

Summary of each option's key characteristics:

	Engineering	Environmental ¹	Traffic & Economic
Existing Network Enhance- ments	Length: Not applicable. Earthworks: Local minor earthworks at certain locations. Structures: Pedestrian Underpass Extension. Property acquisition adjacent to Wittet Drive required.	No significant impacts are anticipated in terms of air quality, ecology or noise. Substantial adverse visual impacts may occur as a result of the new roundabout. Beneficial impacts in terms of air quality and noise envisaged at a number of properties.	Reduced congestion and improved journey times. Potential for phased introduction. Scheme Cost: £7.2M Benefit Cost Ratio: 1.2
Urban (Inner) Route	Length: 1.1km Earthworks: Significant volume of fill required at the A96 Junction and south of the railway line. Structures: 1 railway crossing at the southern end of Wittet Drive. Property acquisition adjacent to Wittet Drive required.	No significant impacts are anticipated in terms of air quality, noise or ecology. Adverse visual impacts may occur as a result of the new roundabout. Beneficial impacts in terms of air quality and noise envisaged at a number of properties.	The route attracts traffic trips reducing traffic volumes in the centre of Elgin relieving congestion and improving journey times. Potential for phased introduction. Scheme Cost: £12.7M Benefit Cost Ratio: 1.1
Rural (Outer) Route	Length: 2.5km Earthworks: Significant volumes of cut and fill required throughout route length. Structures: • 3 River Lossie crossings; • 1 railway crossing; and • 1 culverted embankment across the River Lossie flood plain. No property acquisition required.	Moderate adverse impacts on ecology may occur as a result of the severance of woodland corridors. Moderate adverse impacts may occur on landscape and visual receptors. Beneficial impacts in terms of air quality and noise envisaged at a number of properties.	Relatively low traffic volumes of 2,000 vehicles at opening year effects a minor reduction in traffic volumes and congestion in Elgin. Journey time benefits across the network are limited. Scheme Cost: £68.2M Benefit Cost Ratio: <0.1
Rural (Inner) Route	Length: 1.6km Earthworks: Significant volumes of cut and fill required throughout the route length. Structures: 1 River Lossie crossing; 1 railway crossing; and 1 B9010 Pluscarden Road crossing. Property acquisition adjacent to Palmers Cross required.	Not included within the environmental assessment at this stage as the engineering complexities and associated scheme estimates revealed costs outweighed benefits.	Relatively low traffic volumes of 2,700 vehicles at opening year effects a minor reduction in traffic volumes and congestion in Elgin. Journey time benefits across the network are limited. Scheme Cost: £24.5M Benefit Cost Ratio: 0.2

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Your views on the proposals are important and we would invite you to complete a questionnaire either online at the Council's website or on the paper version available at the exhibition. The final date for submission of the questionnaire is 6th February 2011.

On behalf of The Moray Council we thank you for taking time to view the exhibition material.

Online response form address: www.moray.gov.uk



Elgin Traffic Management Western Distributor Road

www.moray.gov.uk

Public Consultation Exhibition - 27th & 28th January 2011

Introduction

This exhibition is being held as part of the assessment process for the Elgin Western Distributor Road, a scheme developed through the Elgin Traffic Management programme.

Exhibition Aim

To engage with the public, obtain feedback and report findings to The Moray Council's Economic Development & Infrastructure Services Committee.

Traffic Problems in Elgin

- The A96, A941 and Edgar Road experience congestion during peak periods;
- The Aberdeen to Inverness railway line severs Elgin and there are a limited number of road crossings; and
- Approximately 75% of traffic trips have origins and destinations within Elgin.

Options Description

The option provides a new access road from Edgar Road to the new affordable housing site.

Existing Network Enhancements

Localised junction capacity improvements on key routes which can be implemented as a series of discrete projects each contributing towards an improved road network in Elgin.

Urban (Inner) Route

The route extends Wittet Drive to provide a high quality distributor road between the A96 and Edgar Road. The option includes the provision of a new crossing of the Aberdeen to Inverness railway line and a new layout for the junction with the A96.

Rural (Outer) Route

The route provides a high quality distributor road for the south west quadrant of Elgin outwith the developed area. The option includes the provision of three new River Lossie crossings, a new railway crossing and new junctions with the B9010 Pluscarden Road and the A96 at its northern extent.

Rural (Inner) Route

A shorter and more cost effective distributor road alignment within the rural corridor, this option includes the provision of a new crossing of the River Lossie, railway line and B9010 Pluscarden Road, and a new junction with the A96 Trunk Road at its northern extent.

These options are included on the plan shown overleaf.

¹ A Stage 2 environmental assessment was undertaken for the Existing Network Enhancements option and the Urban (Inner) option. The Rural (Outer) option was assessed to Stage 1 level (a less detailed assessment). See the Design Manual for Roads And Bridges for definitions of Stage 1 and Stage 2 assessments.

