

Date: 22:28 29th Apr 2007  
From: Ken Venters <kventers@btinternet.com>  
To: secretary@road-sense.org  
Subject: Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route

Sheona Warnock

Thank you for your letter dated 20Th April regarding your campaign in relation to the AWPR.

In response to your particular questions I offer the following views.

In principal I am in favour of the AWPR. I think that a reduction in volume of heavy goods traffic driving through the city and along some of our rural roads and on to the AWPR will benefit both city and rural residents.

In relation to the route I have studied the Aberdeenshire Council AWPR website and there is a phenomenal volume of information regarding the new road. In view of the fact the the road when completed will be 46 miles long and so few houses will be directly affected is in my view a measure of how the planners have tried to minimise disruption where possible.

Numerous environmental impact studies have been carried out including the impact on rivers, flora and fauna and animals show the degree of care that the council have adopted in pursuing this project. The latest corridor for the route is considerably narrower than previous proposals and seems to be trying to reduce the overall impact of the route.

The final costs have yet to be finalised and the contribution from the local population is not yet known. If elected I would strive to ensure that costs to the taxpayer are kept to a reasonable level. Until final costings are confirmed it is not feasible to give a definitive answer as to the cost the taxpayer will be liable for.

The consultation process was carried out in an appropriate manner particularly with the exhibitions being taken out into local communities to allow more people to view the proposals and register their comments.

If the statistics for cutting congestion in the city and rural areas are in line with actual vehicle numbers then I believe the impact would be dramatic in terms of air quality in the city and rural areas. For example, the volume of heavy traffic which takes the route from Stonehaven through Netherley and Marykirk would drastically reduce if an alternative was available. I do not anticipate a major increase in vehicle numbers when the road is completed.

The website states that there will be a Public Local Inquiry held in winter 2007. If elected I will study the report produced by the inquiry in detail before making any final decision on the project.

Regards

Ken Venters

Independent Candidate

Stonehaven and Lower Deeside