

TAAG NEWSLETTER #36 December 2024 M5 J9 & A46 Transport Scheme – Public Engagement 7th October – 2nd December 2024

Completing the Public Engagement Survey – There's still time!

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete the Public Engagement survey. Over 70 online surveys have already been completed by residents in our villages, which is excellent. This number does not include the paper surveys submitted by post.

If you haven't completed your survey yet, you need to complete it by **Monday 2**nd **December** and remember, every member of your household can submit their own survey.

https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engagementhq.com/junction-9/surveys/survey-m5-junction-9



Together, let's get Option A taken off the table for good!

TAAG Public Engagement Submission of Feedback

Thank you for your feedback on the draft submission. We have now finalised the document and submitted it, along with Gerald Kells report, to the Project Team as our submission of feedback on the route options.

Both documents are now available on our website.

Over the course of the next few days, we will also be sending these documents to various key stakeholders and interested parties such as our local Councillors and MP.

TAAG - Teddington & Alstone A46 Advisory Group Email - <u>jan.catbells@gmail.com</u> Telephone number - 07941727963 Website - <u>www.taagroup.co.uk</u>

Gerald Kells – Strategic Policy & Campaigns Adviser

Gerald's report has clearly come down in favour of Option B and he has set-out compelling reasons why Option A should not be progressed. We believe his report demonstrates excellent value, and we hope you'll agree after reading it.

We sincerely thank everyone who has contributed towards Gerald's fee. To date, we have raised £925, which is a fantastic start but does not yet fully cover his costs. If you haven't donated yet, we would really appreciate your support.

You can donate by either making a BACS transfer direct to TAAG's bank account or by cheque made payable to TAAG. Bank details below;

Sort Code	30-90-09
Bank	Lloyds (Aldershot Branch)
Account Name	TAAG
Account Number	47521168
Thank you.	

Q&As

We have received the final responses to TAAG's and your questions from the Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) project team and these have been shared on our website <u>here</u>.

It's unclear at the moment, what the next few months holds for us. We know that the project team intend to produce a report of the Public Engagement next Spring. However, this won't give any indication of which options are to be progressed and which have been discounted.

We've been told that the non-statutory public consultation on the final shortlisted route options, probably won't happen until 2027.

Meanwhile, the scheme still relies on securing funding from the Government. We know the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOC) has been submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) for approval. If the SOC is approved, funding from the DfT and GCC will support the next stage: developing the Outline Business Case (OBC) and identifying a preferred route.

What's not clear is what happens if the SOC isn't approved and the funding is not forthcoming.

As soon as we find out any more, we will of course keep you informed.