

ANNEX

CABINET – 17 DECEMBER 2024

ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions are listed in the order in which they were received. Should any questioner not have received an answer in that time, a written answer will be provided.

1. COUNCILLOR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW	COUNCILLOR DAN LEVY, CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE
<p>With regard to HIF1, the Council applied to itself for planning permission and refused it, resulting in a referral to the Secretary of State for a decision, who has now approved the application. What are the approximate costs to the council of the public enquiry and the inflationary increase in cost of the HIF1 project itself?</p>	<p>Specifically to the county council very little, as the overwhelming majority of these costs have been reclaimed from Homes England as funders for the scheme.</p> <p>The cost associated with both the CPO and Planning Public Inquiries are estimated to be around £1m. It is important to note though that the CPO enquiry was always anticipated, and that work undertaken within this figure was not needed solely for the inquiry. Also note that this figure does not include the inspector costs, which are not yet known.</p> <p>The all-party planning committee made its decision, in accordance with its duties, and can confirm that the potential costs of an appeal, or call-in, are not legitimate planning matters.</p> <p>The inflationary increase of the construction works due to the delay in commencement is estimated to be 15% which equates to approximately £28m</p>
Supplementary Question	<p>The costs of the delays were caused by the Planning and Regulation Committee's decision and the subsequent actions of the Secretary of State. The</p>

Is the Cabinet Member concerned about the waste of £29 million of public money on this matter

focus of the Council now was on efficiently delivering the project for the benefit of the community.