

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

17th December 2019

Dear Grant Shapps,

NEG letter to Grant Shapps of 22nd November 2019 and 4th December 2019.

The No Expressway Group wrote to you on 22nd November and again on 4th December with regard to your press release of 20th November 2019. I wrote as Chair of the No Expressway Group, the largest group campaigning on the Ox-Cam Expressway, with members across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire and supporters across the whole Arc. I asked to meet with you to discuss our view that the Ox-Cam Expressway and associated aspirational target of 1 million new houses across the arc by 2050 should be cancelled. Additionally, I set out our request that if there is to be a “review as a priority”, the No Expressway Group should be a part of it, and that any such review should be extended to include the associated target of one million houses along the Arc.

The only response I’ve received is from Holly Knight, Diary Manager to the Secretary of State for Transport, on 5th December, asking me to make contact again after the General Election.

Given the election and initial reshuffle is over, I am contacting you again to arrange a time to meet with you to discuss this. The very deep concerns and confusion of the communities across the Ox-Cam Arc region about this scheme have been made worse by the uncertainty arising from delays to consultation, the proposal for a review and the claim by some election candidates that the road part of the scheme has been cancelled, but could not be announced because of purdah. So, it is important to get clarity as soon as possible on the timescale, the approach, on who would be a part of your proposed review and on how NEG will be involved.

I look forward to hearing from you to arrange a time for this urgent meeting.

Your sincerely

Olivia Field

Chair, No Expressway Group
noexpresswaygroup@gmail.com

NO EXPRESSWAY GROUP
noexpressway.org



@no_expressway



noexpresswaygroup

The No Expressway Group (NEG) was established to raise awareness of the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway across the Arc. We are not affiliated with any political party and are run on a not-for-profit basis. We receive donations from our individual supporters but no funds from any group with commercial or other interests in the Arc proposals. In the last 12 months NEG has given talks and made presentations to villages across the Arc, from Sunningwell, West of Oxford, to Woburn Sands and Apsley Guise, South-East of Milton Keynes. We have not found a single community in favour of the Arc proposals.