

TAAG NEWSLETTER #42 April 2026

M5 J9 & A46 Transport Scheme

In our last newsletter, we advised that the Department for Transport (DfT) was expected to now make a decision about whether or not it would provide funding for the continued development of the Outline Business Case (OBC), by the end of September.

Yesterday, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) announced that *"The Department for Transport has this week said that the scheme has been removed from the Major Road Network and Large Local Majors Programme and is not currently being considered as part of a future Road Investment Strategy"*. The full statement can be viewed on their website here;

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gcc-news/news-october-2026/disappointment-as-government-drops-m5-junction-9-and-a46-transport-scheme/>

We know this will come as good news to many of our residents. However, it does leave us with a number of questions; particularly as Councillor Richard Stanley of Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC) stated in the announcement that *"We will be seeking urgent discussions with government to challenge the basis of this decision, understand how ministers intend to support the growth they expect from this area and press for a credible alternative route to funding. "*

- **Is there a Plan B?** Does GCC now have an alternative for the strategic road network around Ashchurch and the A46 and would options like the A435 routing still be on the table?
- **What about the Tewkesbury Garden Communities?** Their delivery depended heavily on new transport infrastructure, so will the programme continue, be scaled back, or be paused?
- **Can the DfT confirm** that no further versions of the scheme are planned for this corridor?

TAAG intend to try to get answers to these questions and will of course, update residents, as soon as we have any further information clarifying the situation.

Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please get in touch.