Mark

Firstly my apologies to Ben for not having responded to his e-mail of 21 December and thank you for the URS update to the transport strategy.

Having re-read our comments and Ben's rebuttal I would agree that a Statement of Common ground would be an appropriate way of dealing with most of our representations and Ben's e-mail would be an excellent starting point. I will need to commission PB to work on this and in that context it would be helpful to know the sort of timetable the Inspector is working to and whether you anticipate preparing other statements of common ground as these may suggest who should take the lead to ensure a consistency of style.

Although perhaps not the occasion to go into any detail, I should mention that we are becoming increasingly worried about the Hawkinge junction. Developers are only required to provide "nil detriment" schemes and we are concerned that the improvements that will come from the two planning applications will not be sufficient to prevent traffic tailing back onto the main line of the A20 and potentially into the Roundhill Tunnel. This would have present have significant implications safety wise. It is therefore reassuring to see that Shepway are not proposing further growth in Hawkinge for the time being.

Howard