

Department for
Transport

Mark Worrall OBE Chairman
Tonbridge & Malling Local Strategic Partnership
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council
Gibson Building
Gibson Drive
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4LZ

Paul Williams
Strategic Roads Investment Projects
Division
Zone 4/29
Great Minster House
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR

Direct line: 020 7944 6953

Web site: www.dft.gov.uk
Our Ref: 06/028196/09

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Dear Mark Worrall OBE,

A21 Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Scheme

Thank you for your letter dated 14 March 2011 about the A21 Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Scheme. As you state in your letter Kent County Council (KCC) is currently working with the Highways Agency (HA) to examine ways of reducing the cost of the scheme including the delivery of the scheme by KCC rather than by the HA.

At present the A21 Tonbridge to Pembury scheme is one of 14 schemes identified for potential construction in future spending review periods, subject to its successful completion of the statutory process. The statutory process I currently refer to is the Public Inquiry, the Inspector's report, Secretaries of State's Decision Letter and the making of orders.

Once the discussions with KCC are completed consideration will be given to the most efficient delivery timetable for the scheme to complete the statutory process. As you observed, some of the evidence produced for the previously scheduled Public Inquiry is time-bound and will need refreshing for any new programmed start date. However it would not be appropriate to hold a Public Inquiry without a programmed start of works date and confirmation that the scheme would be funded.

Yours sincerely,


Paul Williams

