

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**ENVIRONMENT
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY 17 JUNE 2003 AT 10.00 A.M.

THAMESLINK 2000

Report of the Director of Environment

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Executive Member: Derrick Ashley

Agenda Item No.

3

1. Purpose of report

The attached document, commenting on 'Thameslink 2000' has been referred by Chris White to this committee for consideration.

2. Summary

Unfortunately the paper is not signed and its source remains uncertain. Nevertheless it does touch on many areas of rail service provision on which the county council would wish to take a view. Indeed the council is a key stakeholder and is regularly consulted on such matters. The paper therefore provides a useful framework for examination of the issues.

In relation to the specific paper officers in the county environment service will be able to present an analysis of the factual elements. However, there is also coverage based on conjecture rather than facts. Those elements will require sensitive and careful consideration.

In reporting back to the scrutiny committee the proposed topic group will comment on the anticipated impact of 'Thameslink 2000' on rural communities in Hertfordshire'

3. Conclusion

It is suggested that a topic group be established to consider the paper and report back to the Committee in October. It is probable that two meetings of that group will be required, looking at factual and non-factual content respectively. The involvement of key rail industry personnel, and potential for activity, such as visits, will be considered by the group.