

On Monday 21 November 2016, the Task Group members met with Jon Wheeler, Team Manager, Strategic Economic Infrastructure, Communities, Economy & Transport, East Sussex County Council.

The meeting detailed the work of the A27 Reference Group, which brings together the MPs, local authority Leaders in the County and the Local Enterprise Partnerships – as well as the business community. They are developing the case to Government that a more comprehensive offline solution for the A27 east of Lewes is critical, in order to enable the delivery of the significant housing and employment growth planned in the Hailsham / Polegate area through the emerging Wealden Local Plan, as well as support the growth of existing business in East Sussex and encourage new business to move to the County.

The Task Group have agreed to amend their scope as follows:

Purpose:

To engage with the public and emergency services, specifically the Police and Fire Brigade, in order to obtain current evidence and opinion as to the level of local demand for investment in and improvements to the section of the A27 east of Lewes.

Objective:

To collate the feedback received together with the overarching agreed findings of the Council for submission to the A27 Reference Group to support their current activities.

Methodology:

- A task group comprising four Councillors (two from each party) set up by the Scrutiny Committee to seek out and collate evidence obtained by an online public survey and by holding a series of fact finding interviews with the Police and Fire Brigade.
- A findings report submitted by the Task Group to the Scrutiny Committee for approval in due course.
- Scrutiny recommendations arising from the Task Group findings to be submitted to Cabinet and full Council for endorsement and approval respectively.
- Submission of the final Council approved findings report to the A27 Reference Group - East Sussex County Council.