

I am writing to you today to show you some photos of the route affected by the Aquind Interconnector. Many people have informed the previous SoS about their deep concerns of the route of the interconnector, along busy and at times very narrow roads but have you actually seen some pictures to understand the impact of this project? This impact particularly during construction time is unthinkable. It will affect residents in many ways: gridlock, congestion, pollution, parking, delays of traffic and bus services, delays of ambulance services, schooling of young and older children, business loss and interference and much more.

I have driven along the route many times, I walked the whole route, I know it intimately. The decision about this project will be made in London, far away from the city of Portsmouth. The council, MPs and residents have repeatedly explained and highlighted the issues we are facing in our city and beyond. The Aquind Interconnector has raised debates in the House of Common, was discussed in the press many times as a controversial issue. The Aquind Interconnector was refused by the previous SoS because, he felt that alternatives have not been thoroughly explored as the harms outweigh the benefits.

I invite the SoS to come to Portsmouth to see why we are against the Aquind Interconnector, why this route is WRONG, what it will do to the residents and environment. I spent the last two and a half years trying to raise awareness about the Aquind Interconnector. I do this because I know of the problems we face here in our local area, because I take our commitment for the environment seriously. I assure you that many residents here feel the same and are deeply concerned.

I have never understood how the ExA could give a recommendation for this project. Was it because it was given NSIP status in 2018?

Please have a look at a few photos showing a small part of the route, to get an idea of the negative impact this project will have on Portsmouth and surroundings. There is only one decision to make. This project should be rejected.

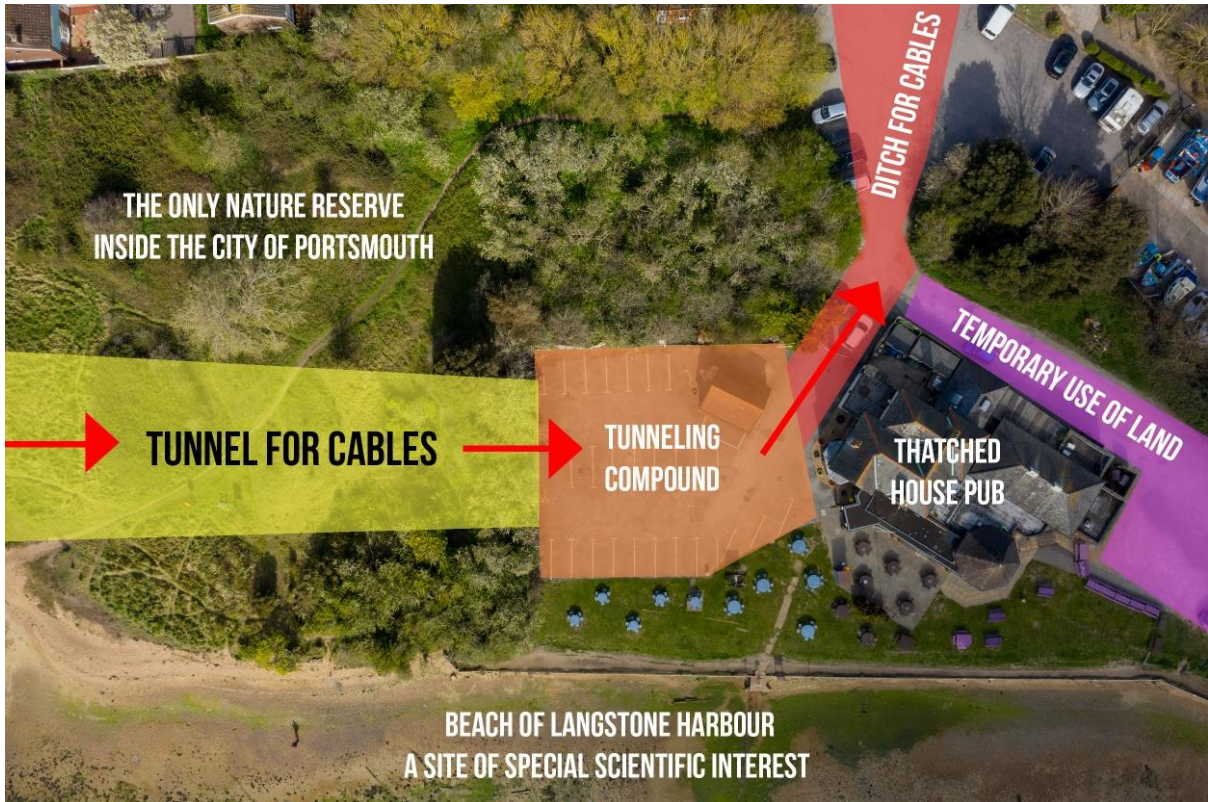












Viola Langley