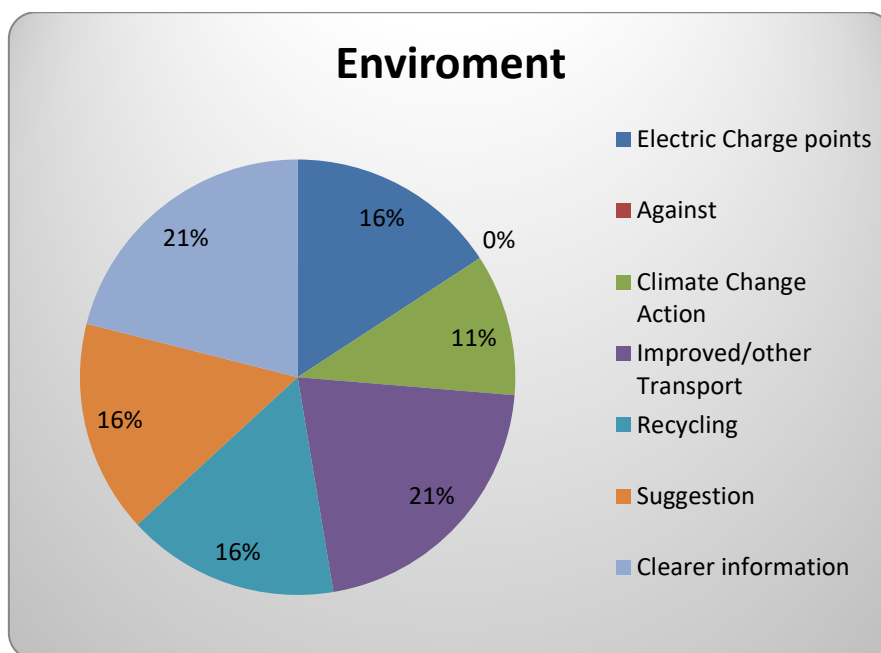
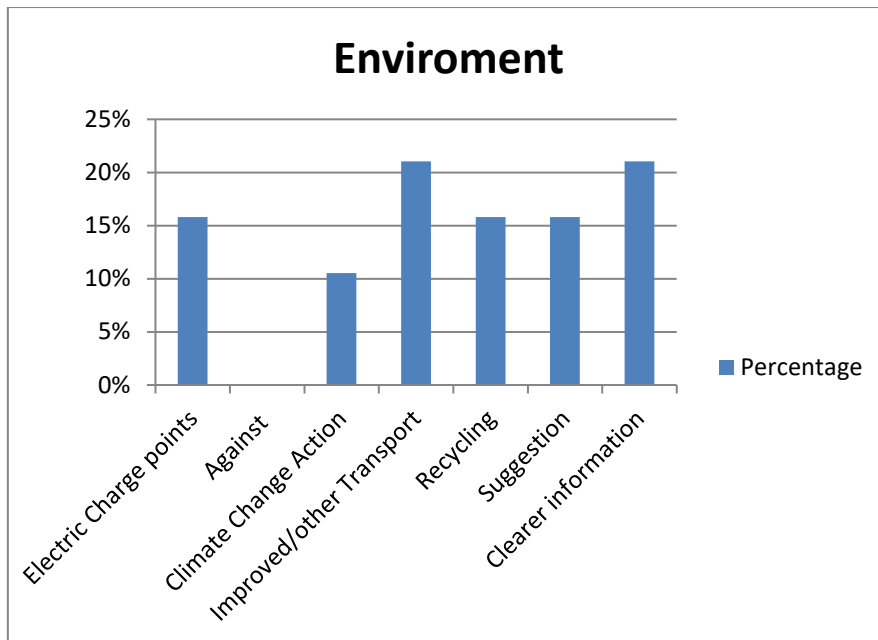
### Response to residents regarding grants

## Environment

The following comment headings were identified from the feedback sheets and entered into a spreadsheet. From the **13 Forms** with **19** comments relating to **Environment issues**

### Number of times comment appeared

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>1. Electric Car Charge points</b> |          |
| a. For                               | <b>3</b> |
| b. Against                           | <b>0</b> |
| <b>2. Climate change action</b>      |          |
| a. Improved Public transport         | <b>4</b> |
| b. Recycling queries                 | <b>3</b> |
| c. Clearer information               | <b>4</b> |
| d. Suggestions                       | <b>3</b> |



