

The Infrastructure Bill

On the 10th of September 2014 Devon County Council reviewed The Infrastructure Bill during a full meeting of the Council & passed a motion to support the bill.

They considered the likely effect on Devon of the proposals within the bill to significantly change the operating structure of the UK road networks maintenance & ownership.

The Infrastructure Bill is promoted by the Government as;

- Improving the funding and management of the Strategic Road Network;
- Streamlining the planning process for nationally significant projects;
- Protecting infrastructure from invasive non-native plants and animals;
- Supporting house building;
- Making it easier and cheaper to register land and property;
- Allowing communities to become stakeholders in renewable energy projects

Sections of the Infrastructure Bill include;

1. Setting up a Strategic Highways Company to oversee privatisation.
2. The transfer of planning control to central government.
3. The transfer of all Public Land & Property to central government.
4. The setting up of UK Petroleum to facilitate Fracking.



The benign interpretation by the government & local government of this bill has allowed its passage through the House of Lords without any media coverage.

The general disinterest by the public in all things political is also helping our politicians in the main three parties support this bill and facilitate its passage through the House of Commons unchallenged.

Although the government claims this bill will provide the UK economy with a much needed boost of £2.6Bn, a more acute analysis may well see this as a £500 Bn asset strip of UK public owned assets. There is also a planned levy of £150Bn to finance the Fracking industry to be put on our energy bills, on top of the £11Bn this government already put on our energy bills for “smart meters.”

While we are used to the “Privatisation” of our; telecoms, energy, water, railways, & other service industries, we have paid the price for the “improvements” of privatisation which has now turned into an “exploitation” of our households & the domestic consumer society.

With the opaque privatisation of The Royal Mail & the way the City of London not only managed the sale but then benefited from its low valuation, we are now aware that all is not what it seems in these matters.

In fact The Infrastructure Bill can be assessed not only as the biggest asset strip in UK history but also the mass transfer of public owned roads & land to the City of London Corporations without public discussion, debate or an election.

This shift of property rights has the potential to turn our road network into a privatised toll system & to make future generations pay for access to common land, national parks & local parks.

It should also be considered that this government has other bills to further coordinate its strategy & that the abrasive EU TTIP (trade agreement) now being hotly contested on the streets of Europe will allow hostile takeovers of all these assets & companies by aggressive USA Hedge Funds.

The Infrastructure Bill is supported by all three main political parties & will be made into law before the general election in May 2015.

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Link to Bill Intro:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/infrastructure-bill>

Link to Bill PDF:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2014-2015/0045/15045.pdf>

Bill Progress: <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/infrastructure.html>



Link to Devon County Council report: <http://www.devon.gov.uk/loadtrimdocument?url=&filename=PTE/14/60.CMR&rn=14/WD348&dg=Public>

Link to Devon County Council meeting minutes:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/councildemocracy/decision_making/cma/cma_document.htm?cmadoc=minutes_exc_20140910.html