



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Trafnidiaeth Cymru
Transport Wales

Eich cyf . Your ref:

Ein cyf . Our ref: BZ 047123-332-1

Dyddiad . Date: February 2007

Dear Sir/Madam

THE A48 (CULVERHOUSE CROSS - SYCAMORE CROSS) THE A4226 (SYCAMORE CROSS, WAYCOCK CROSS - AIRPORT ROUNDABOUT) PORT ROAD (AIRPORT ROUNDABOUT - CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ACCESS ROUNDABOUT) (TRUNKING) ORDER 200-

DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS

1. Under the provisions of Section 62 of the Government of Wales Act 1998, the First Minister of the National Assembly for Wales ("the Assembly") has delegated the function of deciding whether or not to make this Order to Andrew Davies, Minister for Enterprise, Innovation and Networks ("the Minister").

INTRODUCTION

2. There was a Public Local Inquiry (the Inquiry) into this draft Order between 9th and 12th May and on 1st June 2006. The Inspector was Mr Jack Moffett BSc(Hons) FICE MIHT.

THE ORDER

3. The Order would authorise the trunking of the A48 (Culverhouse Cross to Sycamore Cross), the A4226 (Five Mile Lane, Waycock Cross and Port Road) and an unclassified length of Port Road to Cardiff International Airport.

THE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

4. I enclose a copy of the Inspector's Report ("the Report") which the Minister has now considered. This letter sets out his decision.

5. Copies of the Report and this letter are available for inspection at:

- a. Welsh Assembly Government, Transport Wales, Orders Branch, Cathays Park, Cardiff,
- b. Cardiff County Council, Regulatory Control, City Hall, Cardiff,
- c. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry,
- d. Cardiff County Council, Brindley Road, Leckwith, Cardiff and
- e. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, The Alps, Quarry Road, Wenvoe.

6. The documents and plans that accompanied the Report are available for inspection during normal office hours at the Welsh Assembly Government's address (5a above).

OBJECTIONS

7. At the start of the Inquiry there were 71 objectors, 5 interested parties and 3 supporters to the proposed Order. Eight objectors appeared at the inquiry. We received a further letter of support during the inquiry.

MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION, DECISION AND NEXT STEPS

8. The Minister has considered the Report and accepts the Inspector's recommendation in paragraph 9, deciding not to trunk the route at this time.

9. Five Mile Lane needs improving to enhance road safety, support development in the south of the Vale of Glamorgan and cater for projected Airport growth. However, the Minister acknowledges that the timing of improvements was a pivotal issue in the Report. The Assembly Government will now work with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to deliver the improvements using Principal Road Grant funding. In this way Cardiff International Airport will get improved access in the shortest time possible.

10. Cardiff International Airport Access entered the Trunk Road Forward Programme (the Programme) in 2004. It was in Phase 3 of the Programme, which means "unlikely to start before April 2010". The Inspector commented on this priority in paragraph 8.15 of the Report. However, the Minister does not accept his interpretation of how this sits with the Assembly's commitment to the scheme. Programme rankings are indicative and individual scheme programmes can change to reflect changes in priority, as in this case. For example we have recently appointed consultants to take forward a scheme to improve access between the M4 and Cardiff International Airport. The outcome of this work will of course be subject to public consultation and the statutory planning process.

CONVEYANCE OF DECISION

11. We have sent a copy of this letter and the Report to the objectors, supporters and interested parties.

Yours sincerely

S C Shouler
Director of Transport Planning and Administration