



Housing, Health & Engineering Services

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Date: www.pendle.gov.uk
14th October 2019
Our Ref:
Your Ref:
Ask for: Julie Whittaker
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Dear Angie

LOCAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE CHALLENGE FUND

I wish to confirm Pendle Council's support for your bid to the Local Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund, in particular for those schemes within Pendle's boundary.

Pendle is situated along the M65 Growth Corridor, an area recognised by the Lancashire LEP as having the opportunity to create further economic growth. To support this growth the LEP have funded improvements to J12 and J13 of the M65. Highways England, working with Transport for the North, have also commissioned a study to look at improving road links between the M65 and Yorkshire.

The M65 ends at Colne within Pendle and the A682, A56 and A6068 are the major local routes linking East Lancashire to North Yorkshire and West Yorkshire. Congestion on these routes is already problematic and the closure of any of them would put a major strain on the remainder of the highway network in the area. The topography of the Borough means that any diversions would need to be lengthy in nature due to the inadequate B roads and minor roads that link the main A roads.

There are close commuting links between Burnley and Pendle with 5,159 commuters travelling between Pendle and Burnley and 4,692 commuting in the opposite direction between the two authorities. Any closure of a major route within Pendle would also have a large impact on Burnley commuters and businesses.

There is an Air Quality Management Area in Colne around the junction of the A56 and A6068 and any further congestion due to road closures would have a further detrimental impact on the health of the residents.

Pendle welcome the improvements that are planned on the A56 between Colne and the West Craven area. West Craven houses some of the key businesses in Pendle including Rolls Royce and Silentnight. These businesses already find the highway network problematic and closure of any of the A roads in the Borough would put further strain on the economy of the area.



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We also welcome the improvements planned along the A682 at Barrowford. This route also suffers from congestion and is an access route to Nelson & Colne College. The College has 1,800 full time students, 14,000 part-time adults and 1,300 Apprentices. The closure of the A682 would therefore have a major impact on students and teaching staff.

Yours sincerely

JH Whittaker

Julie Whittaker
Housing, Health & Engineering Manager



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