



Your ref: TR010040

FAO Mr A Hutson
National Infrastructure Planning
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Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

A47 Blofield to North Burlingham
Highways England
Woodlands
Manton Road
Bedford
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15 June 2021

Dear Mr Hutson,

**APPLICATION BY HIGHWAYS ENGLAND FOR AN ORDER GRANTING
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE A47 BLOFIELD TO NORTH BURLINGHAM
PROJECT (TR010040)**

HIGHWAYS ENGLAND'S SUBMISSIONS FOR PROCEDURAL DEADLINE B

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This letter addresses matters raised in the Preliminary Meeting for the application for the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham Order (the Application) on which Highways England indicated that it would respond.
- 1.2 Highways England believes it has covered each of the points raised at the Preliminary Meeting but is happy to expand on any of the points discussed below should this be required.
- 1.3 Highways England is content for the second part of the Preliminary Meeting to be vacated if the examining authority believes that this is appropriate.

2. Norfolk County Council – comments on principal issues

- 2.1. Highways England notes the comments made by Norfolk County Council relating to consideration of transfer of assets.
- 2.1. Highways England believes this issue need not be dealt with in isolation from other considerations that may be dealt with in the issue specific hearings relating to either the draft Development Consent Order or transportation and traffic.

- 2.2. Highways England will continue to discuss asset transfer with Norfolk County Council and hopes that the issue will be dealt with to the parties' mutual satisfaction. This can then be encapsulated in the Statement of Common Ground between Norfolk County Council and Highways England.

3. Assessment of principal issues – Dr Boswell

- 3.1. Highways England notes that cumulative and in combination effects are covered at various points in the rule 6 letter regarding principal issues identified by the examining authority. It does not believe that there is any need for any additional identification of carbon emissions and related issues to be dealt with other than as suggested by the examining authority.

4. Representations by Mr Randlesome

- 4.1. Highways England notes Mr Randlesome's points and the examining authority's indication that dialogue should continue between the parties. Highways England will endeavour to maintain communications and discussions with Mr Randlesome.

5. Representations by Mr Hawker

- 5.1. Highways England notes the points made by Mr Hawker. Highway England agrees with the examining authority that the points can be dealt with in Highways England's response to the relevant representation of Mr Hawker and any subsequent written representation that may be made.

6. Statements of Common Ground

- 6.1. Highways England confirms that Statements of Common Ground (**SoCG**) are being worked on in relation to the Scheme for the following parties:
- Environment Agency
 - Natural England
 - Historic England
 - Norfolk County Council
 - Broadland District Council
 - Statutory Undertakers including Anglian Water Services Limited, BT Openreach, Cadent Gas Limited, UK Power Networks, Virgin Media and Vodafone
 - Blofield Parish Council
- 6.2. In addition Highways England has made contact, through its agents, with Norwich Cycling Campaign. It is possible that a SOCG with Norwich Cycling Campaign will also be provided before the end of the Examination but further discussions are required before drafting can commence.
- 6.3. Highways England will update the ExA at Deadline 1 on how these discussions have progressed.

7. Timetable for Examination

- 7.1. Highways England refers to its comments on the ExA's timetable provided in its letter responding to the ExA's Rule 6 letter.
- 7.2. Highways England also repeats its view that hearings programmed for August should remain as timetabled.

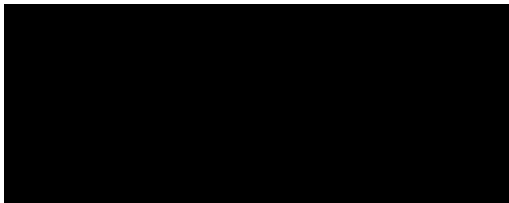
8. Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI)

- 8.1. Highways England notes the comments made by the examining authority regarding the provision of additional clarifications for company site inspections, having regard to the unaccompanied site inspections already carried out by the inspector and any representations made by other parties. Highways England notes that its revised submission regarding accompanying site inspections should be provided at Deadline 2.

9. Burlington Cottage Garden Association

- 9.1. Highways England is grateful to the examining authority for the comments regarding Burlington Cottage Garden Associates. Highways England can confirm that it is also satisfied that no issue arises as a result.

Yours sincerely,



Nikki Rowley-Todd
Project Manager
Highways England