

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD
DATE: 13 June 2011
SUBJECT: Major Schemes Update
BY: Director of Regeneration Projects
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: A report on major road projects.

Decision Required: To note the report

Introduction

At the March meeting of this Board, Members debated the Bapchild section of the Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road. The discussion at that meeting was focused on the public consultation results and did not cover the existing road schemes being constructed. This brief note is to update Members on the schemes currently in progress.

Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road

1. Construction of the Milton Creek Crossing section of the Northern Relief Road is progressing well. The bridge beams for the Milton Creek bridge were successfully lifted into place by a 1,000 tonne crane (one of the largest mobile cranes available) in April. The beams for the Sittingbourne and Kemsley Light Railway Bridge have also been lifted into place, earlier in the year. A new water main is being laid throughout the route to assist Southern Water in providing an appropriate and reliable service for the area.
2. The critical aspects of this complex engineering scheme are now largely behind us and works are now focused on completing the structures and final earthworks, followed by the construction of the actual carriageway. Completion and opening of the road is currently anticipated to be in December 2011.

Rushenden Relief Road

3. Construction of Rushenden Relief Road has restarted following the surcharge period (due to the underlying geology of the Isle of Sheppey, road bridge embankments need to be left for several months with a surcharge load to allow the ground to settle to its final level). The bridge across the Sittingbourne-Sheerness Railway Line is completed and works to complete the final carriageway on the scheme are now under way.
4. The scheme is designed to give relief to the residential community of Queenborough, provide commercial access to the major industrial areas and open up regeneration land between Queenborough and Rushenden. Completion and opening of the road is anticipated to be in October 2011.

Decision Required

To note the report

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