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Subject: Comments on responses to first written questions

Ref TR010018

Written responses from Highways England on the first written questions (report 9, responses 33-38 to question 1/9/4)

Comments by David Prior (10030752)

I do not consider that the responses by Highways England on the impact of the new link road on Mill Common sufficiently recognise the further incursion and impact that this road would represent. It would in essence constitute an artificial barrier imposed on what is essentially a flat meadow landscape. As the responses themselves state:

The contrast of the pastoral scene with the urban edge is part of the Common's character.

Yet it is precisely this character that the road would destroy. Nor is there any sense in which this would be offset by the demolition of the viaduct which would not in actual fact benefit the town centre.

In respect of response 33, it needs to be acknowledged that in the absence of the link road any traffic heading for the western side of the town - for example the hospital, Hinchingsbrooke school or the areas of housing would still be able to use the detrunked A14 to the new junction with Hinchingsbrooke Park Road and Edison Bell Way, thereby relieving pressure on Godmanchester and the town bridge. That junction would also provide access to traffic heading north and east towards the town centre.

David Prior

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