

# Project Evaluation – Bedford

Update for the  
LGF Programme Management Board

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- [illegible]

# Which scheme is being monitored?

- A new single carriageway road to:
  - Complete the Bedford Western Bypass
  - Reduce congestion in the town centre
  - Enable delivery of a Mixed Development of:
    - 1,300 houses
    - 1,000 jobs
    - Primary School
    - Country Park

# Which scheme is being monitored?

- Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for Transport elements prepared September 2016
  - Construction
  - Traffic congestion
- Housing completions monitored as part of existing process
- Employment impact monitored as part of existing processes

# Did the intervention work?

- Construction
  - A contract was awarded in October 2014
  - Works substantially complete April 2016 six months ahead of schedule
  - Costs came in slightly under budget
- Traffic Congestion
  - Bypass flow 15,000 vpd at opening, 16,000 now
  - Town centre monitoring has proved more difficult



# Did the intervention work?

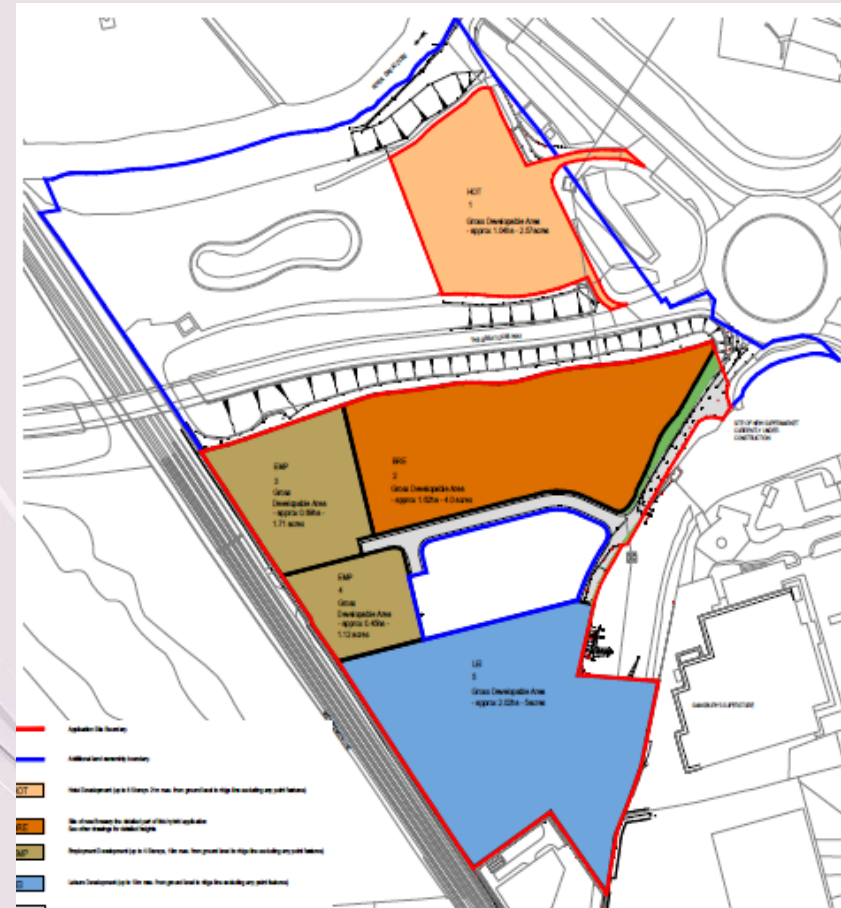
## Housing

- RM approval for 706 houses granted
  - November 2015 (203 in Queens Park)
  - March 2016 (503 in Biddenham)
- Outline Permission granted for a further 594 houses (Wingfield Land)
- Current proposals for this to increase to 826

# Did the intervention work?

## Employment

- Fairhill sites – 403 jobs
- Aldi – 50 jobs
- Biddenham North local centre – c. 350 jobs
- Sites further afield have been permitted because network capacity higher





# What was the size of the impact?



- Bypass complete as first proposed in 1952
- Housing and Employment developments facilitated
- Traffic Congestion alleviated in town

