

A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road



7th March 2018

Dear Residents,

Consultation on Proposed Additional Screening South of Darley Road and Ashbourne Road 7th to 23rd March 2018

Introduction

We write to seek your feedback on proposed additional screening to the rear of properties on Darley Road and Ashbourne Road, as part of the A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road (A6MARR). This follows concerns raised by residents of Ashbourne Road that the current approved design does not provide sufficient screening for properties on Ashbourne Road.

We would like to invite you to a meeting to discuss the proposed additional screening which is being held:

Date: Wednesday 20th March 2018

Time: 5pm to 7.30pm

Location: Hazel Grove Civic Hall, London Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 4DF

In the meantime, this letter provides:

- background to the design in this location;
- information about the additional mitigation proposals;
- how you can find out more and provide your feedback on the proposals; and
- next steps

Background

Throughout the development of the A6MARR, we have worked with residents to inform the scheme design and design changes have been made across the scheme to seek to address concerns raised by residents. With specific reference to the scheme design south of properties on Darley Road and Ashbourne Road, we have tried to balance residents' requests to screen road traffic with requests for the screening itself not to be visually obtrusive.

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During the Phase 2 consultation, a design was presented which showed an acoustic fence to be positioned on top of the bund. Following concerns raised by residents during the Phase 2 consultation about the visual impact of the proposals, the bund was re-profiled to a shallower gradient and the fence moved to be positioned at carriageway level, at a height of 3 metres. This scheme design was submitted for planning in October 2013.

The scheme design remained as per the original approved planning application until a requirement to dispose of additional earth arising from the site was identified. Consequently, a consultation on the proposed revised bund design was carried out in November 2016.

The description of the bund in the consultation is as follows: *"Site is an existing proposed earthwork bund located south of Darley Road, Hazel Grove between the rear of the properties and the A6MARR carriageway. Proposed to increase the mound height of the western end of the currently approved mound. Proposed mound height increase up to approximately 2.2m over the currently approved mound."* The cross section of the bund in the vicinity of Ashbourne Road, provided as part of the consultation, states *"Proposed bund very similar to original designed profile"*. The 3 metre high acoustic fence remained at carriageway level as part of these proposals.

The planning application submitted for the revised bund in February 2017 is as per design consulted on in November 2016, with the acoustic fence remaining at carriageway level. The description of the planning application is as follows: *"Extension of earth mound using earth arising from the construction of the A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road (Bund 8). The proposed development involves an extension to the western end of the Darley Road bund and an increase in height to the western end of the bund, which then slopes down toward the east to meet the original proposed profile."*

The bund in its current state is as per the approved design and the 3 metre high acoustic fence at carriageway level is currently being erected. However, it is evident from recent feedback from some Ashbourne Road residents that current scheme design does not provide the anticipated amount of screening. Requests have therefore been received to introduce further screening.

Please be aware that the earthworks bund and fencing included in the scheme design is intended to provide acoustic and visual screening, not as measures to mitigate air pollution.

Additional Screening Proposals

We have considered residents' request to increase the height of the existing bund which runs parallel to Darley Road and Ashbourne Road. In order to increase the height of the existing bund which runs parallel to Darley Road and Ashbourne Road we would need to strip the existing bund of topsoil, mobilise additional heavy plant and haul the material from elsewhere on the site via the road network.

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This would affect the progress of works currently underway at the junction of the new road with Macclesfield Road. We have therefore concluded that this option is not feasible.

We are therefore proposing two options for the provision of an additional 1.8m close boarded screening fence on top of the existing bund, as follows:

- a) 1.8m high close boarded fence on top of bund from approximately 38 Darley Road to approximately Millbrook Fold (south of properties on Ashbourne Road only)
- b) 1.8m high close boarded fence on top of bund from approximately Macclesfield Road to approximately Millbrook Fold (south of properties on Darley Road and Ashbourne Road)

Shrub and trees planting would also be incorporated to soften the visual impact of the fence.

The approximate extent of the fencing for the above two options is shown on the enclosed plan.

Your feedback

We would like to request your feedback on the proposed additional fence and landscaping by completing the enclosed feedback form.

If you would like to discuss the proposals further with a representative of the A6MARR Project Team, a consultation meeting is being held:

Date: Wednesday 20th March 2018

Time: 5pm to 7.30pm

Location: Hazel Grove Civic Hall, London Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 4DF

You can also contact the project team by:

Email: semmms.relief.road@stockport.gov.uk

Phone: 0161 474 2055

The closing date for responses is 23rd March 2018.

Next Steps

The feedback received during this consultation will be collated and analysed. If a majority of residents support the additional screening fence, we will progress the amended design through the required planning approval process.

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A6MARR Additional Screening Proposals Consultation Feedback Form

Please indicate your preference for additional screening by selecting one of the below options:

Option	Preference (please tick one)
a) 1.8m high close boarded fence on top of bund from 38 Darley Road to Millbrook Fold (south of properties on Ashbourne Road only)	
b) 1.8m high close boarded fence on top of bund from Macclesfield Road to Millbrook Fold (south of properties on Darley Road and Ashbourne Road)	
c) No additional screening	
d) No preference	

Please provide any specific comments on the proposals below, continuing on a separate sheet if required.

Please provide your name and address below.

Please return your completed response form via the enclosed pre-paid envelope by 23rd March 2018.

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