I am writing to provide you with an update on the award of the Stage 2 construction works contract which was expected to be announced by the County Council’s Cabinet today (Thursday 17 March 2022).

The increasing financial risks and market uncertainty associated with supply chains, labour and material shortages as well as rising energy costs is having an impact on infrastructure schemes across the country. This is being exacerbated by the recent events in Ukraine. As a result, the decision to award the Stage 2 contract for the CSLR was deferred and will now be discussed at a future Cabinet meeting.

The Council remains absolutely committed to finding a way to address these challenges and we are in regular dialogue with Homes England and Carlisle City Council to continue to make progress with the scheme which is vital for the growth of Carlisle and unlocking housing for St Cuthbert’s Garden Village.

I can confirm the ongoing Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process will continue as planned to enable the Council to acquire the land required to build the road.

As a key stakeholder, I would like to thank the Parish Council for your continued cooperation during the project development to date. If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact the team via the project email address cslr@cumbria.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



**Alan Bingham**

**CSLR Project Director**