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From the Minister of State

The Rt. Hon. John Hayes CBE MP

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Dear Jonathan

Thank you for your email of 5 April, enclosing a copy of your letter to Jim O'Sullivan about how Coast to Capital can work with Highways England to inform thinking about the road corridor between Croydon and Gatwick/Crawley. I welcome your engagement with Highways England as we develop the second Road Investment Strategy (RIS2).

The Government's key policy aims for RIS2 reflect your six ambitions. I want RIS2 to address economic growth, improved network capability, safety, environmental sensitivity, and integration with other modes of transport and local roads, all of which are issues you raise in the context of the M23 corridor between Croydon and Gatwick.

As you may have seen in the London Orbital and M23 to Gatwick Route Strategy¹, Highways England has identified the M23 between junctions 7 and 10 as a study area for further investigation.

In due course, we will consult on Highways England's findings during this research phase. I would encourage you to participate in this opportunity to feedback on whether their report satisfies your ambitions for the strategic road network serving Surrey and Sussex.

Yours sincerely

THE RT. HON. JOHN HAYES CBE MP

¹ Available here: