

Earth to Earth Garden Centre
Stourbridge Road
Holly Hall
West Midlands
DY5 1LA

TO Individual members of the Executive Committee

5th September 2003.

Re: RED ROUTE A461/491 PHASE 2 PILOT RED ROUTE

It has come to our attention that you are a member of the Executive Committee for Dudley Council, and would therefore like to discuss on behalf of all residents and traders, our views and objections to these proposals.

The idea of a red route is to improve traffic flow. None of the roads designated along this route suffer from congestion other than sheer volume of traffic at peak times. Parking of vehicles does not cause difficulty to the traffic flow, and thus a red route will not in any way solve the problem.

However, the restrictions designed to be an imposition to motorists will have little effect to them – but will severely damage the standard of living of residents and traders along the route, including;

- Residents, in particular the elderly will no longer have the choice to have groceries delivered from the local supermarket. Indeed any type of delivery will now be prohibited.
- Residents will no longer have the option to have home improvements as workmen, or delivery of heavy goods would not be feasible. Loading bays will not be available to every home, thus a delivery of 3 tonne of topsoil would be impossible to deliver! Our homes cannot improve with double glazing or block pave driveways etc.
- District nurses, on call doctors, health visitors etc will not be able to fulfil their duties sufficiently. If no parking spaces are available in the bays, time will be wasted whilst a parking place is found elsewhere.
- Individuals will be subjecting their vehicle to high risk from damage from disgruntled residents living in side streets. These residents are already showing objection to having extra cars parked in front of their homes. Thus, community disputes will be rife.
- Visitors, again which benefit the elderly will be restricted. We fear this will have a serious detrimental effect on the wellbeing of the elderly as they depend on regular visitors.

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- Traders will face financial ruin as many depend on passing trade. Whilst parking bays were offered, these few spaces will have to serve the entire stretch of road, so will not offer sufficient resolve to the problem.

- Our children already face great danger with the speed of motorists; the red route will not only seek to encourage further speed, but will also attract an ideal race venue for the local boy-racers. Boy racing is a problem we believe Dudley Council is trying to stop – not to encourage!
- Residents will find it impossible to sell their homes when potential purchasers realise the red route passes across their doorstep, and the impact this will have on their standard of living. The result of this will be huge decreases in value of the property.

Red routes benefit town cities only – and town cities benefit from specified car parks which are made available to shoppers. Residential areas have no such luxury and so our lives will be reduced to misery because the Council believe motorists should be forced off the road.

In view of this, we urge you to consider the impact you are imposing on residents and show your support to having the proposals rejected.

We look forward to your comments by return.

Yours truly

Dean Seymour
Action Against the Red Route