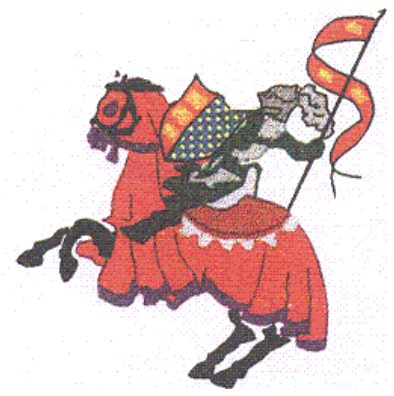


STAMFORD CHAMBER of TRADE and COMMERCE

PO Box 175 Stamford Lincolnshire PE9 1XN



www.stamfordchamber.co.uk

JUDICIAL REVIEW - PURPOSE & EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

NON-SAVING OF RYHALL ROAD LINK PROTECTION CORRIDOR

1. Our Chamber appealed against the decision of South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) not to ask the Secretary of State to 'save' Local Plan Policy T1;
2. Policy T1 had provided a Protection Corridor to safeguard the route of a future Ryhall Road Link between the A6121 Ryhall Road and the A16 Uffington Road;
3. Our Chamber appealed so because it was firmly of the view that the retention of this Protection Corridor was fundamental to any future strategic highway infrastructure proposals for Stamford;
4. The Ryhall Road Link would start on the A6121 near Borderville Farm and swing behind the Blackstone site to join the A16 near Hudds Mill Lane. This would not only relieve traffic on Ryhall Road and ease congestion at the Hospital Roundabout, but also would be the key element of a future Stamford Eastern Relief Road and a future Stamford Ring Road;
5. In a series of published planning policy documents, SKDC had repeatedly made it clear that it would 'save' all policies in the 1995 Local Plan. These 'savings' were to include the Policy T1 Ryhall Road Link Protection Corridor. New or replacement policies would appear in a forthcoming Local Development Framework;
6. SKDC via a planning officer decision alone, changed its mind. SKDC no longer considered it necessary to retain Policy T1;
7. There was no prior consultation by SKDC with the County Council as Highway Authority or SKDC's own planning committee, or any consultees or stakeholders that it would no longer protect the Corridor;
8. Our Chamber discovered what had been done purely by accident, some months later.
9. Our Chamber believes that before SKDC reneged on its published promises and swept aside such an important policy as T1, it should have informed the public and local stakeholders so that appropriate representations could be made.
10. SKDC's discarding such an important policy as T1 without any consultation whatsoever (and a position which was clearly contrary to their published position) is unjust.
11. Our Chamber is so aggrieved by the Judgment on 7th April 2009, that it is considering whether to ask the Court of Appeal to consider the matter.

9 April 2009

Stamford: The Finest Stone Town in England