

# THE CHICHESTER SOCIETY



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### **A27 Proposals – The Chichester Society’s Position**

The Chichester Society has looked at the maps published by the Observer showing possible upgrades for the A27. Richard Childs, the Chairman, said “The Chichester Society has a responsibility to support whatever is best for Chichester as a whole”.

We currently have a situation in which everyone agrees that something must be done. Predictably, North Chichester and Lavant have come out in favour of a southern route, and South Chichester and Selsey in favour of a northern route.

As ever the devil is in the detail. Will a northern route contain sufficient environmental safeguards to prevent the destruction of the scenic value of the South Downs? Will a southern route have the capacity to cope with the vast expansion of Chichester proposed in the Local Plan? Should temporary traffic congestion determine the choice of a route which will be in place for decades to come?

While the leaked maps are useful in helping to frame such questions, lines on a map do not provide answers. For this reason the Society will hold a watching brief and comment or campaign as appropriate once the full consultation is launched.

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#### **Note for editors**

The Chichester Society was established in October 1973. Among the Society’s objectives is to ensure that new urban development contributes positively to the city’s future by complementing its unique past – the Roman, Mediaeval and Georgian heritage seen in today’s buildings and streetscape. It therefore supports and promotes high standards of planning and architecture, but seeks improvements to the city’s social and cultural life.