

Building new roads will reduce congestion and save lives.

Unfortunately, the folk at the <u>Campaign for Better Transport</u> believe otherwise and actively try to prevent any road building.

New roads clearly alleviate congestion and provide safer journeys. Spain has been building thousands of miles of new road capacity over the past few years and congestion is almost non existant except in the major cities.



This is typical of the new Motorways in Southern Spain

One clear indication of their success is the drastic reduction in road deaths. Figures from the ABD show that 2,182 were killed in 2008, some 559 fewer than the previous year. Despite Spain having a similar number of vehicles on the road as the UK, the most recent fatality figure in the UK was 2,946.

Trends over the past fifteen years have seen Spain more than halve their annual fatality figure despite rapid traffic growth whilst here in the UK we have only seen a reduction of around 20%.

Spain, unlike the UK has invested greatly in engineering, ironing out blackspots, realigning road junctions, bypassing towns and villages and replacing the most dangerous roads with dual carriageways. They have also relied on good old fashioned road policing. **We should be doing the same.**