## Review of Comments

### Notable Comments

- Where would car charging points go. What about houses in town centre.
- Council charge points are used by council employees
- Little action from GCC on Climate Change.
- Climate change should be on everyone's agenda
- Is plastic recycling, recycled or going to Javelin Park

Various improvements suggestions were made

- New shuttle Bus service from new Garden Centre and retail Outlet to Tewkesbury Town.
- Charging points in main car park
- More information as to what happens to our recycling, and energy generation from recycling.
- More LED's to reduce energy requirements, consider turning off.
- Extra platforms at Ashchurch Railway station

## Conclusion

To be reviewed.

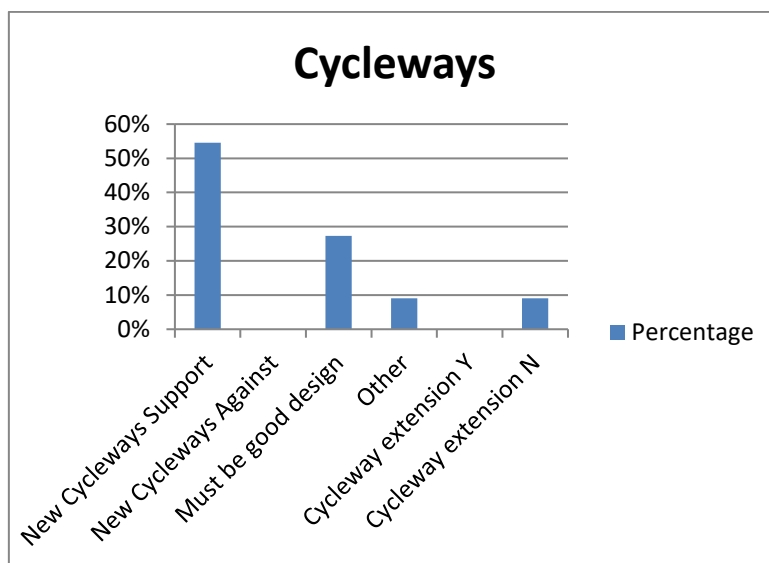
## Cycleways

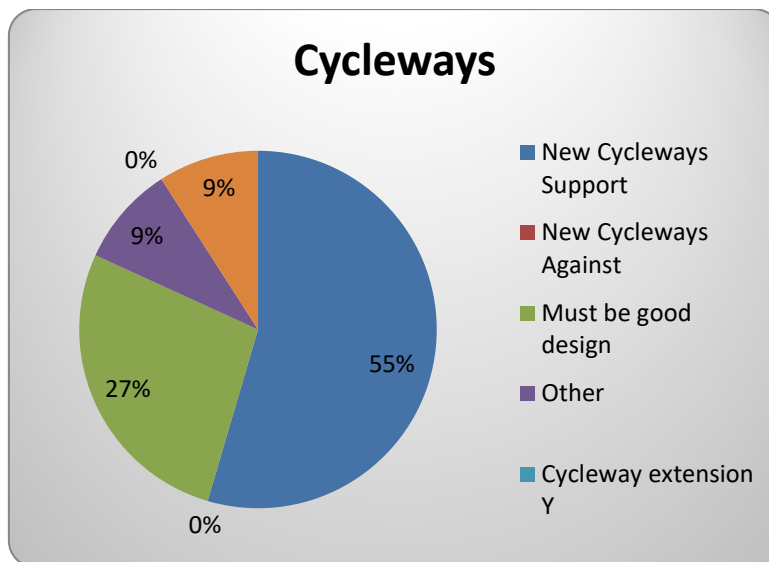
A display of proposed extension to the Cycleway from Mitton to town

The following comment headings were identified from the feedback sheets and entered into a spreadsheet From the **14 forms** with **22** comments relating to **cycleways**

Number of times comment appeared

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Supporting of More cycleways</b> | <b>12</b> |
| a. Must be suitable design             | <b>6</b>  |
| b. Against more cycleways              | <b>0</b>  |
| <b>2. Other</b>                        | <b>2</b>  |
| a. Not good for shops                  | <b>2</b>  |
| b. Impact on other roads               | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>3. Proposed Cycleway Extension</b>  |           |
| a. For                                 | <b>0</b>  |
| b. Against                             | <b>2</b>  |





