

Addressee as on envelope

Susan Stuart
Deputy Regional Director
Transport and Environment
Government Office
for the South East
Bridge House
1 Walnut Tree Close
Guildford
GU1 4GU

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Dear Sir or Madam

A21 TONBRIDGE TO PEMBURY IMPROVEMENT

I am directed by the Secretary of State for Transport and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, who act jointly in these matters, to refer to the above scheme.

As you will be aware the Government has made clear its most urgent priority is to tackle the UK's record budget deficit to restore confidence in the economy and support the recovery. As part of its plan to eliminate the bulk of the deficit over the course of this Parliament, the Government will undertake a full Spending Review, reporting in the Autumn. The Department for Transport will play a full part in that process.

It has therefore been decided that until the Government's spending review has been concluded, the Department for Transport will not be in a position to identify those major infrastructure projects it can support, consistent with the Government's objectives. In view of the uncertainty over the availability of funding for this scheme, it has been decided to postpone, for

the time being, the holding of the local inquiry. We aim to provide you with an indication of the way forward for this scheme later this year once the spending review is complete.

Yours faithfully

S.M. Strast.

Deputy Regional Director

Government Office South East