

Full Council - Wednesday, 15 July 2020

Written question from Cllr Garratt to the Leader, Isle of Wight Council

Q1. What is the overall expenditure currently estimated to be on the St Mary's junction improvement scheme?

Response

The Newport Strategic Junction Improvements are funded from a specific grant from the Department for Transport at no cost to the council general fund. This fund is for a package of measures, including the St Marys scheme, to improve junctions around Newport and is not available to be spent on other initiatives.

The budget of £7,862,113 outlined for the St Marys scheme is currently projected to be £7,613,613. The scheme is set to complete to time at the end of the year.

Q2. Is the leader of the council satisfied that the expenditure of money provided under the 'Reopening the High Street Safely Fund' has achieved value for money as envisaged in the council's corporate plan?

Response

As you will appreciate It has been very important to those residents who have concerns about going back to the shops to be able to feel safe and confident. Under the reopening the high street safely funds the council has completed the first phase of work that will enable our community to return to the high street with confidence and feel enabled to make social distancing decisions as they shop is complete

Working closely with town councils and local business groups our social distancing measures and the business tool kits, supported by island wide communications, have helped to provide that reassurance over this period,

The locations have been determined to meet the Government guidance. The package of measures involved the installation of signs and pavement graphics to raise awareness with the aim off facilitating social distancing in areas where that is difficult. The physical measures provided alongside the advice to business and associated communications have been funded by Government under the criteria set out in the Reopening High Streets Fund.

Over the coming weeks the impact on pedestrian movement will be assessed to ensure that there is enough space for appropriate distancing as the high streets slowly become busier. These measures will be maintained until early September after which further extension of the scheme will be reviewed.

We will review where issues or pinch points occur and where appropriate consultations with the respective town councils which may result in further measures being place plans.