

BATH TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

CONCURRENT PUBLIC INQUIRIES INTO: Compulsory Purchase Orders, Footpath Orders & S19 Application

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Dear Sir/Madam,

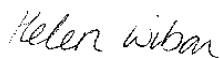
The Secretary of State for Transport has issued a Statement today, indicating that the Department for Transport (DfT) will play a full part in the Government's spending review, which is being undertaken in view of the urgent need to tackle the UK's record budget deficit. This spending review will be reporting in the Autumn and only once it has been completed will the DfT be in a position to identify those major investments that can be supported.

Steps are therefore being taken to help avoid unnecessary expenditure, whilst the Government considers its transport priorities. The Statement makes it clear that Ministers will postpone decisions on scheme orders and public inquiries relating to schemes which require DfT funding, unless alternative funding sources are available. As the Bath Transportation Package requires DfT funding this means that the Public Inquiries, scheduled to commence on 1 September 2010, have today been postponed.

In consequence, the Pre-Inquiry Meeting scheduled for Monday 14 June 2010 is also postponed.

The Government will aim to provide a firm indication on the way forward later this year once the spending review is complete.

Yours faithfully



Helen Wilson
Programme Officer