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Dear Mr Hirst,

**Publication of the Ribble Valley Housing and Economic Development –Development Plan Document (DPD)**

Thank you for consulting North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) on the Housing and Economic Development DPD. The County Council welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Housing and Economic Development DPD. Please note that this response includes comments by the County Council in its capacity as Local Highways Authority (LHA).

Local Highways Authority

North Yorkshire County Council has produced a Strategic Transport Prospectus for North Yorkshire which sets out the long term vision (to 2045) for how improved transport in North Yorkshire can contribute towards a thriving northern economy. The Strategic Transport Priorities set out within this document are:-

- Improving east-west connectivity (including Trans Pennine links)
- Improving access to High speed and conventional rail
- Improving long distance connectivity to north and south.

This strategic importance of east-west connectivity to support growth is further emphasised within North Yorkshire County Council's Local Transport Plan 4. The central trans Pennine corridor stretching from Scarborough and the Humber Ports in the east, via York, Harrogate and Skipton and onwards to East Lancashire is a key strategic transport priority.

On this basis, NYCC, Lancashire LEP and West Yorkshire Combined Authority have commissioned a connectivity study focusing on a 'central' trans-pennine corridor, including key road routes such as the M65 / A59/ A65 and rail routes such as the Calder Valley and Skipton to Colne lines.

We trust you find these comments helpful.

This response has been endorsed by the Business and Environmental Services Executive portfolio holders.

Yours sincerely,

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