

# Paper Petition Details

## Slough Mass Rapid Transit (SMaRT)

We the undersigned of London Road oppose the Slough Mass Rapid Transport scheme because:

- increase in noise and pollution
- more congestion
- loss of footpath making it dangerous for pedestrians
- ruin pleasant landscape
- fall in property value
- scheme will add no value as we already have 12 buses per hour

**This petition was received on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.**

**This petition was passed to the Acting Head of Transport on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.**

**This petition was responded to by the Assistant Transport Planner on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2014.**

### Final Results

Number of Signatures	72
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### Council Response

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the SMaRT scheme and its potential impacts on the Upton Court area.

Please note below my response to your concerns raised regarding pollution, congestion, changes to footpaths, landscapes, property value and the local economy.

#### **Noise and Air Pollution.**

The SMaRT scheme proposes to address the existing problem as it will reduce congestion by moving existing bus services onto dedicated bus lanes. In turn, this will reduce traffic waiting time as vehicles will be stationary for shorter periods in the borough.

#### **Congestion.**

Congestion is one of the biggest causes of air and noise pollution. Relieving traffic congestion and reducing stop-start traffic will also have a beneficial effect on air quality. Therefore this will result in a reduced exposure to the pollution produced on the road network.

#### **Changes to the existing footpath.**

The changes to the footpath will only affect the public highway, which will be improved as part of the proposed works. The footpath will not be reduced, and is affected only in so far as being rerouted in some areas. We have taken a lot of care to design the proposals, and during construction there will be minimum disruption.

**Changes to the existing landscape.**

The planned changes to the landscape will take place on the councils existing public highways, however your concerns will be taken on onboard for successive design phases of this scheme.

**Property Value.**

It is generally accepted that properties closely located to good transport links have a higher value than those located further away. Slough Borough Council expects the SMaRT scheme to have a similar effect, and we believe that the scheme will help to increase the value of surrounding properties.

**Local Economy.**

The scheme helps to reduce congestion, improve journey time reliability, and enhances access to the Town Centre, Trading Estate and Heathrow. In doing so, the scheme will make Slough a more attractive location for business investment, thus contributing to the local economy.

By tackling congestion, SMaRT also has the potential to reduce the current £34 million that Slough loses each year in wasted travel time alone and will therefore create more opportunities to improve the borough.

Should you have any additional queries do not hesitate to contact me.