

**From:** Declan Waters [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 05 November 2018 19:56  
**To:** Northampton Gateway  
**Subject:** Written Representation

**Ref: Northampton Gateway Development; Written Representation.**  
**Your Ref: TR050006**

Dear Mr Asquith,

I write to you regarding the planning application of the Northampton Gateway Development (TR050006) which, along with David Brock, you are considering as the Examining Authority appointed by the Secretary of State.

I submitted a representation to this application on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 which is recorded on the planning inspectorate website.

This written representation will primarily explore and examine the traffic details provided by the developer and the shortcomings in this information, and methods used. This does not mean that other items raised in my initial representation are no longer valid – only that I am expanding on a certain aspect of that representation.

#### **Current Road Capacity**

Developer's Document: [ES TR App 12.1 - TA App 37 - Baseline traffic surveys](#)

**Refer to: Pages 60 – 62 traffic in Road.**

This was carried out on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016. Since this date, a number of major changes have occurred in the area which would significantly affect these results including:

- New housing in Roade, Towcester, Milton Keynes, and Northampton
- Northampton University moving to east of Northampton
- Changes to the M1 traffic systems, increasing traffic flow. This negatively impacts on diversion routes, including A43 and A508
- Changes to the A508 / A5 roundabout
- Closure of Towcester A5 and changes in priorities on the A43 junctions
- A508 as alternative route due to A5 closure at night
- A508 as bypass route for M1 during closures or heavy traffic

This survey of the traffic on one day cannot be representative of the above changes, or of a typical day. This must be done on random days throughout a year to be statistically relevant. It must also include at least one day when the M1 is closed due to the A508 being a designated alternative route. As such, I submit that this document must be considered to be irrelevant to the application.

#### **Other Pages**

Other information is taken from May 2014 which, although for a longer period of time (7 days) should not be considered to be relevant following the changes listed above. The document also doesn't explain the processes used for the surveys, making it impossible to critique with any degree of accuracy.

I would request that these surveys are carried out again, and repeated over a 12 month period to ensure that they are statistically relevant to the application and the future traffic information.

#### **Future Road Capacity**

Developer's Document: [ES TR App 12.1 - TA App 43 - 2031 Future Year Traffic Flows](#)

This document is impossible to read without a clear explanation of the terms used, and the methodology behind the assumptions. Despite searching the other documents provided I could find no explanation. As such I am unable to determine if the future flows include and consider the issues above as well as:

- Increases in traffic for future building in the local towns, villages, and Milton Keynes
- Increases in requirements on M1 traffic caused by additional building either at DRIFT or other locations near the M1 (either near Northampton, Daventry, and/or Milton Keynes)
- Movement of employees from outside the local area.
  - As noted by Andrea Leadsom (MP, South Northamptonshire) local unemployment is 0.7% and is unlikely to worsen in the future.

The reviews of the future road capacity also don't include information on the junctions which will be affected by this development. The A508 through Grafton Regis, and the A508/A5 roundabout. There is also no review of Junction 14 (Milton Keynes) which would be affected by this development as employees would be required from the local area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me in the event of queries on any of the above issues, or if you require further detail. When the developer submits more recent data please let me know so that the local community can further analyse the data provided and ensure it is accurate.

Yours sincerely

Mr Declan Waters

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