

14 June 2011



County Hall, West Bridgford
Nottingham, NG2 7QP
Tel (0115) 982 3823

Dear Colleague

I am writing to you as an influential member of the business community.

The importance of improving the A453 to Nottinghamshire and the regional economy cannot be underestimated.

That is why Nottinghamshire County Council has offered £20 million towards the cost of widening this vital route in the hope that the Government will bring forward its approval.

But in order to maximise our chance of success we need to gather pledges of support from as many local businesses as possible.

How you wish to express this support is entirely up to you. We have attached a pledge of support that you can complete and email to ecdev@nottscc.gov.uk.

Alternatively, you can go online to www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/A453 and submit the electronic form.

If you wish to write your own letter expressing your point of view, you can send it to:

Economic Development
Nottinghamshire County Council
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7QP

The more people that pledge their support, the stronger our argument will be when we deliver them to the Secretary of State. It will help us to push this vital issue to the top of the agenda by building a groundswell of opinion.

We understand the Government has shortlisted the A453 scheme as one that could be brought forward for construction to begin before 2015. Latest cost estimates for the scheme are just over £160 million.

We also understand a decision by Transport Secretary Philip Hammond and his ministerial colleagues on this could be imminent so acting swiftly in a co-ordinated way will be critical.

The A453 is one of the most congested roads in the country, we know it costs local businesses both in operational terms and in lost opportunity as it inhibits growth. To the region as a whole, it has been estimated that an improved A453 would bring a boost to the economy of £540 million.

Quite simply put we cannot afford not to push for early approval.

I am working with many of you, including colleagues from the Chamber, the airport and many large companies and, of course, our local government partners to prepare to meet the Minister. I can only do this if your support is forthcoming and we approach this together.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss my request further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kay Cutts', written in a cursive style.

Coun Kay Cutts
Leader
Nottinghamshire County Council