



Department
for Transport

Department for Transport
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Web Site: www.gov.uk/dft

Our Ref: 248400

Your Ref:

7th February 2019

Jack Delbridge
Bypass not a A27 Throughpass
PO Box 4989
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 9AJ

Dear Mr Delbridge

Follow up case on funding A27 Worthing, Lancing and Sompting

Thank you for your letter to the Secretary of State for Transport on the 16th January about the funding for the A27 Worthing, Lancing and Sompting. As you will appreciate, Ministers receive large numbers of correspondence and are unable to answer them all personally. Therefore, I have been asked to reply on his behalf.

Firstly, the amount of money for the A27 Worthing and Lancing has not changed, and no additional funds have been made available.

Secondly, as you say, the Chancellor announced the forecast for £28.8bn to be made available through the National Roads Fund between 2020-25 for delivery of the second Road Investment Strategy (RIS2) and enhancement schemes on the most important local roads. The Department and Highways England will use the information gathered about the performance of the strategic road network, including the A27 at Lancing and Worthing, to determine an affordable, deliverable investment plan for RIS2. We expect to announce RIS2 later this year.

Thirdly, Options for the A27 through Worthing and Lancing were developed according to the usual Highways England process, including stakeholder engagement and the review of previous and current studies.

The options looked at have also been assessed against whether or not they fulfil the brief set by the Department for Transport, known as the Roads Investment Strategy (published in March 2015), which you can find at the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/408514/ris-for-2015-16-road-period-web-version.pdf

You will note that the budget and the objectives effectively preclude the further consideration of the bypass route you mention in your correspondence. When considered during the “options sifting” process, the bypass option was discounted as poor value for money.

Finally, Since the scheme was paused in November 2018, there have been no scheme-based surveys on the A27. However, the other A27 schemes (the A27 Arundel Bypass and the A27 East of Lewes), Designated Funds schemes, and our usual maintenance programme are progressing and the surveyors on site may be connected to these activities. The sight of surveyors on the A27 does not indicate further consultation on the A27 Worthing & Lancing scheme.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jasper Goddard', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jasper Goddard