**Join our final campaign to STOP the A6-M1 Link Road.**

**Send an email or letter**

Please use the letter below and add your own words if you want to. Don’t forget to add your name and address. Either send as an email, an attachment or print it off and post.

**James Jamieson, Leader of Central Bedfordshire Council.** (james.jamieson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk).

Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford
Bedfordshire, SG17 5TQ

**Hilary Chipping, Chief Exec, SEMLEP** (hilary.chipping@semlep.com)

Cranfield Innovation, Centre University Way, Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK43 0BT

**Grant Shapps MP, Minister for Transport** shappsg@parliament.uk

House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

We would like to know how many people do this and hear about any responses so please do let us know at info@cprebeds.org.uk

**Letter template**

Dear James Jamieson/Hilary Chipping/Grant Shapps

**THINK AGAIN! Stop the A6-M1 Link Road**

If there is one thing that we have learnt from the COVID-19 crisis, it is the importance of green open spaces to our physical and mental well-being. The need to protect our countryside and make every effort to improve biodiversity is now more evident than ever before.

**I am therefore appalled at your continued support for the decision to build the A6-M1 Link Road across one of our Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty** – the Bedfordshire Chilterns. Furthermore, this road and accompanying infrastructure will be entirely within the Green Belt and beside Ancient Woodlands. These are vital parts of our “Natural Health Service” – the green lungs for our urban areas. All will be adversely impacted by the A6 – M1 Link Road which will get jammed up just as quickly as it’s built. This construction will be nothing short of an act of environmental vandalism and is out of step with current thinking. We need to be rebuilding our countryside, not destroying it!

The total cost of building and maintaining the road, including required environmental mitigations is unclear but estimated at over £60 million - funds that could be diverted to areas that improve people’s lives, rather than pollute them.

**I urge you as one of the decision makers in the process, THINK AGAIN! before taking this irreversible step which will cause immense environmental destruction and biodiversity loss.** We are on the verge of a green recovery and organisations such as yours should be investing in actions that reduce the impact of the climate crisis. The impact this road will have on levels of pollution and the destruction of the countryside are totally at odds with your obligations to climate change and sustainability.

The efforts of local people and organisations to stop this road have been dismissed despite Government Inspectors appointed to examine the Local Plan raising serious concerns regarding the need for the new road. A “call in” request to MHC&LG to review these plans was declined by Robert Jenrick, stating that the issue was a local matter. This is most certainly not the case – the Chilterns AONB is of national significance and our countryside is a matter for all of us.

Please reconsider your support for this proposed road and take action to prevent its construction before it’s too late.

Signed