



Paul Holmes MP

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Overleaf is a self explanatory copy of a letter I have sent to Derbyshire County Council Highways Department regarding the long delayed and much needed Brimington/Staveley By Pass.

As a local resident you know only too well how bad the A619 route is as it passes by Tapton, Brimington and Staveley.

This road was never designed to take the volume of traffic that uses it now let alone the extra volume that is being attracted on to it by further industrial, commercial and residential development. From the time when I lived at Tapton in the 1980's, through to today. I have seen the traffic congestion and pollution along this route increase. Of course when the M1 is closed due to accidents the route then becomes almost impassable due to diverted traffic. The volume of traffic also makes some road junctions along the route –Troughbrook Bottom in particular – especially difficult and dangerous for cars and pedestrians alike.

The long promised but never delivered By Pass would remove this congestion and pollution entirely from all those who live along the route of the A619. The road would in effect revert to being a service road for local residents rather than being a choked major route between Chesterfield and the M1.

Derbyshire County Council as the Highways Authority is the key player in this but in reality of course the funding has to come from the Government. Neither have so far 'delivered the goods'.

I will of course continue to lobby the County Council, the Regional Development Agency and the Government over this issue.

As always please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can be of assistance on this or any other issue.

Best wishes,

Paul Holmes

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Liberal Democrat Justice and Home Affairs Spokesman. Member of Parliament for Chesterfield.

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Dear Cllr Jackson,

A number of constituents have recently raised with me the question of the uncompleted Brimington/Staveley By Pass. The extra interest has been stimulated recently because of the recent works at the 'Staveley end' as a knock on consequence of the Junction 29A development. We now have the position of the Tapton end of the route having been completed years ago and the current works on a revised Staveley end. 'All' that remains to be built is the large link section in the middle!

The By Pass was being promised when I first moved to live at Tapton in 1979; indeed it was I understand being promised as long ago as the 1930's. Anyone who has ever either lived in the Tapton, Brimington, Staveley area or driven through it (and much traffic en route to the M1 does this as well as residential and local business traffic), knows just how desperately this By Pass is needed because of the environmental benefit it will bring to all residents along the existing, inadequate, road route. As traffic through the Brimington/Staveley corridor grows further (J29A; developing industrial estates and business parks at Staveley; new traffic to the new Tesco and to the new Football Ground from next season), so the current poor and worsening congestion, vehicle generated noise and air pollution will worsen for all those who live in the area.

An extra incentive to complete the By Pass is now the very large area of derelict brown field land available from the recently demolished Staveley Works site, all the way through to the steadily closing down Chemical Works site. The completed By Pass could open up this entire area to redevelopment and I understand that work is currently being undertaken by Derbyshire County Council (DCC), as the Highways Authority, to redraw parts of the By Pass route in order to facilitate this? Please advise also what work is being undertaken and the likely time scale involved before the work begins?

Last year when I wrote about this to DCC, I was told that no Government funding had been allocated for this much needed scheme. Is this still the case? If so what negotiations are underway with the Government and the Regional Development Agency to make the increasingly urgent case for completing the long awaited and long promised By Pass?

Of course, I will as always, be happy to help in any lobbying that is needed in Parliament/Westminster in order to help move this project forward to the benefit of all local residents and businesses and I look forward to your earliest reply.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Holmes MP

Liberal Democrat Justice and Home Affairs spokesman. Member of Parliament for Chesterfield.