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Carmarthenshire.  
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19-1-2020

The Inspector  
Llanddewi Velfrey to Penblewin By-pass Inquiry  
c/o Orders Branch,  
Transport Dept for Economic Infrastructure,  
Welsh Government,  
Cathays Park,  
Cardiff CF10 3NQ.

Dear Sir

Reference number qA1316455

I write to state the wholehearted support of this Council for the proposed by-pass.

As the Clerk to the Community Council I share the concerns of local residents that have been recorded for many years. I have been Clerk for nearly three years, and throughout that time the by-pass has been a topic discussed by the Council. I am aware that over many years the residents have been arguing the case for this by-pass, and it is recorded that in 2002 there were plans from Government for dualling the road from St Clears to Haverfordwest, which would have included this section. There have been many letters sent by this Council and residents over at least the last 20 years to MP's, AM's, SWTRA, even the Petitions Committee, all making the case for this road to be improved and repeating time after time the same concerns. Several Assembly members, local MP's past and present and the former Deputy First Minister have all seen the problems first hand and agreed to support this campaign, yet very little has been done.

The concerns that have been raised as reasons for a bypass include:

- Excessive speed of vehicles travelling through the village (reinforced by several traffic surveys)
- Inadequate controls in place to impose speed limits
- Poor safety record (acknowledged in a Welsh Government Transport Review)
- Poorly aligned junctions that are unsafe
- Lack of safe crossing places for pedestrians especially for school children crossing to reach their school buses
- Narrow footways unsafe for pedestrians and inadequate for wheelchair-users mobility scooters and pushchairs
  - In a survey of residents prior to submission of our petition to the Petitions Committee, P-03-240, several elderly residents said they drove the short distance from their homes to the local shop as it was too dangerous to walk alongside the A40
  - Trunk Road Engineers tasked with carrying out survey work on the pavements alongside the A40 said that it breached Health and Safety guidelines

As a result of all the above we have a divided community in challenging times when working together in local communities is more important than ever.

The Council is aware that that building the by-pass will have a negative effect on some residents, They feel that this is significantly outweighed by the major benefits to the community as a whole and the majority of residents. I am told that residents who have expressed concern about aspects directly pertaining to them have had their letters noted as objections – even though they actually may be in

favour of the scheme because they understand that it is a major benefit for the community. I hope that these letters which are not in opposition to the scheme, are read in the correct spirit and seen for what they really are.

The Council has also been notified of two alternative routes suggested by one objector. They consider that the alternatives suggested would be of very limited benefit if any, which would be only for a couple of residences, and would incur significant extra cost to the project. There would also be a substantial negative affect upon the visual amenity for a large proportion of the community, with no proven benefit for them. There would also be a delay in the project going ahead which would risk losing the opportunity altogether. For all of these reasons the Council is against the proposed alternatives as suggested in the recent report dated March 2020.

This Council are looking forward to the improved quality of life that the completed by-pass will bring to the community.

Yours faithfully,

Vicky Mitchell  
Clerk – Llanddewi Velfrey Community Council