

14 Cwrt Morgan
Caerwent
Caldicot
Monmouthshire
NP26 5QZ

15th April 2016

Orders Branch
Transport
Department of Economy, Science and Transport
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Dear Sir,

Re: M4 Corridor around Newport (Black Route)

As a commuter, who travels daily between Caerwent and Cardiff, I wish to give my full support the Welsh Governments proposal for the new M4 Corridor around Newport (black route).

Journey times on the current motorway are becoming totally untenable, varying between 45 minutes and 2 hours, depending on the state of the traffic on the existing M4. The existing motorway is substandard, having originally been constructed as a bypass; it does not have the capability to carry the level of traffic required today.

The current motorway not only has to carry the through traffic from the East, heading further west into Wales, but also has to act as a distributor road for local traffic it intercepts from the valleys to the north. This causes the inevitable conflict of local and through traffic. The only solution is to provide a new route that through traffic will utilise by choice (the black route). This will allow the existing M4 to revert to its original function, to act as a distributor road for local traffic.

The reduction of traffic on the existing M4 will also reduce the appalling accident statistics on this stretch of road and improve the air quality for those living adjacent to the road. In addition, it allows Junction 25 to be reopened to improve accessibility to the Caerleon area.

The much vaunted alternative (Blue Route) would not achieve any of the above requirements, as through traffic would continue to utilise the existing motorway and there would therefore be little or no reduction in traffic numbers it has to accommodate.

Once again, I wish to voice my full support for the scheme (Black Route) proposed by the Welsh Government for the M4 Corridor around Newport.

Yours Faithfully

M. D. Finlay BSc. CEng FICE