

**County Council Meeting – 12 October 2023****Question to Councillor David Williams  
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport****By Councillor Charlotte Atkins**

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**Question**

What assessment has the County Council made of the PM's local transport improvement plan Network North, its impact on Staffordshire and its timescale for delivery?

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**Reply**

An initial assessment has been undertaken and the following schemes are included in the Network North plan for Staffordshire:

- Paras. 23 and 24: the construction of the Handsacre link.
- Para. 36: safeguarding will be lifted in weeks on Phase 2a. Land acquisition will be halted with immediate effect. Property no longer required for HS2 will be sold and a programme is being developed to do this.
- Para. 40 f: J15, M6 strategic road project is mentioned. No further details are provided.
- Para. 40 k: A50/500 corridor improvements Stoke to Derby.
- Para. 62: £2.2b investment in rail, improvements to Kidsgrove and Longport stations.
- Para. 63: a new station at Meir.
- Para. 66: £2.2b additional funds for pothole repairs in Midlands. No breakdown for Staffordshire has been provided.

A dialogue will be opened with Government to discuss provision of high speed services to Stafford and Stoke and the making good of existing damage. Further ways in which Network North could support local transport infrastructure and economic development in Staffordshire will also be discussed (the details of this are not yet finalised).

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