

Oxford Core Strategy Examination
City Council / Highways Agency Statement of Common Ground

The following points specifically related to the Northern Gateway development proposal have been generally agreed between the Highways Agency and Oxford City Council, with regard to the Core Strategy:

Matter 8 – The Strategic Locations (The Northern Gateway)

Both parties agree that a key element required to ensure the delivery (in transport terms) of the City's Local Development Framework is a comprehensive mitigation strategy for the Northern Gateway development. This will need to include a variety of mitigation measures to address the impact on the Highways Agency's Strategic Road Network (and Oxfordshire County Council's Local Road Network). Currently the developer's Consultant PBA is working to produce this comprehensive strategy

It is further agreed that in relation to the Northern Gateway, close partnership between the Highways Agency, County Council, City Council and prospective developers has been undertaken, over a period of approximately 2.5 years, to agree a sound means to help assess the impact of the Northern Gateway proposals and to help identify necessary mitigation measures. It is the intention that these parties will continue with this close partnership arrangement.

A comprehensive 'Vissim' microsimulation transport model has been built on behalf of the Northern Gateway prospective developers relating to the Northern Gateway proposals. The purpose is to assess the likely impact of development options on the existing highway network, and provide the means of testing the effectiveness of potential transport mitigation measures. The Highways Agency and Oxford City Council have agreed that the base year model is a good representation of existing road conditions and is therefore fit for purpose to assist with the further development of the evidence base for the Oxford City Local Development Framework, including the Northern Gateway Area Action Plan.

Signed electronically by

PAUL ROBINSON (HA, NETWORK OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE SOUTH EAST)

MARK JAGGARD (OCC, SPATIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER)

DATED: 9TH JUNE 2009