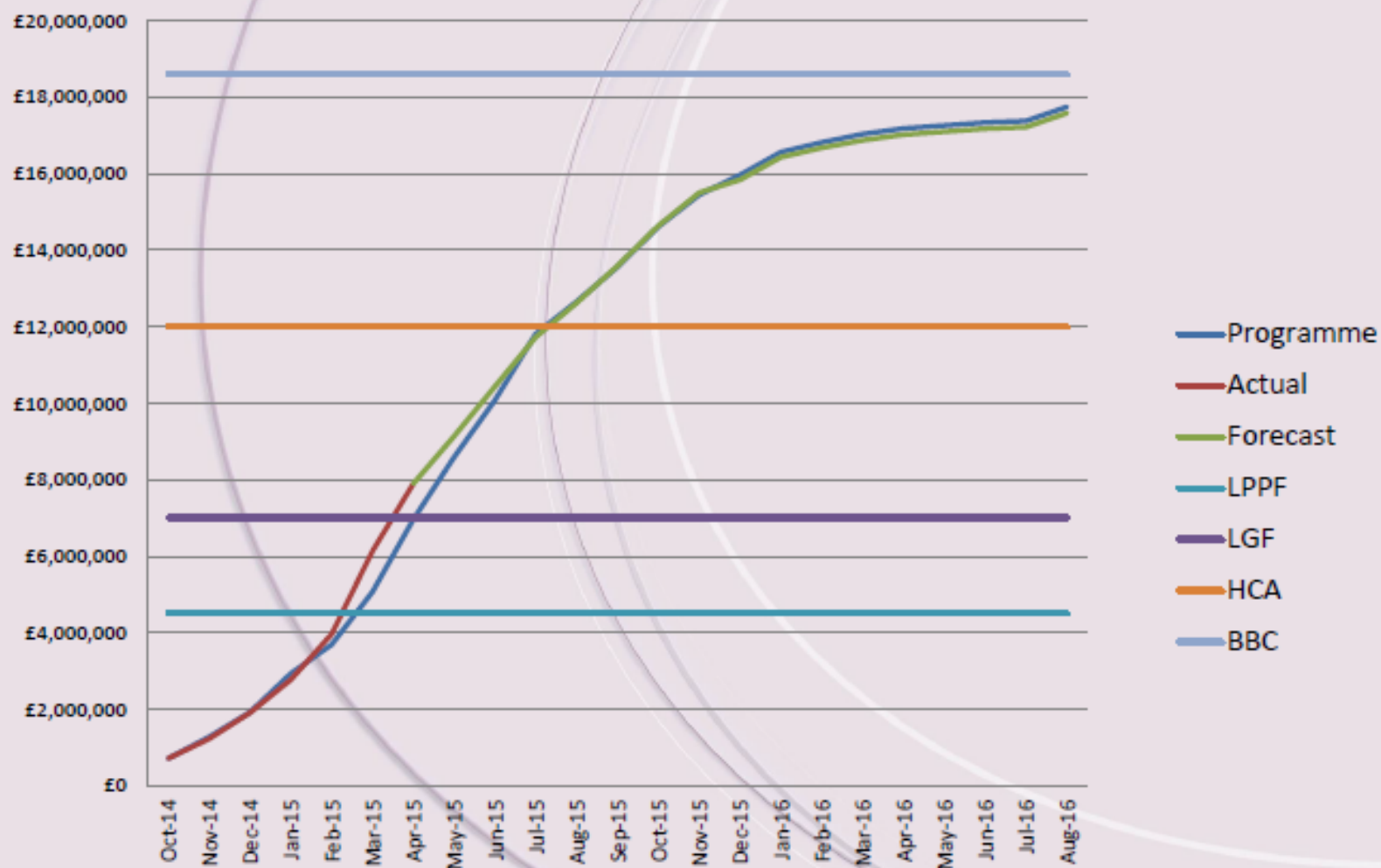
# Unexpected outputs / outcomes?

