

**DR. CAROLINE LUCAS**  
Green Party

for the South East of England

Ian Morrow  
Head of Planning  
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Oxfordshire  
OX28 1PB

July 28<sup>th</sup> 2005

Dear Mr Morrow,

I understand that on July 18<sup>th</sup> Oxfordshire County Council's Planning and Regulation Committee agreed to defer its decision about the Cogges Link Road in Witney. According to the minutes, this decision was taken to allow West Oxfordshire District Council sufficient time to respond to those elements of the independent Planning Inspector's report following a Local Plan Inquiry that relate to the Link Road.

I also understand that the Inspector's report does not come down clearly in favour of the Link Road and raises questions about environmental impact and the relationship with proposed housing developments. In November 2004 I raised similar issues with the planning authorities at Oxfordshire County Council, via a letter that I copied to yourself. I would like to take this opportunity to impress upon you once more the potential for the ecologically diverse Windrush Valley to be damaged beyond repair should the current Link Road proposal go ahead.

I believe that the Inspector made reference to the Shores Green alternative, which I also mentioned in my previous correspondence. I would urge you to look closely again and this option and at measures to both reduce car use and encourage modal shift.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.

cc John Hamilton, Oxfordshire County Council.