

*City of St. Asaph Town
Council
Cyngor Tref Dinas Llanellwyr*

**To the Chair of the Petitions Committee
The Welsh Assembly Government**

St.Asaph Town Council presents this petition of over 5,200 signatures supporting the need for a North/South relief road for St.Asaph. In addition, local councils such as, Denbigh, Trefnant, Rhuddlan and Rhyl, representing nearly half the population of Denbighshire, have expressed their support. The need for a relief road is backed by Assembly Members Ann Jones, Darren Millar, Sandy Mewies, Brynle Williams, Eleanor Burnham, Mark Isherwood and Janet Ryder and the Member of Parliament Chris Ruane.

With this overwhelming support the Town Council requests that Welsh Assembly Government now helps to address this problem in earnest and takes positive action to ensure that there will definitely be relief of the traffic passing through St.Asaph and easing of traffic along the Vale of Clwyd.

Any solution to this problem will involve alterations and improvements to the access onto the A55 and it is requested that the Assembly liaises closely with Taith in forming an integrated plan and makes appropriate funds available. After that it is requested that the Assembly helps to implement the scheme to a planned time-table.

Attached is a brief summary of the problem but if you need more detailed information to consider this request please do not hesitate to contact us.

St.Asaph Town Council thanks you and the members of the Committee for considering this request and we look forward to an encouraging reply soon.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Elsie Powell - Mayor

St.Asaph Relief Road Campaign

Introduction

For decades the concerns of the citizens have been ignored by the County Council and the Welsh Assembly/Welsh Office and no attempts have been made to address the problems.

So in 2007 the St.Asaph Town Council resolved to launch a strong campaign for a relief road to alleviate the traffic from the Vale of Clwyd passing through it's centre.

The aims of the campaign were

- To raise the awareness of the traffic problems
- to persuade the Authorities to recognise the problem
- to have an in depth feasibility study on the optimum route
- to have a relief road constructed (long term)



The problem

The streets of St.Asaph were not built to accommodate modern traffic and the volume of traffic and the size of vehicles passing through St.Asaph, creates the following problems

North/South traffic flows along the Vale of Clwyd and also onto the A55 for East/West access. This traffic is throttled at St.Asaph thus deterring tourism to the Vale where St.Asaph is "the gateway" and restricting development and commerce throughout the Vale. The volume of traffic at peak times, when four schools provide for over a 1,000 students or when the national cattle market is open, creates stoppage with tail backs up to a mile. This is exacerbated by excessively large loads inching along the streets and by accidents, especially on the steep High Street or by road works.

There is a constant danger to pedestrians as large vehicles pass within inches of people on the pavement and this is even more dangerous as vehicles frequently mount the pavement and knock down bollards as they try and pass through the narrow streets. In addition vehicles trundling up the High Street emit extra exhaust fumes.

There is a continuous damage to vehicles as wing mirrors, side, front and rear panels are damaged on a daily basis.



Achievements to date

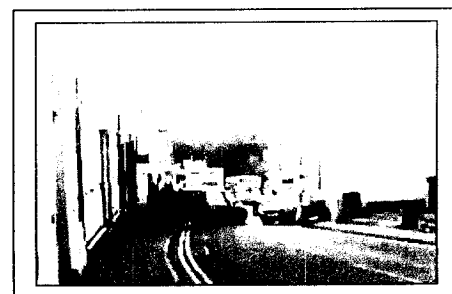
Local Members of Parliament, European Parliament and Assembly members fully support the campaign

Rhyl, Rhuddlan, St.Asaph, Trefnant and Denbigh Councils support the campaign. These Councils represent over half of the population of Denbighshire County Council. Also Councils in neighbouring Counties, such as Caerwys, support the campaign.

Several passive demonstrations have been held on the streets of St.Asaph and the response from drivers in support of the campaign has been very encouraging.

There have been many articles in the local newspapers and radio about the campaign.

A petition with over 5,200 signatures has been presented to



Denbighshire County Council and is about to be presented to the assembly.

The Town Council have studied the feasibility of West and East routes and, with the information available, decided that the East route is the better route (see plan at end). Denbighshire C. C. has not indicated their preferred route at present.

Funding for a feasibility study may come from the Regional Transport Plan which is set up, by the Welsh Assembly, to form a programme for major road works. Bids for schemes in North Wales have been submitted to a cross county body called Taith and a bid for a relief road for St.Asaph has been submitted.

Denbighshire is producing a Local Development Plan to cover planning aspects for the future of the county and have indicated that the need for a relief road will be identified in that plan.

In Denbighshire's Vision 2025 it is written that at St.Asaph "A North-South link will allow the generation of the town centre"



Cllr Andrew Thomas

23/2/09

