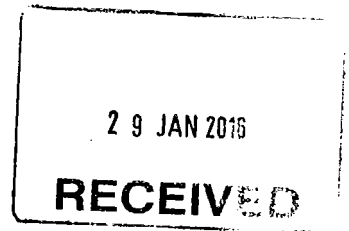




27th January 2016

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA



Matthew Howells
Senior Transport Planning Officer
Transportation - Planning
Herefordshire Council
P.O. Box 236
Plough Lane
Hereford
HR4 0WZ

Dear Mr Howells

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2016-2031 CONSULTATION

I am writing to respond to the above consultation in my capacity as Member of Parliament for Hereford and South Herefordshire. Whilst I did not feel that it was appropriate to complete the online questionnaire, I would like to take this opportunity to raise some broad points about transportation in the county.

On the key issues, I refer you to my letter of 14th December in response to the Council's consultation into the merits of the Southern Link Road.

More widely, roadbuilding alone cannot relieve the congestion, so it is essential that walking, cycling and public transport routes be improved. As well as promoting healthier lifestyles, this will help to ease the traffic problems within the city.

Anything that encourages people to make use of more sustainable forms of transport, such as making public transport tickets easier to buy and use and equipping transport hubs with better information should be encouraged, provided it can be introduced in an affordable way. Efforts to ensure better access to services for those living in rural areas should also be considered, and I would encourage the Council to work closely with local communities to explore different options.

As a final point, in contrast to the previous consultation there appears to be a lack of targeted goals with deadlines. The absence of quantified targets will make it difficult to evaluate the future success of the LTP 2016-2031.

I look forward to reviewing the results of the consultation upon publication, and would be grateful if you could keep me informed of progress.

Best wishes,


Jesse Norman
Member of Parliament
Hereford and South Herefordshire