

Emailed to:

Andrew Jackson
Programme Leader, A27 Arundel Bypass, RIP South East
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16 December 2022

Dear Andrew,

Transport for the South East (TfSE) response to National Highways A27 Arundel bypass consultation

I am writing to you as Head of Analysis and Appraisal for [Transport for the South East](#) (TfSE) in response to the A27 Arundel Bypass Scheme Supplementary pre-application consultation – your ref: TR010045/S42(1)(b).

TfSE is a sub-national transport body which represents sixteen local transport authorities in the South East of England. These are Brighton and Hove, East Sussex, Hampshire, Kent, Medway, Surrey, West Sussex, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton, and the six Berkshire unitary authorities. These authorities are represented on the Partnership Board, which is its decision-making body, along with representatives from the region's five Local Enterprise Partnerships, district and borough authorities, protected landscapes, National Highways, Network Rail and Transport for London.

TfSE provides a mechanism for its constituent authorities to speak with one voice on the transport interventions needed to support sustainable economic growth across its geography. High-quality transport infrastructure is critical to making the South East more competitive, contributing to national prosperity and improving the lives of our residents.

In 2020 TfSE published a thirty-year transport strategy for the South East that sets out an ambitious 2050 vision for the area. We have undertaken a programme of area studies to identify multimodal packages of interventions that will be needed to deliver the transport strategy. The outputs from the area studies have been brought together in a draft Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) that we published for consultation in June 2022.

TfSE welcomes the opportunity to comment on the A27 Arundel Bypass consultation.

The A27 is the only major east-west trunk road south of the M25 and links a number of the cities and ports that are critical to the UK economy. Our transport strategy confirmed the A27 as a key orbital transport corridor across our area whilst recognising that it suffers from significant areas of congestion and that sections of single carriageway road limit capacity. The poor performance of this corridor represents a significant barrier to fostering sustainable growth along the South Coast.



Our Outer Orbital area study sets out a strategic vision for the area, that by the year 2050 the two conurbations of the Outer Orbital area, South Hampshire and Sussex Coast will be served by world class urban mass transit systems and will be an attractive environment for active travel. It also envisages that both conurbations will be joined together by high quality rail and highway infrastructure that are sensitive to the area's outstanding natural and historic environment. This will deliver sustainable and equitable economic growth for the area's residents and businesses to join the two major conurbations of Solent/South Hampshire and Brighton/Sussex Coast. Improving the A27 at Arundel is key to achieving this vision as the A27 is struggling to perform a strategic role of connecting the two largest conurbations on the South Coast. Therefore TfSE support the need for the scheme as part of a holistic solution to the A27 to deliver high-quality east – west connections for freight, private and mass transit vehicles that de-conflict local and longer-distance traffic.

Our transport strategy seeks to deliver sustainable economic growth that achieves the right balance between the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development. This means that any intervention in the area's transport networks to address connectivity challenges must ensure that the environment is protected and where possible enhanced and that opportunities to improve the health, wellbeing and quality of life for everyone are realised. We welcome the focus given to addressing the environmental challenges and your objective to deliver a scheme that minimises environmental impact and seeks to protect and enhance the quality of the surrounding environment through its high-quality design..

This is an officer response. The TfSE Shadow Partnership Board next meets on 23 January 2023 when it will consider this response. A further iteration of it may follow after that meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Valentine

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Transport for the South East



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