

From the Rt Hon Greg Clark MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

12 October 2020

Michael Payne
Cabinet Member for Highways
Kent County Council
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XQ

Dear Michael

We – Paddock Wood's MP, County Councillor, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and Paddock Wood Town Council – are writing to ask that the Emergency Active Travel Scheme that has been implemented in Commercial Road in Paddock Wood be suspended, as soon as possible.

As you will be aware, Southern Water is about to commence work on a new sewer in Church Road which will take at least 3 months to complete and will result in major disruption and the new housing development at Church Farm will also entail significant contractor traffic throughout its construction. The combination of these changes to the local road network will be too disruptive to residents and businesses in the town.

We all believe that there is a need for road improvements in Paddock Wood but with the disruption the town is experiencing, now is not the time to make such changes but to suspend them until a more appropriate time. It is also important that both the Borough Council and Town Council work closely with Kent Highways to ensure that any future proposals are implemented in the best possible way.

We are writing in similar terms to Simon Jones, KCC's Director for Highways.

Greg Clark
MP for Tunbridge Wells

Sarah Hamilton
Kent County Councillor for Paddock Wood

William Benson
Chief Executive, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Meryl Flashman
Chairman, Paddock Wood Town Council