

11th May 2016

Miss Kelly Gibbons
Principal Planning Officer
Blueschool House
Hereford HR1 2LX

Dear Kelly

The Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce has a long history of working with and supporting businesses across the two counties. We regularly speak to our members in Herefordshire and transport, access and congestion are key themes that are highlighted as barriers to business growth.

Herefordshire has waited for many years for a solution to these problems and to deliver improved infrastructure to support economic development and a growing population. The only way Herefordshire can promote a thriving local economy, a successful and healthy city and provide sufficient employment land to meet business needs is to deliver the transport infrastructure and complementary investment in sustainable transport necessary to enable the city to function effectively.

During the last 5 years Herefordshire has been successful in gaining Enterprise Zone status for Rotherwas and has seen in £100m of private sector finance invested to build the Old Market development.

I welcome news that the main construction of the City Link Road is about to start and will be delivered by a local contractor providing jobs for local people. This will support further regeneration in the city centre, complement the vision for a new university and enable development of 800 new homes.

I would also like to support the proposed Southern Link Road which will directly support further development at the Rotherwas Enterprise Zone as well as improving access to markets for other city businesses and allowing improvements for sustainable transport to be implemented. I see this as a crucial piece of infrastructure which will provide the foundation for delivering the much needed full bypass of the city. Getting the right infrastructure in place is essential to business growth and the Chamber fully supports Herefordshire's ambition to create the right conditions for sustainable growth.

Yours sincerely

Mike Ashton
Chief Executive

OUR PATRONS ARE:



11th May 2016

Mr Peter John
Hereford Times
Holmer Road
Hereford
HR4 9UJ

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