



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Highways England
1-7 Harley Street
London
W14 9QD

28th March 2018

Dear Sir,

I write in response to the A417 Missing Link consultation to support Option 30.

I believe this is the best solution to achieving the aims of the scheme: to reduce congestion, improve journey times and make the network safe. The scheme will also greatly assist in the economic growth of the region by reducing travel times and increasing productivity, supporting jobs particularly for those who live and work at opposite ends of the link.

While I understand the environmental concerns raised by some I fully support the progression of the scheme and welcome the significant investment from central government. The consultation team has worked closely with stakeholders including in the environmental community in order to accommodate their views as much as possible.

Road usage is expected to increase by up to 13% in the next 6 years, which implies a huge impact on many of my constituents who use the route. Worse still, with some 57 collisions on the route from 2011-2016, this is also a significant health and safety issue and we should aim to do more to save lives, protecting constituents from this dangerous stretch of road.

Option 30 offers a greater response to these issues without abruptly impacting the speed limit along the route as well as reducing journey times. It also offers a greater return on investment and higher value for money than Option 12. For these reasons I fully support Highway England's plans for Option 30 and hope to see this move forward as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,
Richard Graham