

## QUESTION 6

### COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 21 JULY 2022

#### Question to Cllr David Williams Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

By Cllr Edgeller

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#### Question

The A34 in the South East Division is not mentioned in the extra funding that has been allocated to the County Council, I refer to the £3 plus million.

My concern is the state of the A34 leading into Stafford which is a major commuter Gateway into the town from the south. It is also a major principal road when an accident occurs between junctions 12 and 13 on the M6. This means this road is then subject to very heavy motorway diverted traffic on top of the existing traffic.

The Radford Bank Islands are currently in a dreadful state and a danger especially to cyclist and motorbikes. From the Radford Public House to the Queensville Island also needs immediate attention. I have raised this issue many many times previously and is still waiting for attention.

I might add also along the A34 Cannock Rd needs to be a 30 miles an hour area to the bottom of Holdcroft Rd.

When are we going to see some action on the above questions please?

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#### Reply

A top priority for the county council is to fix more roads, which is why during 22/23 the council is investing an extra £15M in capital maintenance schemes and operations.

However, with many locations needing attention and government grant funding for highway maintenance reducing it is vital that we leave no stone unturned when it comes to identifying every other potential sources of funding opportunity.

Earlier this year the government announced a second round of its Levelling Up Fund (LUF2), inviting bids of up to £20M to achieve the Levelling up

White Paper Missions, including Transport Infrastructure, Living Standards, Skills, Health, Well-being, and Pride in Place.

Many sections of the A34 through Stafford, which is part of the national Major Road Network (MRN), are key to the LUF2 aims locally and so are included in Staffordshire's bid. If successful, major structural maintenance works and sustainable transport improvements along this route will be carried out during 2023/24 and 2024/25.

To compliment the council's LUF2 bid and maximise the benefit of all the potential funding available the council's own investment during 22/23 is being targeted to other major key gateway locations across the county.