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**Sent:** 05 June 2018 16:28  
**To:** NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** rory.love  
**Subject:** NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254;

**To the Secretary of State**

I object strongly to the proposed stopping up of the road (Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent) and disagree with the implication behind the council's claim that its relocation to the rear of the site will generate a vehicle free link from the proposed leisure centre and housing development to the beach and existing promenade.

The application implies that there is a problem with the existing traffic flow. There is not. Any problem to date has been more of the Council's generation in that they have installed parking meters – twice, at considerable public expense, as the first installation was not properly thought out and had to be removed and re-sited on the correct side of the road to avoid public danger in crossing the road to use the meters – which, on grounds of cost, are already precluding people from parking along this road and enjoyment of the area.

Princes Parade, is an iconic part of Hythe's history, which in earlier times also served as a direct connection between the old railway station and the Hotel Imperial and its Golf Course. Today, many people use this road and the Parade on a daily basis to enjoy the sea view and visual aspect of Hythe and St Leonard's church on the hill of Hythe.

This part of Hythe beach has many uses; among these are fishing competitions, with fishermen who require easy access to the beach with all their paraphernalia; as do families who come to enjoy the beach and sea. It is unrealistic to expect either category to carry their gear, picnics and the like for long distances, and the stopping up of this road will most definitely not benefit the general public – although it will undoubtedly benefit any residents of the proposed development which would be sited close to this proposed highway and is not shown on the map attached to the District Council's application. Hythe's demographic constitution is, to a large extent, one of retired people – many of whom have health problems - who will also be deprived of the immediate proximity of use of this part of Hythe's seafront, more and more of which is becoming less accessible due to development.

The proposed road will be sited nearer to the Royal Military Canal, a scheduled Ancient Monument, and another icon of Hythe's history, and will destroy the current peaceful and traffic free setting of this beautiful part of Hythe, and which my family and I have enjoyed for many decades. Any proposed development – the application Y17/1042/SH is yet to be granted planning permission by Folkestone & Hythe District Council to themselves as landowners – could in any event be easily accessed from the existing Princes Parade road. The current road also serves to directly connect the A259 with Twiss Road and other parts of the seafront, and by so doing alleviates a little of the traffic on the A259 (a notorious bottleneck).

The proposed new development, which would have no over-riding need to have the current road moved as it could be easily served by the existing road, will also create significant harm to the canal, and its tranquillity throughout the seasons, by interfering with its setting, and potentially creating water run-off much closer to the environs of the Canal whilst also hiding the historic visual military aspects of the Canal.

I would respectfully request that the Secretary of State should consider this application for stopping up of the road on this site alongside the planning application for development together with the comments of Historic England as that will be the best and most informative method by which the application's lack of merits can be evaluated. There is no doubt, and much evidence from public consultation, that the proposed development and the stopping up of the road would be very unpopular and deprive many people of enjoyment of this part of Hythe.

Sincerely

Rosemary Griffiths LLB (Hons), LLM