1. West Sussex County Council, Surrey County Council, Tandridge District Council and Mid Sussex District Council (the Local Authorities), have commissioned WSP to undertake an option appraisal for the A22/A264 Felbridge junction.

2. The option appraisal aims to identify an improvement for the Felbridge junction that can be delivered to support planned development in Tandridge and Mid Sussex.

3. The option generation exercise is drawing ideas identified in previous studies by the Local Authorities and developers, notably including the East Grinstead Traffic Management Stage 3 Study (Atkins, 2012). However, the opportunity is also being taken to consider new information such as more recent traffic surveys and generate new ideas that may be more beneficial than ideas identified in previous studies.

4. The option generation exercise will involve the identification of options including improvements that could be delivered within the highway boundary or through technological solutions and also improvements that would require the use of third party land for construction or safety reasons (e.g. visibility splays). In addition to catering for traffic, the options will also consider improvements to facilities for non-motorised users.

5. The option appraisal will involve a multi-criteria assessment of the performance of the options against traffic, economic and environmental and deliverability criteria, including indicative cost estimates. The appraisal will crucially take account of the cumulative impacts of development in Tandridge and Mid Sussex. Recently collected traffic data has been shared with the consultant to provide a sound basis for traffic modelling and appraisal.

6. Once a recommended option is identified, the Local Authorities will work together to identify sufficient funding to deliver the improvements, utilising existing developer contributions where this would be in line with the relevant legal agreements. Outputs from the option appraisal will be used to inform a funding application that is currently being prepared by SCC and TDC for the Government’s Housing Infrastructure Fund that is due to be submitted in March 2019.

7. Before an improvement scheme can be implemented, there will be a need to undertake design, consultation and all statutory processes, as necessary. No decisions have been taken about the delivery arrangements as this will take place once the improvements are identified.

8. Strategic transport studies have been completed or are underway to support the Tandridge Local Plan and the Mid Sussex Site Allocations Plan. These studies assess the cumulative impacts of development across the plan area (Tandridge or Mid Sussex) and identify mitigation that will need to come forward in order to avoid severe impacts, in line with NPPF.

9. A technical note on the options is expected to be issued before the end of 2018 and the consultancy commission is currently due to complete in early March 2019.