

**Evans, Rebecca**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 May 2024 10:06  
**To:** A1 in Northumberland: Morpeth to Ellingham  
**Subject:** Morpeth to Ellingham dualling

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Dear Sirs

**Interested Party Ref: A1IN-S57047**

**With reference to the above application to dual the A1 between Morpeth and Ellingham:**

The A1 is an extremely busy highway, serving both through as well as local traffic in Newcastle and Northumberland. It carries a large number of HGVs at all times of the year, as well as seasonal farm vehicles and also holiday traffic and caravans, especially in the summer months. Tailbacks from the point just north of Morpeth, where the road goes from dual to single carriageway, are common. The area is also an accident blackspot, sometimes sadly caused by driver frustration at being stuck in a queue behind a slow-moving tractor or caravan.

The A1 is also an important urban highway, as many small, local communities must use it to get into and out of Morpeth. I live in a small hamlet just off the A697, about 3 miles from the A1, a busy road linking the A1 to Wooler and the Borders. It is the last slip road before the road gets narrower, and if there is a traffic tailback on the A1 it can be difficult, slow and frustrating to access this road to get home. My wife is disabled and poor traffic flow can affect care workers/emergency vehicles access.

Tourism is another factor which should be considered: the A1 is the main artery to Edinburgh and East Scotland, and many vehicles use it to access Scotland for holidays, as well as much needed tourism here in the North East. Better access to Alnwick, with the Castle and the Gardens, would boost the local economy, as well as (hopefully) the Aln Valley Railway line from Alnwick to the East Coast Main Line at Alnmouth. People will be more inclined to come if there is a decent road to use.

This road is a major traffic route from London, and as such millions of pounds have been spent making it two or three lanes from there to Morpeth. From here it becomes just another A road which struggles to safely cope with the volumes of through and local traffic. Dualling this stretch of the A1 is urgent and should be given to go ahead as soon as possible. There have been enough delays and people in the area want this to happen as soon as possible.

Regards

Martin Booth  
The Hemmel  
Herons Close  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 3DN