From: Chris Porteous

To: A417 Missing Link at Air Balloon

Subject: Representation for Planning

Date: 07 October 2021 22:49:29

Hi.

It was recently brought to my attention that it was possible to make a "representation" with the Planning Inspectorate. I understand that the registration period has closed, however you may accept late submissions.

I would like to make a submission, as from reading the 110 submissions, they seem to be overwhelmingly negative. This is at odds with the public consultation Highways England held which was overwhelmingly positive.

As a local resident who will be affected by the scheme, I feel that Highways England did an excellent job in their two consultations in reacting to concerns. Indeed, I am actually quite excited by the proposals, because they include features such as the new paths and bridleways which will bring real "quality of life" improvements to the area, not to mention not having constant rat-running and queuing on the A417.

This is in addition to the obvious safety improvements of their proposed scheme. As a local resident, if find aspects of the current A417 genuinely scary, especially the Birdlip junction and the way some people drive on the steep bit of the hill. We see so many serious crashes on this road, that an improvement really can't come soon enough, and any delay literally costs lives.

I note that some submissions on your site seem to support Option 12. This option was discounted by Highways England some time ago, and I quizzed them quite heavily on it during the consultation. Their reasoning was pretty sound and comprehensive and I agree with their decision. I would really hope that in making your decision, the full details of their reasoning and the results for the public consultations are taken into account.

Thank you very much for considering my request for late admission.

Chris Porteous