



Port of Liverpool Road Access – Questions from the Rimrose Valley communities 24/02/16

Rimrose Valley Friends has consulted with people in the Rimrose Valley communities to come up with a list of questions regarding the possibility of a road route through Rimrose Valley.

The question list below is fairly extensive and it's understood that it may not be possible for all questions to be answered at this stage. Our intention is that all the questions remain in a single document so that they can be tracked and progressed in one place over time so any questions that can't be answered at this time can be returned to at a later date. If a question can't be answered we'd appreciate a statement as to why not so we know it hasn't been missed and when we should expect to return to it.

We're sending these questions jointly to Highways England and Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council and we'd ask that the two organisations liaise together to answer the questions where possible. It might be helpful if 'HE' or 'SMBC' could be stated against each answer so we know the source of the answer.

Please ask if you'd like the questions to be in a different format, as we'll be happy to do what we can to make it as easy as possible for the answers to be provided.

We would also be open to suggestions if there may be a more efficient way to process and track these questions.

Please direct any questions as well as your responses to si@rimrosevalleyfriends.org

Thank you.

The questions are:

1. What will be done with Switch Island to accommodate the traffic increase should a road be built through Rimrose Valley?
2. Following the survey work done by and on behalf of Highways England, what are the results/facts around the landfill and what is the realistic impact to constructing a road through Rimrose Valley, plus what are the plans and cost to manage and/or excavate the landfill?
3. It's been previously stated that there's expected to be a tripling of HGVs coming out of the docks. What are the current expected figures and what does that mean to the overall % increase in traffic flow over the next 10, 20 and 30 years?
4. What would be the increase or decrease in average journey time for an HGV to use a road through Rimrose Valley to get to the docks from Switch Island versus the modified A5036 route?

5. What are the plans to make Brooms Cross Road suitable for linking Switch Island to a possible road through Rimrose Valley and what are the obstacles with Brooms Cross Road that must be overcome to achieve this?
6. What are the plans to connect a possible road through Rimrose Valley with Princess Way and what are the CPO possibilities?
7. What is the level of the water table in Rimrose Valley, and how would flooding be managed, as a road would have to divert the water that currently sits in the ground on and under Rimrose Valley?
8. Please explain how the road would fit with the Local Plan?
9. We understand that, before it disbanded, the Regional Development Agency handed responsibility for moving freight out of the Port of Liverpool to SMBC. What is the current status of SMBC's responsibilities in this regard?
10. What are the forecasted air and noise pollution readings in and around Rimrose Valley and in and around the A5036 corridor now and over the next 10, 20 and 30 years if a) no road is constructed b) a road is constructed through Rimrose Valley or c) enhancements are made to the A5036 corridor?
11. Please provide the results and synopses of analysis that has been done to date, to identify the social, environmental, emissions, air and noise pollution and impact on flora/fauna should a road through Rimrose Valley be built
12. Will the existing flora that plays a part in cleansing the environment be reduced if a road is constructed through Rimrose Valley? If so, to what extent and what mitigation will be proposed to counter that?
13. Will the results take account of all survey samples taken by and on behalf of Highways England, or will any be excluded? If any will be excluded, why?
14. What has been and what will be done to involve the community and local experts in establishing the environmental impact and getting a transfer of the local in-depth knowledge that exists, that will help a full understanding of the impact of a road through Rimrose Valley to be achieved?
15. If a road is built through Rimrose Valley, what will be done to mitigate against the reduction in the public's access and exposure to the richness of the open, green and natural environment presently available to them?
16. Thornton has been identified as having pockets of deprived areas with a lack of green spaces. What has been done to measure the impact on these areas by diminishing Rimrose Valley with a road, and what mitigation is being put forward to address that?
17. What safeguards are there to protect the rest of Rimrose Valley against further development should a road be built?
18. People who presently use Rimrose Valley as a green transit route (eg people cycling to/from work and children walking to/from school) are concerned that they will no longer have a clean route to travel if a road is constructed through Rimrose Valley, and they may choose to use other forms of transport. What research has been done, and what are the results of that research, into the air and noise pollution and socio-economic impact of reducing the use of Rimrose Valley as a green transport route?
19. What has been done to specifically measure the pedestrian and cycle use by school children through Rimrose Valley going to and from school? Which school routes have been measured and during which times of year?
20. What are your plans to consult with local schools and parents to determine the negative impact on children whilst in transit to/from school of constructing a road through Rimrose Valley?

21. What's going to be done to ensure communities on either side of Rimrose Valley remain connected?
22. Please detail the route and width a road through Rimrose Valley would take, and please detail the area that will be reserved on either side of that route.
23. To avoid road options, are there any further non-road options which have been identified as possible but ruled out? If so, please state what they are, why they've been ruled out and how we can know all options have been considered. If anything has been ruled out on the basis of cost, please summarise what those costs would be (approximately).
24. What would be the costs for a tunnel to be put forward as an option?
25. What analysis has taken place to determine the intangible costs of a road through Rimrose Valley, including but not limited to the economic burden to SMBC and the State caused by the reduction to mental and physical health and wellbeing, both in terms of healthcare and benefits costs. What figures have been arrived at and over what time period?
26. What is the current expected average lifespan in and around the Rimrose Valley communities, and what would the expected average lifespan be in and around Rimrose Valley 10, 20 and 30 years after the construction of a road through it?
27. What would be the net gain or loss to the revenue achieved by SMBC for both road options?

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