

**From:** Sue Rawlinson [<mailto:Sue.Rawlinson@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 23 June 2015 14:26  
**To:** A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon  
**Subject:** A14 inquiry

I attach the Council's comments on the consultation. (.pdf and Word format).

No representative from the Council wishes to attend the inquiry at this stage.

Kind regards

**Sue Rawlinson**

Committee Clerk / Information Officer

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## **A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme**

**Planning Reference: TR010018**

**Written submission by St Ives Town Council**

### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 St Ives is a market town with a population of around 18,000, located around 3km north of the existing A14. The A14 provides the main road access to/from the town for journeys to Cambridge and other longer distance road journeys, especially in an east or west direction.

1.2 These comments on the A14 improvement scheme were agreed at the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting on the 10 June 2015. The comments are based on a study of the submitted documents and discussions held with the Highways Agency (now Highways England) during the development of the scheme and various consultations.

### 2.0 General Comments

2.1 The Town Council support the need to improve the existing A14 which is often congested.

2.2 Proposed housing and commercial development in and around St Ives and the rest of Cambridgeshire will increase the demand of road transport and requires additional infrastructure to support the development. The A14 improvement is considered a key part of this new infrastructure.

2.3 The new road alignment, being further away from St Ives than the existing road, will affect the way which people access the town. This will affect the amount of traffic on roads into the town especially the A1096 (+1000 vehicles per day) and the A1123 (-1800 vehicles per day). Given the new development planned for the area, these figures will need to be monitored once the new road is opened.

2.4 The removal of the existing viaduct in Huntingdon will have a significant impact on traffic flows around the Huntingdon. The Town Council recognise the possible benefits of reduced traffic flows through Godmanchester but have concerns regarding the impact on traffic around Huntingdon railway station and Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. The predicted traffic flows need to be tested during the examination and subject to sensitivity tests to ensure that the traffic across a range of predictions.

### 3.0 Specific comments and concerns

3.1 The Town Council support the provision of borrow pits to provide construction materials for the project. This will reduce the amount of construction traffic on local roads. The final construction transport strategy should avoid any lorries travelling through St Ives.

3.2 The Town Council support the provision of a cycle route alongside the new road between Fen Stanton towards Cambridge. This will provide an alternative route from St Ives to Cambridge when the existing route alongside the guided busway is flooded. A cycle way from the A14 to St Ives should be provided as part of the scheme.

3.3 The Town Council would like to see additional traffic modelling carried out on local roads leading to the new A14 especially the A1096 and A1123 as noted in 2.3 and 2.4 above. As these figures are a best estimate and the public seldom follow predicted routes, we would want to see sensitivity testing carried out on the figures to gain assurance that road congestion on local roads will not worsen as a result of the scheme. Previous discussion with the Highways Agency indicated that the average journey time from St Ives to Cambridge would only reduce by 29 seconds as a result of the scheme. This suggests that any journey time improvements produced by the scheme would be largely offset by extra congestion elsewhere.

3.4 The Town Council would like to see further details of the proposed signage strategy from the A14 and A1 to St Ives. Many vehicles from the A1 north to St Ives may wish to travel via the de-trunked A14 and the A141 around Huntingdon as this will be a much shorter route than continuing on the new A14. Will there be any signs to encourage or deter this?

3.5 The Town Council urge that brown heritage signs to St Ives and the historic riverport be provided on the new route.

3.6 The Town Council urge that during the construction phase, the contractors will be required to prioritise jobs and apprenticeships to local people to maximise the benefit to the local economy.

Revision 1

St Ives Town Council

June 2015