



HELEN WHATELY MP  
Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Jim O'Sullivan  
Chief Executive  
Highways England  
Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close  
Guildford GU1 4LZ

HW/LY

30 March 2016

*Dear Jim,*

Constituents and other users of roads in my constituency are expressing concern about what appears to be serious and increasing congestion at the Brenley Corner roundabout. As you know, the roundabout is Junction 7 of the M2, where the motorway joins the A2 and A299 Thanet Way; it is one of the busiest sections of road in east Kent. Highways England has recognised the junction is operating at capacity at peak hours.

Brenley Corner is inadequate for current usage and an upgrade is long overdue. The roundabout was completed in 1963 and remains substantially unchanged, despite traffic volumes increasing significantly in the past 53 years, including as a result of the Thanet Way upgrade to a dual carriage-way in the 1990s.

Such work is increasingly urgent in the light of the recent Highways England consultation on the proposed Lower Thames Crossing. It can be foreseen a 'downstream' impact of a new crossing, irrespective of its precise location, will be to increase flows on the M2, including the stretch that passes through the Faversham and Mid Kent constituency to Junction 7.

Also, extensive house-building and commercial development is planned for north and east Kent; some 1,500 houses are zoned for the Faversham area alone. This will add to stresses on the local road network, including at Brenley Corner.

Highways England has been quoted in the local press as having an 'outline scheme' for upgrading the Brenley Corner junction. I would like to know what that scheme is, the factors used in its selection, what consultation Highways England has undertaken about it and the timescales the agency is working to.

*Regards,* *Helen*

Helen Whately MP

Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent

Tel: 020 7219 6472 Email: [helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:helen.whately.mp@parliament.uk) [www.helenwhately.co.uk](http://www.helenwhately.co.uk)

All personal information will be treated as confidential, but the MP may allow access to it by authorised staff, and may pass it on to official agencies where it will help your case. The MP may contact you from time to time to keep you informed. Please let her know if you have any problems with these arrangements.