

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership
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By e-mail Hereford Times

24 May 2016

**Dear Sirs** 

## **South Wye Transport Package and Hereford Bypass Scheme**

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), which includes Herefordshire Council, is working across the Marches to drive economic growth for the area. The Marches is one of the largest LEP regions in the country, covering 2,300 square miles and includes Telford, Shrewsbury and Hereford and more than 30 market towns.

Our vision to grow the economy of the Marches requires not only good infrastructure across road, rail and broadband, but also a skilled workforce so that we continue to attract new businesses which create sustainable private sector jobs.

The LEP negotiated the deal to secure support from the Government's Local Growth Fund. Herefordshire's South Wye Transport Package scheme was one of the Government selected schemes, securing £27m from the Growth Deal.

The delivery of the South Wye Transport Package will be an important element for economic growth in Hereford and improve access to the Enterprise Zone.

The complementary measures in the South Wye area which the Link Road will enable will improve the lives of residents by improving air quality, reducing noise and giving people the opportunity to switch to more sustainable modes of travel.

The Southern Link Road will be an important first step in delivering the much needed bypass of the City. It will provide the capacity to develop both housing and employment sites in the city. It will also enable schemes which will enhance the city centre to be delivered building on the South Wye Transport and Hereford City Centre Packages.

We therefore support the South Wye Transport Package planning application and the Hereford Bypass scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Graham Wynn OBE, Chairman, Marches LEP