

QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions are listed in the order in which they were received.

1. COUNCILLOR IAN SNOWDON	COUNCILLOR LIZ LEFFMAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR
The £6.2 million being accepted today was agreed in principle by SODC in 2022. SODC scrutiny subsequently recorded that the funding had not been spent because OCC had not progressed delivery, while as recently as December 2025 OCC was still reporting that construction was expected to begin in 2026. The current programme is now Spring 2028 for construction and Autumn 2029 for completion. Can you therefore explain why a piece of infrastructure described as critical to supporting Didcot's housing and economic growth has experienced such prolonged delay, and provide a clear explanation for the increase to the current £14.721 million capital allocation?	Whilst NPR3 is part of the wider infrastructure improvement package to support growth across the Didcot and wider Science Vale area, it is enabled by the North East Didcot and Ladygrove East developments. At present the southern part of the NPR3 is planned to be delivered by the developers and to ensure that both sections of the road are completed, the timeframe for delivery needs to be co-ordinated. Regular discussions with the developers are happening to ensure this takes place. As we continue progressing the scheme we are exploring options across both the design and delivery routes to ensure that the greatest value for money is achieved.