

CABINET – THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2017

**Written Questions from Mr Timothy Cooper of Able Connections to Cllr Ian Ward
– Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport**

QUESTION 1

What work has been done to understand the level of highway congestion which the Island will experience in future years purely as a result of current plans?

QUESTION 2

Does the council have plans to adapt the public transport network on the island to provide a more attractive alternative to private car use?

QUESTION 3

Does the council feel that the recommendations in the TITF report relating to existing cross Solent transport go far enough to address concerns about future increases in demand? In particular, what are the envisaged long term possibilities (20 years +) to expand marshalling space for the vehicle ferry crossings in the towns of East Cowes and Fishbourne?

RESPONSE (To All Three Questions)

'In accordance with its manifesto commitments this Administration is currently reviewing the Island Plan which is the key driver of the type of plans Mr Cooper describes in his questions. It would be inappropriate for the council to do further work on these plans until such time as this key review is complete.

We very much welcome the independent work of Christopher Garnett and his task group and are grateful for the time and effort they, and all of the many consultees, have freely given in its production. It will make a significant contribution to each of the plans described by Mr Cooper. There is a lot for the council to consider in this work and it would therefore, not be appropriate to make a comment on a single part of the report at this time.

This Administration has, as we set out in our manifesto, made a commitment to preserving the Island's environment and planning for future needs; issues around public transport and promoting walking and cycling will be part of our delivery of this commitment and we intend to explore them as part of our planned green conference in the new year.'