



First official mention of the consultation came to the Council at its meeting on 1 July 2019, in reports from District Councillor Colin Hedgley and County Councillor Robin Vickery.

By the middle of July opposition to the idea of any INR had been mobilised by a core of motivated residents from local villages, who formed a campaign presence under the title of Stop! This campaign had as a major objective the importance of all parishes setting aside their own local interests and combining to protest to SCC and other authorities against any route for an INR.

The Council met again on 22 July 2019 and the Public Participation Session was dominated by discussion of the proposed INR. The Council passed seven resolutions, which included opposition to the principle of any route for an INR and support for the Stop! Campaign by the donation of some of its reserves to the campaign fund.

The official INR Consultation document called for on-line submission of responses, but thanks to volunteers, residents were also able to complete and submit responses on printed forms, enabling them to add their own comments on options not included in the document.

Over the summer Stop! organised meetings around the local parishes for the dissemination of information and the co-ordination of protest by posters and letter writing, as well as fund-raising. Throughout the area residents displayed Stop! campaign posters on fences, walls, posts, telephone poles, bridges, car panels and in house windows.



Local MP Dr Dan Poulter was fully supportive of the Stop! campaign, and came to Little Bealings to meet residents and consider the narrowness and unsuitability of The Street as a proposed feed road to an intersection with the Inner Route.

On 13 September 2019 Stop! organised a march of around 500 protesters to SCC offices at Endeavour House in Ipswich. Residents representing many of the villages blighted by the three routes met on Ipswich Cornhill and made their way to the steps of Endeavour House in a noisy but peaceful protest. A petition of 4,500 signatures against the project was handed in. The event was recorded by local newspapers and regional TV.

On 15 January 2020 SCC published its Review of the Consultation responses, which totalled 4.500. The Review left open the decision on whether to proceed with further work on an INR, while noting that in March 2019 the council had declared a Climate emergency - and stating that this would be taken into account in making the decision.

A part of the Summary of Results in the Review stated:

*“6.1.14. Part of the vision for the project is to deliver better, more reliable journeys. As part of the questionnaire, people were asked to what extent the respondent agrees or disagrees that an Ipswich Northern Route would improve journeys across Suffolk, 61.9% strongly*

*disagreed that an Ipswich Northern Route would improve journeys across Suffolk, with a further 6.5% selecting disagree. In comparison over a quarter (26.2%) agreed or strongly agreed the project would improve journeys across Suffolk.*

*6.1.15. When asked “to what extent do you support or oppose the three routes and junction options”, there was general opposition to each of the options with over 70% either opposing or strongly opposing the options. The most opposed is the Outer Route, with 80.9% opposed or strongly opposed to the route, while 78% are opposed to the Middle Route and 72% to the Inner Route. “*

On 25 February 2020 SCC announced the decision of its Cabinet: not to continue with proposals for any Ipswich Northern Route. The minutes of the meeting are here:

[https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=\(25-02-2020\),%20The%20Cabinet](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(25-02-2020),%20The%20Cabinet)

Little Bealings Parish Council would like to acknowledge the hard work and enthusiasm of the Stop! campaign in uniting local parishes and leading opposition to the principle of an INR, and so bringing about this conclusion.

The minutes of the meetings of the Council between July and November 2019 at which the INR proposal was considered can be viewed here:

<https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/pc-approved-minutes/pc-approved-minutes-2019/>

Further information on the INR proposal is available on the SCC website:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning/ipswich-northern-route/>