



Nick Herbert

# Arundel MP 'appalled' by calls for judicial review

Nick Herbert said he is 'appalled' by the South Downs National Park Authority's decision to seek a judicial review of Highways England's Arundel A27 decision.

The Arundel and South Downs MP called the park authority an 'unelected quango'.

Mr Herbert said: "I am appalled by the South Downs National Park Authority's decision to seek a judicial review of Highways England's selection of a preferred route for the Arundel bypass.

"I believe that most local people who desperately want a bypass will be infuriated that an unelected quango is using taxpayers' money to try and frustrate a careful planning process that has already taken

years and a route option which is supported by all of the major elected councils.

"Despite repeated pleas to be balanced in its consideration, the Park Authority continues to ignore the obvious environmental benefit of a bypass that will take traffic

away from the National Park and Downland villages.

"The existing route of the A27 goes through the National Park at Arundel, while the bypass will go through a shorter section at the very bottom.

"The Authority does not have a veto over the bypass, and there

is no good reason to attempt to pre-empt a statutory public consultation and scrutiny by the independent Planning Inspectorate. "I will be raising this use of public funds, and the role of the Authority, with Ministers and in the House of Commons."

## Councillor calls for SNDPA to be abolished

A district councillor has called for the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) to be abolished.

Arundel and Walberton councillor Paul Dendle hit out at the authority after it announced it would seek a judicial review of Highways England's decision on the A27 at Arundel.

Writing on his blog, Mr Dendle said: "Abolish the South Downs National Park Authority. I have always had a problem with the SDNPA.

"All local district councils, town councils and parish councils and the county council (except for Walberton Parish Council, who voted against

5A, and Lyminster who didn't give a view) voted for 5A, so a clear view from democratically elected representatives.

"Do we need them? My view is no, we already have too much government, so let's campaign for them to be abolished and save us, the tax payer, many millions of our money."