



Safe roads, reliable journeys, informed travellers

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7 January 2015

Dear Andrew

BRADFORD LOCAL PLAN CORE STRATEGY

I understand that following the submission of the Core Strategy for examination, the appointed Inspector has asked for confirmation as to whether there are any outstanding highways issues.

The Highways Agency's response to the publication document consultation in March last year, stated that we considered the document to be sound. We did however make a number of comments on the likely impact of development on the Strategic Road Network. We highlighted that development would impact particularly on the M606 and the M62 at J26 Chain Bar and J27 Gildersome. These comments were based on evidence provided by the Bradford Infrastructure Study commissioned by the Highways Agency in 2013. A copy of the draft report is attached to the covering email.

The Infrastructure Study considered the impact of growth in Bradford and the rest of West Yorkshire over a period up to 2028. A number of potential scenarios and options for mitigation were tested and conclusions drawn about the scale of mitigation likely to be required to support growth. The study concluded that interventions would be needed at both M62 J26 Chain Bar and M62 J27 Gildersome.

Since then the DfT have published the Road Investment Strategy which provides commitment to fund a major scheme of improvement at Chain Bar. In addition to this we have a committed Local Network Management Scheme for M62 J27 which will provide capacity in the earlier part of the plan period. We have also recently commissioned a study to consider what interventions may be required in the longer term at J27.

In summary, the Highways Agency has no outstanding concerns about the soundness of Bradford Council's Local Plan Core Strategy. Issues relating to the impact of development on the Strategic Road Network have been identified but we are satisfied that these will be addressed through planned investment and by partnership working which is already well established and continues to be strengthened in the context of the Duty to Co-operate.

Also to note, in our March 2014 response to the publication document we stated that we did not want to attend the oral examination, on the basis that we didn't have any outstanding issues to raise. If however the Inspector would like us to attend or if you feel this is beneficial then we are of course happy to make someone available for this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Rios', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Toni Rios

Asset Manager

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