- Traffic
  - Transporting Bedford 2020 approved post-scheme: BWB benefits overtaken
- Housing
  - 200- 250 additional houses directly linked
  - Also enabled additional sites able to be allocated for housing in Local Plan 2030 at Gold Lane and Beverley Crescent

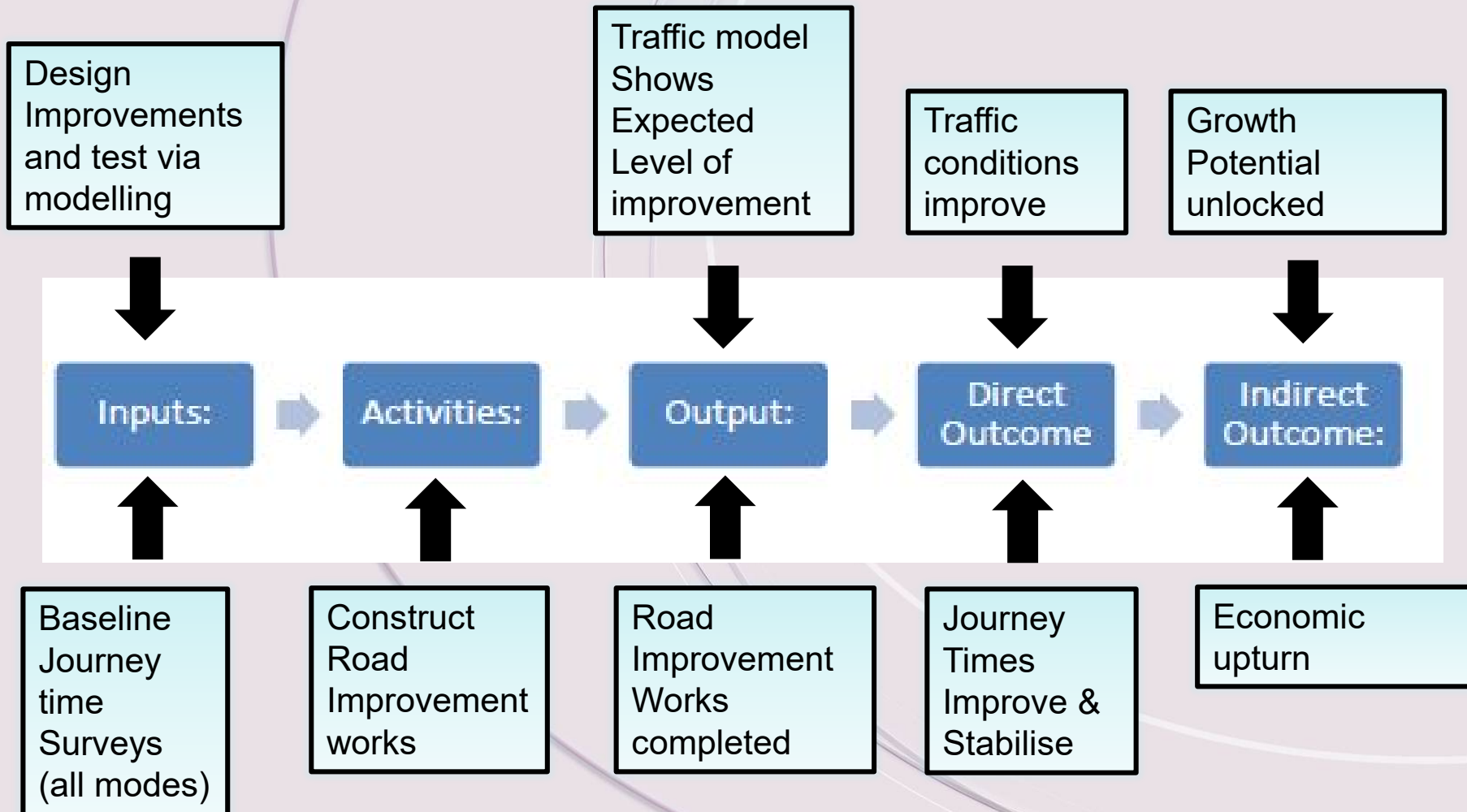
# What was the cost to deliver the benefits?

- Four funding partners
  - HCA
  - DfT
  - SEMLEP
  - BBC
- LGF contribution was £2.5M
- Main works contract was around £15.5M
- Total budget was around £18.5M

# What was the cost to deliver the benefits?



# What can we learn for the future?



# How will monitoring continue?

- BWB monitoring will continue as planned
- Housing and Employment monitoring will continue as it has to date
- Transport monitoring overtaken by the TB2020 project – BWB benefits mixed in to overall improvements



# How will monitoring continue?

- TB2020 monitoring will learn from what has happened with BWB
- Better planned, more detailed
- Outcomes unlikely to be realised until some time after project completion
- Simplified Outputs established
  - track progress through the delivery
  - and in the early years