



Frustration over Transport disruption to hit Strathaven for the rest of 2018!

“As a resident of Strathaven myself, I’m well aware of how poor the electricity supply is in the town and I’m in no doubt the circa 1960’s substation needs replaced,” said Conservative & Unionist councillor for Avondale: Graeme Campbell in a recent interview with the East Kilbride News.

CLLR Campbell was commenting on Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) proposed upgrade of the Strathaven electricity substation, which is set to cause chaos to residents and road users alike over the summer and potentially for the rest of the year.

The proposed plan will require 3 road closures and then a contraflow on Hamilton Road lasting 26 weeks from August and includes:

- **14th May to 29th May 2018:** Loudon Street, Strathaven from the medical centre to Commercial Road;
- **30th May to 9th July 2018:** Hamilton Road, Strathaven from Commercial Road to the Industrial Estate;
- **9th July to 15th August:** Commercial Road, Strathaven from Loudon Street to Hamilton Road and finally;
- **From some point in August and for approximately 26 weeks):** At last two contraflows on the A726 Hamilton Road from the industrial estate all the way to Muttonhole roads, just outside Hamilton.

“What frustrates me the most,” said Councillor Campbell: *“is that Scottish Power have made no effort to look at alternative routes for this cable and have taken the easiest route possible, invoking Servitude regulations, which basically means the council have no option but to allow them access to our public roads, disrupting the community I serve!”*

CLLR Campbell went on to explain that he is working with the other two ward councillors, the Council roads department, Whitelaw’s buses and the community to find solutions that will minimise the guaranteed destruction this work will cause. *“Right now, I simply don’t have all the answers required to satisfy my constituents in a project Scottish Power have been working on for at least three years but now wish to shove through in a few months without a care in the world for the Strathaven community, its people and its businesses!”*

In conclusion Graeme asks that everyone in Strathaven is patient with him as he tries to find solutions to a 27-mile diversion between Strathaven & Hamilton, public transport disruption, major access problems to the medical centre, where people park along the route if they don’t have a driveway and the many small businesses that will struggle as a result of this work. From the point he was first made aware of the road closures, CLLR Campbell will have had only four weeks to find answers and solutions to problems forced on his constituents by a major Scottish company he feels are taking decisions without thinking through the consequences.

CLLR Graeme Campbell (Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party)
SLC Ward-5, Avondale & Stonehouse