



Dr Caroline Lucas MEP
Suite 58
The Hop Exchange
24 Southwark Street
London SE1 1TY

Sadiq Khan
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**

Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

Tel: 020 7944 3016
Fax: 020 7944 4339
E-Mail: Sadiq.Khan@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.communities.gov.uk

- 3 FEB 2009

Dear Caroline,

PROPOSED NEW BEXHILL TO HASTINGS LINK ROAD

Thank you for your recent correspondence about this planning application.

Following East Sussex County Council's Planning Committee decision on 10 December 2008 to approve the proposals for a new road to link the towns of Bexhill and Hastings, the application was subject to formal referral to the Secretary of State as being in conflict with provisions of parts of the development plan.

I enclose a copy of a letter sent to East Sussex County Council stating that the Secretary of State has decided not to intervene in this application. I realise that you will be disappointed with this decision but I believe that our decision is in line with the Government's long established policy on call-in, which is generally not to intervene in a process which has been delegated, under the Town and Country Planning legislation, to local planning authorities. They are responsible for the day to day control of development in their area and the Secretary of State's general approach is not to intervene in this process. Exceptionally she may do so, but only when issues of more than local importance are involved. Each case is, however, considered on its own facts.

We have carefully considered the proposals in the light of national planning policies, including those for the protection of the natural environment and addressing climate change as well as our overarching objective of planning for sustainable development, taking social, economic and environmental factors into account.

After carefully taking all these issues into consideration, as set out in more detail in the letter to the Council, the Secretary of State has concluded that the application should be decided by East Sussex County Council.

Sadiq Khan
Sadiq Khan

SADIQ KHAN