The Parish Council of Duns Tew wishes to request a site visit to Duns Tew via Somerton as part of the Examination into the Oxford SFRI. We ask that consideration is given to the effect of such a large development on nearby villages.

The village of Duns Tew lies less than 6 miles west of the the proposed site.

The two roads to the west of the proposed site for the SRFI, B4030 and Unclassified Road OCC designation C13519, are both unsuitable for heavy vehicles or significant increase of traffic.

In addition, the B4030 at Rousham has a single carriageway Class 2* listed road bridge ([redacted]) and a canal bridge in Lower Heyford.

On Unclassified Road OCC designation C13519 there is a canal bridge with a weight restriction of 10 tonne and a rail bridge with a height restriction of 4.1m in Somerton[redacted]:

Lived experience and road traffic studies, most particularly but not exclusively around the development and expansion of Soho Farmhouse, suggest that any traffic which exits the M40 at Junction 10 leads to increased traffic volumes on these routes and through the narrow roads in our village which has lengths without footpaths.

A particular concern is the crossroads across the busy A4260 between North Aston Road and Somerton Road [redacted] and traffic leaving and entering the main carriageway where, due to topography and speed limits, there have been accidents and are frequent near misses.

Our more general point is that such a significant development, particularly seen in the light of other major developments, already approved or in process, will increase traffic over a wide area. In particular, HGVs using the SRFI and the ancillary lighter traffic caused by visitors, tradespeople and employees to and from the SFRI. This increase in traffic will be greatly exacerbated when more suitable routes are unusable due to traffic incidents.