1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To set out the current position with off-site highway improvements associated with the East Kettering development.

2. INFORMATION

2.1 East Kettering requires a number of highway improvements to be completed alongside housing delivery. The key junctions where improvements will be needed are listed below and were identified through the outline planning application. (map attached)

- Barton Road/Windmill Avenue (the Wicksteed Park junction)
- Barton Road/Pytchley Road/London Road
- Cranford Road/Barton Road
- Windmill Avenue/St Marys Road
- Stamford Road/Windmill Avenue/Central Avenue

2.2 The Council has been able to front fund the detailed design work associated with the above improvements using funding received this year from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA Large Sites Capacity Fund). This design work has recently been commissioned and is now underway. The work will also help inform the delivery programme.

2.3 Both the design work and the improvements works themselves will be ultimately funded by the East Kettering S106, and will be completed when sufficient funds are identified and are available. There is £6.3m set aside in total within the S106 for off site junction and associated highways works.

2.4 The first junction to benefit from Improvement works is at Deeble Road/Windmill Avenue; this is nearing completion and has been financed using S106 money from the current housing delivery at East Kettering.

2.5 Detailed design work is also underway for traffic calming schemes within Cranford Village and along Warkton Lane. These works are being targeted for completion by the end of this year. When specific timescales are identified these can be shared with the forum.
2.5 Further updates on the above can be provided when the various elements of design work have been completed, which is likely to be autumn 2017.

2.6 Members have also asked about the likelihood of improvements to the A6 through Finedon as a consequence of development across the area. The S106 for Stanton Cross, which is the nearest major development to Finedon, provides for a contribution towards improving the A510/A6 junction, once 300 homes have been built.

3. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None. This work implements the planning consent for East Kettering.

4. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

The East Kettering newsletter is provided to all households in the eastern half of the Borough as a means of providing a general update.

The East Kettering Liaison Forum exists to keep all key stakeholders informed on the progress of development and meets quarterly.

Residents near to junctions which are to be remodelled will be informed before works are started and kept informed during their construction by the relevant contractor and NCC.

5. FINANCE and HR RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None directly. The funding for these works ultimately comes from the S106 and the forward funding comes from HCA. There is a significant amount of officer time devoted to the delivery of major development schemes however.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

7. RECOMMENDATION

That the forum notes the contents of the report.