



**CHIPPENHAM  
TOWN COUNCIL**

Improving the quality of town life

Robert Murphy  
Principal Transport and Development Manager (West and South)  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Rd  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN

01 March 2021

Dear Robert,

**Ref: Supporting Statement - Corsham Station Bid**

Corsham is making a renewed bid for funding towards a study into providing a new railway station on the Bristol to London main line. They believe a new station and service would make a significant contribution to reducing both road congestion and air pollution particularly in Bath, Bristol and Swindon - which are the major centres for employment, retail, leisure and tourism for the increasing population of Corsham Town and the surrounding rural area.

If successful, a new station for Corsham would only make a modest impact on direct rail journey times between Bristol and London but would significantly reduce overall journey times for many passengers travelling to existing stations in Chippenham and Bath. It would also reduce road commuting to Bristol and Swindon which are already congested. The changing way in which lives will be led in the post Covid-19 era means we have an opportunity to positively improve both travel experience and the environment for local people and those in the big cities we depend on for employment, retail and leisure facilities. This benefit will be amplified as the population of Corsham grows.

The MOD which is the largest employer in Corsham (and still expanding) has significant operational links with both Bristol and London. An improved local rail service would greatly benefit them in terms of their travel plans, as well as benefitting residents in terms of reduced congestion on their local rural road system.

On behalf of Chippenham Town Council, I would like to confirm our support for this bid, which will benefit the Chippenham community and the environment through reduced congestion.

Yours sincerely,

**Mark Smith** MBA LLB (Hons) CMgr FCMI FSLCC  
Chief Executive