



Kathryn Powell
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
Temple Quay House
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Kathryn

I am writing in regard to the,

Knutsford to Bowden Environmental Improvement Scheme for the A556.

I could honestly write a 3 page letter or more regarding this scheme, citing the facts about **the unfair consultation** and how the Highways Agency presented it to the local public and beyond, showing maps with whole communities missing, including farms, businesses and even an old folks home, or how the Highways agency have **not** followed **Government guide lines** when planning or presenting this scheme. About how environmentally the pollution and noise impact is going to adversely affect various areas and properties, my house will have a noise increase of 14.3 decibels which I am told is very significant. I could state that various wildlife habitats will be decimated and that future local children will never have a chance to see these creatures in the wild and that recreational footpaths, bridle ways and waterways will be lost forever. I am sure you have had letter upon letter with all these facts and in lots of cases backing it up with figures. We in this locality know that the A556 is not the best of roads but it is not the worst either; it does its job, a job I may say it was **never** intended for, that is moving motorway traffic from one junction to another. There have been accidents and some of them unfortunately fatal but it is not roads that cause accidents, but cars and their drivers and sadly sometimes innocent people get killed, but we in this area know these roads and we can see quite clearly that this scheme will not work. It is not taking away the motorway traffic, just transferring it to another **"A"** road where it will be moving much faster with no traffic lights to slow it down thus risking more lives and causing the build-up of traffic at each end to arrive quicker, creating longer queues and spewing an estimated 3000 cars a day onto lanes where two cars can barely pass without stopping. Any Highways proposal that aims to just create another road running parallel to the existing one is only paying lip service to the problems on the

existing A556 and not really considering a more sustainable, less environmentally destructive, safer, more cost effective option.

I must say at this point that the Highways Agency's behaviour during the public consultation of this scheme has been spiv like in the extreme, giving advice to one Parish knowing full well that it will be to the detriment of the next Parish further down the road and then advising that Parish against it. I can only say they have caused extreme hostility in an area where at best people lived in harmony and at worst just rubbed along together. I have spoken to local people who are afraid to give their names or voice their opinions on the road in case people in their own community find out. I don't know about the new road being a possible blot on the landscape The Highways Agency have certainly left their mark on this rural community in more ways than one.

What the Highways Agency seem to be vehemently against in the extreme is looking at a revised plan for junction 20 of the M6 motorway which they must see would keep the motorway traffic on the motorway (which as we all know are the safest roads to travel on) and if the existing A556 were de trunked down to 30 mph it would only be used by local traffic.

Please consider looking at the new M6 junction 20 plan being presented by Millington Estate, Tatton Estate, Millington Parish Council and The A556 Lobby Group this plan has been devised by CBO Transport Ltd (a traffic logistics company). People in all the parish's along the route have seen it and are ready to say that it would solve this age old problem and be the best result for all our communities and motorists alike.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Yours Sincerely

Diane Flanagan