



Banwell Parish Council

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Secretary of State for Transport
Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road
Newcastle Business Park
Newcastle upon Tyne. NE4 7AR

Dear Sir,

RE: Banwell bypass - CPO inquiry

I am writing this on behalf of Banwell Parish Council to offer our support to the Banwell Bypass Scheme.

Banwell has for many years experienced increasing levels of congestion and the need for a bypass has been talked about for almost 100 years.

The Bypass will improve the health and wellbeing of its residents in a variety of ways.

Firstly, by removing the vehicles that currently get stuck throughout the village, engines running, especially outside our school, polluting the air which we understand has resulted in an increase in asthma cases.

Secondly by removing those larger vehicles that are frequently driven onto the pavements in an order to pass each other, endangering pedestrians, and damaging buildings. We have had numerous reports of pedestrians being struck simply walking on our narrow pavement and many near misses which have been reported particularly on the zebra crossing by the school.

The planned increase of active travel routes will encourage villagers to walk, run, cycle and ride.

From the beginning of this Project, we have worked with North Somerset Council and the Bypass Team in order to get the best possible result for the village. We have engaged fully with the consultations and even though we still have some concerns, over potential outcomes, we feel we have been listened too.

We always knew that a Bypass would eventually precipitate housing, probably to the north of the village, given the physical constraints of North Somerset. However, we also knew that this housing was likely to come even if there was no Bypass. We did not want to see unplanned development exacerbate our current congestion chaos, therefore we welcomed the bypass from the outset.

Throughout this process we have been aware of local opposition to the development but for the most part this did not come from within our village. Where it did, residents were unsure about elements of the scheme but not to the Bypass as a whole.

Therefore, on behalf of the Parish Council and our parishioner's, I can confidently give our full support to this Application.