

CHESTERFIELD AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

www.chesterfieldcivicsociety.org.uk

Chairman: Philip Riden
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Executive Director Place
Derbyshire County Council
County Hall
Matlock
DE4 3AG

6 November 2021

Dear Sir,

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Proposed Chesterfield West–East Walking and Cycling Route

I wish to ask the County Council the following question under the above Act:

Whether, in the course of negotiations with the landowners concerned to secure the use of the public footpath between Greendale Avenue and Somersall Lane as a route for a western extension of the Hipper Trail, the County Council either sought or obtained the advice of the Secretary of State for Transport in an effort to overcome obstacles that arose to prevent the successful conclusion of those negotiations?

I am asking a parallel question of the Secretary of State and sending a copy of this letter to Toby Perkins MP.

Yours faithfully,

(Philip Riden)

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Permanent Secretary
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

6 November 2021

Dear Madam,

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Proposed Chesterfield West–East Walking and Cycling Route

I wish to ask the Secretary of State the following question under the above Act:

Whether, in the course of negotiations with the landowners concerned to secure the use of the public footpath between Greendale Avenue, Holymoorside (in North East Derbyshire District) and Somersall Lane (in the Borough of Chesterfield) as a route for a western extension of the Hipper Trail, the Derbyshire County Council either sought or obtained the advice of the Secretary of State for Transport in an effort to overcome obstacles that arose to prevent the successful conclusion of those negotiations?

I realise that you will probably know nothing about this scheme, which is being funded from your Vote under Tranche 2 of your Active Travel Fund and which is very strongly opposed locally. You will discover more by reading the enclosed letter and memorandum, which I sent to the Secretary of State on 10 October.

Either he or his officials evidently considered it safe to ignore that letter. As a deterrent to your adopting the same approach to this letter, I am sending a copy to the Divisional Member, Mr Toby Perkins MP. You are presumably aware that Mr Perkins intends to raise this matter in a Westminster Hall Debate on 9 November.

I would be obliged if you would ensure that I receive an appropriate reply to this letter within the period specified in the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours faithfully,

(Philip Riden)