## Review of comments

### Notable comments

- More and more cycle tracks please
- Losing quiet lanes due to new developments.
- Connectivity of cycle ways
- General danger of pot holes for cyclists
- Consult cyclists when designing cycle ways to make them easy. Safe and friendly

### Various improvements suggestions were made

- More cycle racks
- New developments to have segregated cycling provision
- Mitton to Northway Lane cycle path to be raised above flood
- Cycle ways should be lit
- Education for cyclists to use the cycle ways more

## Conclusion

The vast majority of respondents encouraged more cycleways, it was also noted that these would need to be well designed, to ensure they are easy, safe and cycle friendly which would encourage not only existing cyclist but also new cyclists to use them.

## Tewkesbury in Bloom

Two respondents wished to thank Tewkesbury in Bloom for the superb displays they were enjoyed very much.

## Response required

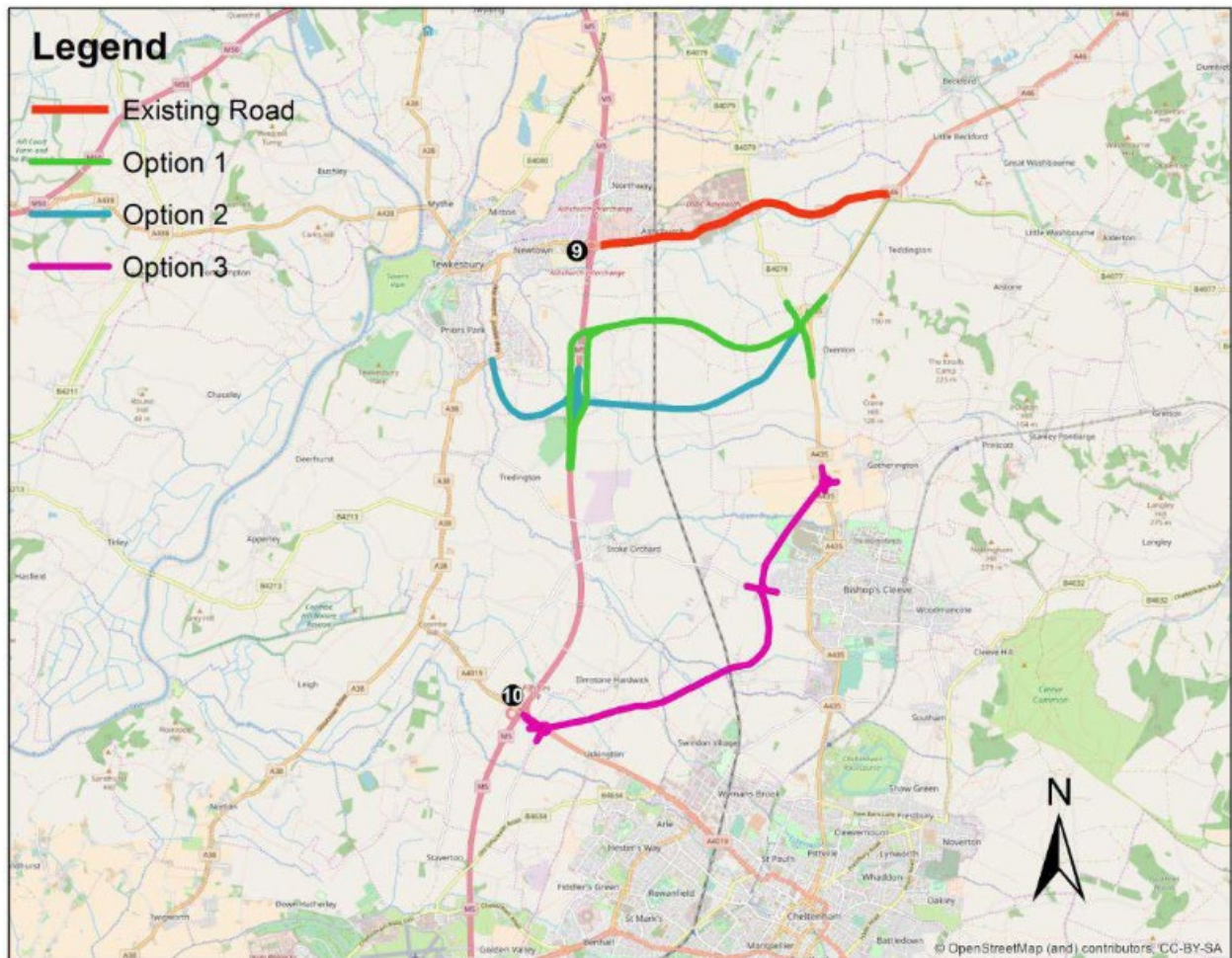
From the **127** feedback forms reviewed **74** people left contact details and **52** requested a response.



