

**Copley Valley**



Environment Protection Group  
[www.copleyvalley.co.uk](http://www.copleyvalley.co.uk)

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**14<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

Dear Councillor Hardy

You may recall in the run up to the last local election you kindly replied to my enquiries regarding your position on the Sowerby Bridge/Copley Valley Transformational Project. As we are heading to another local election I am interested to hear if your thoughts on this scheme and if they have changed at all.

As you know I am a member of the Copley Village/Valley Environment Protection Group and also the webmaster of [www.copleyvalley.co.uk](http://www.copleyvalley.co.uk). The website is now viewed by over 400 unique visitors each month (by individual ip address) and over 500 in February. In addition to this I also run a Facebook group [savecopleyvalley](https://www.facebook.com/savecopleyvalley). This group currently has 490 members, so from this you can see that the Copley Valley scheme is still very much in the public interest.

As last year, it is my intention to put replies onto the website. I will do this as soon after receipt as possible. I have included a list of questions that our readers and members will find interesting.

I look forward to your response.

Mick Coughlan

[www.copleyvalley.co.uk](http://www.copleyvalley.co.uk)

## Questions

In your letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> April 2010 (copy enclosed) you mentioned how being a local councillor has limited powers, has this changed at all now that you have become Deputy Mayor?

Your letter went on to address other concerns with regards to the threat of flooding, the over loaded roads network, schools and healthcare. You also said you would “scrutinise carefully any matters relating to these proposals” have you scrutinised the various surveys, assessments and plans commissioned by the developer, for the Copley Valley? What do you think of the conclusions and proposals in them?

As above you mentioned your concerns over traffic. What do you think about the disclosure in the traffic assessments from ARUP regarding the Junction of Copley Lane and Dudwell Lane being adversely affected following the Sowerby Bridge/Copley Valley Transformational Project? Should this cause the residents of Skircoat to be as concerned about the scheme as the residents of Copley are?

John, you made the following statement “We are up against big brother here” and I know that this caused quite a discussion on our forums. Since your letter we have had both a change of central Government and a change of local Government. Would you still make that statement this year? Would you like to expand on it?

You said in your letter that you would always fight to get the best you can for residents of Copley and Skircoat Ward. As a member of the Sowerby Bridge/Copley Valley Project Board in what do you feel you have been able to “fight for the best”? In what way have you been able to positively influence the project?

Did you object to the recent planning application for the SBCV scheme? If not then can you explain why? Do you intend objecting to any future planning applications for the SBCV Project?

And lastly what would you like the valley to look like in 10 years time?

John please feel free to add anything else you wish in addition to the above questions.