



9 March 2012

IPC

12 MAR 2012

REF: _____

Ms Kathryn Powell
Case Leader
IPC
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6PN

Dear Ms Powell,

A556 Knutsford to Bowden : Proposed new road

I would like to be registered as an interested party in this matter.

I wish to object to this proposal on the following grounds:-

- It is my belief that this road will completely destroy several villages to the west of the proposed road. The only 'enjoyment and improvement' to the environment around the A556, will be to a small number of residents living on the A556 and a large Country hotel to the east of the road. This road is not in the spirit of localism, the environment or rural communities.
- The consultation conducted by the Highways Agency has been ad hoc and only latterly, vaguely comprehensive. It would appear that the consultation could be considered unfair in that it has not met the standards required by the IPC in respect of timing, flawed and misleading documentation and information provided to local parish councils and affected residents.
- The Highways Agency have admitted that this design was developed "off plan" and until some publicity was presented by them in the local area, no-one from HA had actually been to the area. In developing this plan, no account has been taken of the extremely narrow width of what are essentially, country lanes, onto which they are proposing to divert thousands of vehicles per day. Further, much of their publicity indicates that the proposed road travels through open countryside, when in fact it destroys valuable agricultural land, green belt and centuries old communities and villages.
- Road safety concerns appear to have been given no consideration, or the fact that these narrow roads are used by farm vehicles, equestrians, walkers and form the

backbone of the Cheshire Cycle route. The lanes are not treated in winter and countless accidents and animal deaths occur each year due to careless drivers speeding around narrow bends. These roads already become extremely busy when problems arise on the M6 and M56. Additional vehicles being 'shoe horned' into these narrow lanes will result in fatalities.

- The proposed link road from Millington Hall Lane to Chapel Lane is completely unnecessary, will create a 'rat run' and throw many additional vehicles per day onto already narrow country lanes.

I would be pleased if you would give careful consideration to the points above and reject this proposed scheme in its present form.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

C A Baines (Ms)

CCs Jeremy Bloom,
The Right Hon. George Osborne MP,
Ms J Greening, Secretary of State for Transport, Department for Transport,

Ms C Spelman, Secretary for State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, DEFRA,