



Jonathan Djanogly MP
Member of Parliament for Huntingdon
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements

Highways England
Woodlands
Manton Industrial Estate
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7LW

19 April 2017

Dear Sir

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements

Having campaigned for improvements to the A428, I am delighted that this Government has recognised the importance of this strategic section of road.

The ever increasing volume of traffic using the A428 has meant that there are regular accidents and delays on the road, which not only inconvenience road users, many of whom are my constituents, but also those who live in nearby villages and are blighted by constant rat running.

I welcome Highways England's proposals and found the recent meeting with stakeholders very informative. I know that a significant number of my constituents from the villages in the vicinity of the A428 have attended the public exhibitions and this has helped them determine which of the three proposed routes they prefer.

Without exception, every constituent that has contacted me over the last few weeks have overwhelmingly been in favour of the orange route and I very much share my constituents' views on this matter. I believe that the orange route is the only route that adequately addresses access to the new road for those living in St Neots, causes the least disruption to villagers in the Gransdens, Abbotsley and Waresley and is potentially the most environmental of the schemes.

The Black Cat roundabout is not in my constituency, but is clearly a vital link to the wider access issues for the area. My view is that option C provides the best option in terms of keeping traffic as free flowing as possible and providing access to the new A428, whilst catering for all A1 redesign possibilities.

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Tel: 020 7219 2367
Email: jonathan.djanogly.mp@parliament.uk
www.jonathandjanogly.com

Whilst I am conscious that there a number of other infrastructure schemes in the region currently being considered by either Highways England or Network Rail, I do think it is vital that work continues with the A428 to enable spades to be in the ground by 2020. In light of the campaign to improve the A1, I would however, ask that due consideration is given to starting work at the Cambridge end of the scheme, rather than Black Cat, so that any improvements in relation to the A1 could still be incorporated.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Gifford'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.