## Appendix 1 Optioning Scheme 2018 'Redacted' National Highways (OAR)

IS 2 Stage 0 RIS 2 Stage 0 - A46 M5 Junction 9 to Teddington Hands (Ashchurch Bypass) – Option Assessment Report  
Arup, AECOM, Systra & Amey

**Figure 20: Location of proposed scheme options**



**Figure 20 Page 32**

Full report is available to view at

<https://ln5.sync.com/dl/2972edda0/cc4zr7vy-xuqateih-znjqrt5a-2gfmfzji>

## Appendix 2 Cllr. Smith M5 Junction 10 Business Case

### A46 Business case...

- Improve direct access from the South West to the North East promoting business and employment growth opportunities.
- Alleviate traffic chaos on the A46 and M5 J9, whilst continuing to promote a vibrant economy for Tewkesbury and the surrounding area.
- Consideration needs to be given to existing communities
  - Improved noise and air quality.
  - Reduction in congestion.
  - Improved road safety.
  - Opportunities to promote cycling and walking.
  - Impact of a new route.
  - Preservation of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Special Landscape Area's.
- The importance of retaining the existing J9 to allow continued easy access to the M5 for
  - Industrial areas at Alexandra Way and Shannon Way.
  - The re-energised MOD base.
  - Garden Centre and Retail Park.
  - Enable continued promotion for a thriving Tewkesbury Town centre, both for local retail businesses and tourism.
  - Continued commuter access for existing and proposed housing.
- Favoured by many local communities the A46 route for a dual track trunk road from Teddington Hands to the new 4 way M5 junction 10
  - Hamburg roundabout to the west of existing roundabout at Teddington Hands
    - Retain access to local amenities.
    - Reduced noise, air and light pollution for Teddington.
  - Route across open farm land giving improved access for
    - Bishops Cleeve
    - Gloucestershire's premier events location Cheltenham Race course
    - Proposed Cyber Hub in Cheltenham
    - Integrating with the proposed development and road improvements to the West of Cheltenham.
    - Reduction in traffic on the A435 giving safer access for villages.
- Cost advantages
  - The route may be longer than some possible alternatives (3-4 miles) which could cost in the region £25 million extra to build, however it would not require to build another motorway roundabout making a saving of £250 Million.
  - Less disruption on the motorway due to not having to build a new motorway junction.

## Appendix 3 Example of A435 road safety

Inf 7

### Tewkesbury 2030 Consultation

Feedback

#### Possible changes to A46: A46 joining the A435

We are incredibly concerned about the possibility of the A46 joining the A435, for the following reasons:

- (1) Significant risk to safety. The A435 is already an extremely dangerous road, with vehicles often exceeding the speed limit and/or attempting unsafe manoeuvres. Very recently, we had to complete an emergency stop due to a lorry hurtling towards us; it was attempting to overtake another lorry very near to the Teddington junction. This could have been a fatal accident and, in over 30 years driving, we have never been in such a dangerous situation. An increase in traffic on the A435 would only increase the risk to life further.
- (2) A significant increase in noise and air pollution. The current road noise and pollution from the A435 is tolerable as the traffic flow varies throughout the day and the vehicles are mainly cars. The A46 joining the A435 will lead to a significant increase in traffic. The noise will become more consistent, and much louder due to heavy goods vehicles and the speed at which all vehicles will be travelling. This will not only make living in Teddington intolerable, but it will also have a significant impact on the tranquility of the AONB for those that visit the area.

We would like confirmation that the above issues are appreciated and acknowledged and that, as a result of this, an alternative route will be selected which does not impact on a village.

Response Required

Yes x

No

If Yes, please provide contact details:

Details provided will only be used to provide a response.