



The Planning Inspectorate

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Interested parties

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010039

Date: 16 May 2022

Dear Sir / Madam

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 9 and Rule 8(3)

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 Wansford to Sutton dualling scheme

Notice of a change to the Examination timetable

I refer to the Rule 8 letter of 18 January 2022 where I set out, among other matters, the timetable for the examination of the above project.

Following receipt of all the information submitted to date I have a number of additional questions which I wish to ask Interested Parties to the Examination. I am therefore making a Procedural Decision to amend the Examination Timetable to allow for this and responses.

I am therefore intending to alter the Examination Timetable to:

- Add a third item on 24 May 2022 of the “Publication of the Additional Questions (ExQ3)”
- Add an additional item at Deadline (D) 8 (14 June) for “Responses to the ExA’s Additional Questions (ExQ3)”.

There is no need for me to amend the list of items at D9, thereafter, since this is covered by the existing “Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D8”.

Consequently, I am publishing at Annex A a revised Examination Timetable taking into account these changes.

Yours faithfully

Robert Jackson

Robert Jackson
Examining Authority

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Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

Item	Matters	Due dates
1.	Procedural Deadline A Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written submissions on Examination procedure, including draft timetable Requests to speak at the Preliminary Meeting Part 1 Requests to speak at Issue Specific Hearing 1 on the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) 	Friday 7 January 2022
2.	Preliminary Meeting Part 1	Tuesday 11 January 10.00am
3.	Issue Specific Hearing 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Development Consent Order 	Wednesday 12 January 10.00am
4.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examination Timetable Issue of Written Questions (WQ) – ExQ1 	Tuesday 18 January
5.	Deadline 1 (D1) Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments on RRs Comments on updated application documents. Post Hearing submissions Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party (IP) by the ExA Notification of wish to speak at an Open Floor Hearing (OFH) Notification of wish to speak at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) Request to receive future correspondence by email Proposed itinerary for Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) from the Applicant Notification of wish to attend an ASI, if one is required and suggested locations, with justifications The Applicant to provide the Habitats Screening matrices in MS Word format 	Friday 28 January

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any information requested by the ExA for this deadline 	
6.	<p>Deadline 2 (D2)</p> <p>Deadline for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses to ExQ1 Written Representations (WR) and summaries of any WR exceeding 1500 words Local Impact Reports (LIR) from local authorities Comments on the Applicant's proposed ASI itinerary Comments on any submissions received by D1 Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules 	Tuesday 15 February
7.	<p>Deadline 3 (D3)</p> <p>Deadline for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments on responses to the ExQ1 Comments on WRs Responses to comments made on RRs Comments on LIRs Comments on any submissions received by D2 Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules <p>Requested from the Applicant only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressed Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) and Statement of Commonality of the Statements of Common Ground (SCSoCG) An updated version of the dDCO in clean and tracked versions and a schedule of changes An updated Compulsory Acquisition Schedule (CAS) in clean and tracked versions Schedule of changes to the Book of Reference (BoR) Updated Guide to the Application 	Tuesday 1 March
7A.	<p>Procedural Deadline B</p> <p>Deadline for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration to speak at Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) 2, 3, 4 and Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) 1 	Wednesday 9 March
8.	<p>Issue Specific Hearing 2</p> <p>Issue Specific Hearing on Environmental Matters</p>	Tuesday 15 March 10.00 am
8A.	<p>Issue Specific Hearing 3</p>	Wednesday 16 March 10.00 am

	Issue Specific Hearing on Traffic, Transport and Socio-Economic Matters	
8B.	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1	Thursday 17 March 10.00 am
8C.	Issue Specific Hearing 4 Issue Specific Hearing on draft Development Consent Order	Thursday 17 March 2.00 pm
9.	Deadline 4 (D4) Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case • Comments on any submissions received by D3 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules Requested from the Applicant only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressed SoCG and SCSOCG • An updated version of the dDCO in clean and tracked versions and a schedule of changes • An updated CAS in clean and tracked versions • Updated Guide to the Application 	Thursday 24 March
10.	Unaccompanied Site Inspection	Tuesday 29 March
11.	Publication by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ExA's further Written Questions (ExQ2), if required 	Tuesday 5 April
12.	Deadline 5 (D5) Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to ExQ2 if required • Comments on any submissions received by D4 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules Requested from the Applicant only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressed SoCG and SCSOCG • An updated version of the dDCO in clean and tracked versions and a schedule of changes • An updated CAS in clean and tracked versions • Updated Guide to the Application • Schedule of changes to the BoR 	Wednesday 20 April

13.	Deadline 6 (D6) Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on responses to ExQ2, if required • Comments on any submissions received by D5 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules 	Tuesday 3 May
14.	Hearings 2 These Hearings were cancelled on 31 March 2022	
15.	Deadline 7 (D7) Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case, if required • Comments on any submissions received by D6 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules Requested from the Applicant only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressed SoCG and SCSOCG • An updated version of the dDCO in clean and tracked versions and a schedule of changes • An updated CAS in clean and tracked versions • Updated Guide to the Application 	Friday 20 May
16.	Publication by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) (if required) • The ExA's proposed changes to the dDCO, if required • Publication of the ExA's Additional Questions (ExQ3) 	Tuesday 24 May
17.	Deadline 8 (D8) Deadline for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on the RIES (if required) • Comments on the ExA's proposed changes to the draft DCO • Responses to the ExA's Additional Questions (ExQ3) • Comments on any submissions received by D7 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules Requested from the Applicant only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressed SoCG and SCSOCG 	Tuesday 14 June

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An updated version of the dDCO in clean and tracked versions and a schedule of changes • An updated CAS in clean and tracked versions • Updated Guide to the Application • Schedule of changes to the BoR 	
18.	<p>Deadline 9 (D9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on any submissions received by D8 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules <p>Requested from the Applicant only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final SoCG and SCSocG • Final dDCO in MS Word clean and tracked versions • Final Schedule of changes to the dDCO • SI template validation report • Final Book of Reference, and schedule of changes • Final Compulsory Acquisition Schedule, in clean and tracked versions • Final updated Guide to the Application 	Tuesday 28 June
19.	<p>Deadline 10 (D10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on any submissions received by D9 • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules 	Tuesday 5 July
20.	<p>Deadline 11 (D11)</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules <p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.</p> <p>The ExA may close the Examination earlier if satisfied that all relevant matters have been addressed.</p>	Tuesday 12 July

Publication dates

All information received will be published on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as practicable after each deadline for submissions.

Hearing agendas

We will aim to publish a draft agenda for each hearing on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website at least five working days in advance of the

hearing date. The actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA.

Report on the Implications for European Sites

Where the Applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the DCO application, the ExA may decide to issue a Report on the Implication for European Sites (RIES) during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of the Habitats Regulations¹.

¹ The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017