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Sir Edward Young, KCVO
Sir Clive Alderton, KCVO
The Private Secretary to His Majesty The King

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Dear Private Secretary to His Majesty The King,

King Charles III will be visiting Luton, Bedfordshire on Tuesday 6th December. That is very exciting news and very good for our town as Luton is 67th (source ONC) on the list of one of the most deprived areas of our country.

Then I learnt that the plans include a visit to the airport and take a journey on the DART (Direct Air-Rail Transit) service. In regards to the trip on the DART, I'm not so sure that that is such a good idea. Graham Olver, Chief Executive Officer of Luton Rising, said: "Testing of the system is significantly advanced, but there remain several important tasks that we are working to complete with our partners, which relate mostly to complexities of the communications infrastructure and enabling works. This will also allow us more time to complete all the regulatory, operational and health and safety testing." Is the King safe to travel on the DART?

Then surely the Kings advisers have researched where the money has come from to fund the DART before this visit was planned, the initial outlay taken from Luton taxpayers by the council, and then the lack of return the DART which will make with a lifetime impairment of £184.7 million? All picked up by Luton taxpayers in a deprived town.

The loans given to the council's company London Luton Airport Limited (LLAL) by the council funded from Luton residents to keep LLAL afloat and the cutting of essential council services to fund this DART project, which will benefit travellers arriving from outside Luton and bypassing any businesses based in Luton. It's a mess, the DART business case has never been made public and two of the top three UK accountancy companies have either refused to sign off of council accounts or resigned.

Also LLAL and the council plan to increase passengers to 32 million when they submit a National DCO application in 2023 which will destroy a Country Wildlife Site and community park on the other side of the airport to do so. Is King Charles a committed environmentalist with a long history of campaigning for better conservation, organic farming and tackling climate change, which contradicts everything that LLAL and Luton council are doing.

Yours faithfully

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