



TAAG NEWSLETTER #37 January 2025

M5 J9 & A46 Transport Scheme

Public Engagement Route Option Survey (GCC)

We have recently received the final count for the number of completed surveys submitted by our 2 villages. The total number of responses was 1085. Of those who provided a full postcode:

- Teddington: 124 responses across 7 postcodes (equivalent to 11% of total responses)
- Alstone: 29 responses across 2 postcodes (equivalent to 3% of total responses).

These are significant increases on the numbers provided previously; so, a really great effort by everyone concerned.

The full public engagement report will be published on Gloucestershire County Council's website later in the Spring.

Cotswold National Landscape (CNL) Submission

We have been provided with a copy of the route options public engagement submission from the Cotswold National Landscape Board. Surprisingly, they weren't told about the public engagement exercise, although they are statutory consultee. Their submission clearly shows that overall, they come down in favour of an alternative Option B that they have put forward for consideration. They also propose closing the A435 to traffic from seven bends to the Alstone Road/A435 junction.

Their report has been put up on our website and makes for interesting reading. <https://taagroup.co.uk/taag-newsletter-and-reports/>

We have forwarded this report to Local Councillors including Vernon Smith, David Gray, Mel Gore and Richard Stanley (Leader of Tewkesbury Borough Council) for their information and to get their views.

The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England's submission unfortunately came down in favour of Option A. So in light of the CNL submission, we have also sent them the report and asked if they would reconsider their stance.

The CNL submission can be found on our website <https://taagroup.co.uk/taag-newsletter-and-reports/>

Public Questions to GCC Council/Cabinet

We have raised a question for the next Full County Council Meeting in February to clarify if CNL's alternative route Option B and proposal to close to traffic the A435, will be assessed along with the existing 6 options as a potential short-listed option.

We have also raised a question at the next Cabinet meeting on 29th January to advise what happens if the Strategic Outline Business Case isn't approved and no funding from the Department for Transport (DfT) is forthcoming. Will GCC continue to fund the development of the next stage, or will the project be cancelled?

Harriet Baldwin MP article

Harriet Baldwin is the West Worcestershire MP who recently supported the campaign to reduce the speed limit on the A46 near the Sedgeberrow junction.

She has now called for a formal investigation of the future of the A46, in light of the proposed route options, which all showed an increase in traffic on the A46 north of Teddington hands roundabout.

You can read the article here;

<https://www.eveshamobserver.co.uk/news/mp-calls-for-investigations-into-a46-traffic-concerns/>

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who kindly donated towards the fee for Gerald Kells report. The final figure donated was £1,175 which is brilliant and we are deeply grateful for your generosity.

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