

Letters to the Editor

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Living in fear of becoming an urban island if new by-pass is built

AS A life long resident of Chichester I am deeply concerned at the prospect of a northern by-pass around the city.

I was thinking about this the other day whilst stuck in the large daily traffic jam on the M27 near Portsmouth, surrounded by acres and acres of Tarmac and junctions of all shapes and sizes... it is pretty clear that however much we build it does not solve the long term problem of congestion!

We need to look very carefully at the options and what is best for Chichester, for the people, the local economy and the environment, both now and into the future, and the people need to be fully aware of all the issues

I believe the reality is that if we build a northern route Chichester will become an urban island with a lovely old bit in the middle. Useful perhaps to the small

percentage of traffic that whizzes by, but not to the people who live here.

We would be cut off from our precious countryside, would jeopardise existing high profile businesses and events that bring huge economic benefit to the area, and have massive infill housing which would further pressurise the city generally, and most definitely the existing A27 route.

Upgrading the existing route will have a

better result for the city and surroundings for the generations to come.

A northern by-pass will not be the answer to our problems, it would do little good and an awful lot of harm.

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