

Application by Oxfordshire Railfreight Limited for an order granting development consent for the Oxfordshire Strategic Rail Freight Interchange

Agenda for compulsory acquisition hearing 1 (CAH1):

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH) 1	Thursday 1 October 2026 Hearing starts at 10.00am Registration and seating available at venue from 9.30am and virtual Registration Process from 9.30am	Bicester Hotel Golf and Spa, Green Lane, Chesterton, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX26 1TH and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda items

1.	Welcome and arrangements for the hearing
2.	Purpose of the hearing and introductions
3.	The applicant's strategic case
4.	Alternatives and design flexibility
5.	The compulsory acquisition and related provisions as presented within the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) and the Land Plans
6.	Statutory conditions and general principles
7.	Review of the Land and Rights Negotiation Tracker
8.	Funding
9.	Statutory undertakers
10.	Crown land
11.	Public open space
12.	Human Rights and the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED): Circumstances within which the provisions relating either to human rights or the PSED might be engaged

	How the applicant has taken into account the relevant provisions in the Human Rights Act and the Equality Act 2010
13.	Submissions from Affected Persons on the applicant's strategic case
14.	Any other business
15.	Next steps
16.	Close of Hearing

Purpose of CAH1

This hearing is to enable the Examining Authority (ExA) to hear and probe the applicant's strategic case for compulsory acquisition in respect of the application, and to hear Affected Persons wishing to speak on the applicant's strategic case.

We will be referring to the following documents:

- The Land Plans (AS-003)
- The draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (APP-139)
- The Explanatory Memorandum (APP-140)
- The Statement of Reasons (APP-143)
- The Funding Statement (APP-144)
- The Book of Reference (APP-145)
- The Land and Rights Negotiation Tracker (PDA-003)

Attendees

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing:

- The applicant
- Oxfordshire County Council
- Cherwell District Council
- National Highways

To those Affected Persons who have requested to be heard on matters relating to their land interests, but have not been invited to speak today, rest assured that you will be heard at the second Compulsory Acquisition hearing, which will be held later in the examination.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing. The details set out above are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

Anyone wishing to attend the hearing in person, who has not already advised the case team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can therefore view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Timing

The ExA will keep to the agenda as far as possible. The hearing is not expected to go beyond 5pm.

Anyone who is not able to provide all their oral submissions by the close of the hearing should put any outstanding matters in writing.

Registration process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a joining instruction email shortly before the hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the hearing to start on time at **xxxx** those attending virtually should join promptly at **xxxx** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

Procedure at a CAH

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the Hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross examination of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that a person has had a fair chance to put their case.