

As the South Devon Link Road passes through both densely populated urban and quieter rural areas, the Community Liaison Group was established. Set up at the very beginning of the project, the group offers an important link with the contractors Galliford Try and their clients Devon County Council and Torbay Council.

At regular meetings, representatives are able to raise issues and ask questions posed by local residents and businesses. The clients and their contractor are able to give replies, discuss issues and formulate responses to given problems.

Likewise, a large part of the meetings are spent giving the group advance notice about forthcoming phases. This policy of knowledge-sharing is carried through with regular information updates between meetings.

Following the first meeting and a practical understanding and mutual respect was rapidly built between members and construction representatives. This close working relationship has continued to develop through the duration of the project.

During its existence the CLG has been involved in a number of matters including:

- Liaising with Devon County Council and Stagecoach over revised bus routes serving residents of the Aller estate.
- The provision of a raised pedestrian path and illuminated crossing on the Yon Street temporary diversion linking Greenhill Road and Huxnor Road.
- Requesting Network Rail remove silt from the Mill leat at Whitpott Mill.
- The replacement of a willow screen with a timber fence to the top of the Greenhill Road bund.
- Discussions of how to best use the trees removed during construction.
- Supporting residents' meetings about construction activities from several areas: Addison Road, Church End Road, Yon Street.
- Providing feedback for Galliford Try to amend and improve vehicle and road cleansing rotas.
- The early discussions for the provision of a quieter road surface.
- Requesting clarification of noise and dust data on behalf of residents.
- Removing passing places on the new Aller Link Road and widening to a two-lane, two-way road for its entire length.
- Requesting improved pedestrian crossing facilities on St Marychurch Road at the new junction with Aller Brake Road.

Under the guidance of its chairman, Kingskerswell resident Ken Pegden, the group has raised and encouraged an awareness of residents' needs and concerns. It continues to be an invaluable asset by helping ensure the project's smooth progression.