

From: Williams, Emre <Emre.Williams@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Sent: 26 August 2020 09:58

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: East Anglia ONE North <EastAngliaOneNorth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>; East Anglia Two <EastAngliaTwo@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Preliminary Meeting Involvement Form - EA1N and EA2 - Marianne Fellowes

Good Morning Marianne

Your Preliminary Meeting Involvement Form (PMIF) submitted on 13 August 2020 has reference. Please find our response to your individual queries below in [blue](#) and note that there is a statutory duty under [section 51 of the Planning Act 2008](#) to record the advice that is given in relation to an application or a potential application and to make this publicly available. This advice will be published on the project specific webpages of the National Infrastructure website.

Although the historic setting is considered, the link with Arts and Theatre has not featured strongly in the Preliminary Hearings or the proposed Examination Hearings schedule. The impact on us as a businesses is clearly defined by the DMO report and we would wish this to be highlighted.

There is also the impact on audiences deprived of entertainment, and cultural opportunities which contribute to health and well-being. In the past Benjamin Britten and Aldeburgh Festival were able to halt the development of an airport at nearby ex-USAF Bentwaters/Rendlesham due to potential noise and transport impact. The proposals at Friston and significant infrastructure which would be required from the coast to Friston would exceed this.

There are no jobs or socio-economic benefits to the area of this development. Where in the Preliminary Hearing or Examination Hearings does mitigation get reviewed and why is the negative impact outweighed by the need for energy elsewhere in the country, and where is the evidence of this?

The Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (IAPI) prepared under s88(1) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) can be found at Annex C of the [Rule 6 letter](#). The IAPI is not a comprehensive or exclusive list of all relevant matters. The Examining Authority (ExA) will have regard to all important and relevant matters during the Examination.

With this in mind, Recreational Activities are listed as a Principal Issue under IAPI 10 (Land Use), Effect on jobs and skills during construction and operation; and distinctions and divergence between the conclusions reached in studies submitted as supporting evidence by the Applicant and the DMO (Suffolk Destination Management Organisation) are listed under IAPI 18 (Socio Economic Effects). Under Procedural Decision 14 the ExA has requested a tracking list of changes to Mitigation Measures and commitments and where these are secured. This ExA have requested that this list be updated through Examination and replaced at Deadline 7.

Each planning application is considered under its own merits. Consideration on the question of impacts and need, will be for the ExA to examine and report on to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

**On what measures and with whom have PINs consulted and what ideas have been included following consultation to specifically increase the access for members of the public and organisations/businesses and reduce the disadvantage caused?*

The Inspectorate provided an opportunity to all Interested and Statutory Parties to complete the Questionnaire. The results of the Questionnaire provided the ExA with an understanding of the various parties' capabilities to participate at virtual events. These responses also provided an indication of how these parties felt about participating and their ability to do so. Familiarisation events were introduced to assist those who felt less able to participate providing an opportunity to trial participation in this way. Live streaming the Preliminary Meeting has also been considered as a way for those who do not wish to participate, to watch the proceedings and an additional procedural deadline has been introduced to allow those parties to have their say in writing before the Preliminary Meeting is closed.

**Which of the specific responses to the consultation (on whether the Hearings should be held virtually) were adopted? And if none were, why not?*

Consistent with the [Written Ministerial Statement of 13 May 2020](#), the ExA considered whether and how virtual events should proceed for the East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO applications, including the practical measures needed to ensure fair participation. A Frequently Asked Questions document was published on the project specific webpages at the time the Questionnaire was published. This may be of some use, so I have included the link [here](#).

The specific responses to the Questionnaire were considered by the ExA. Changes were made to the Examination proposals taking account of the input and the current and likely effect of ongoing public health controls. The Examination will start using virtual methods, but should public health requirements allow, the ExA have the option to hold physical events.

**As part of the introduction to the Preliminary Hearings will PINs share/publish the results of the consultation on whether the Hearings should be held virtually, and if not - why not?*

The Planning Inspectorate has a duty under GDPR, our [Privacy Notice](#) explains the use and disclosure of personal information submitted to the organisation. The ExA will not share or publish the results of the Questionnaire as part of the introduction to the Preliminary Meeting as this was not the intention of how the data would be used.

The ExA stated in its [letter of 21 May 2020](#): "The responses to the questionnaire will not be published as they are considered to relate to practical matters around the timing and organisation of Examination events and do not constitute submissions on the merits of the Proposed Development. As such, they will not influence our recommendation or, ultimately, the Secretary of State's decision."

The introduction section of the Questionnaire stated: "Responses to this survey contain personal and procedural information and are made in the pre-

Examination period. They are not submissions or representations on the planning merits of the Application and will not be treated as Examination documents. They will be used by the Planning Inspectorate Case Team and the ExA but will not be published in the Examination Library on the National Infrastructure Planning Website."

**What was the overriding reason or rationale for the Preliminary Hearings and Examination Hearings to be held virtually and in September?*

The overriding reason for holding the Preliminary Meeting and initial Open Floor Hearings to be held virtually and in September is consistent with the Written Ministerial Statement of 13 May. The Planning Inspectorate has designed and tested the processes used for virtual events to ensure that they meet all relevant statutory requirements and guidance. Work on the delivery of physical and blended events (combining physical and virtual events) continues. However, given the rapidly changing nature of the Coronavirus pandemic, all Examination events need to be capable of delivery in that changing environment, which includes the need to address local controls that can be introduced at short notice. At present it still cannot be guaranteed that the East Anglia Preliminary Meetings can be delivered as physical or blended events. Nor is it fair or appropriate to change event arrangements rapidly. On that basis, a decision was taken to proceed with virtual events using tested event designs, in a timescale that meets expectations from Ministers that casework should proceed using virtual methods.

*If these questions above * cannot form part of the DCO process please treat this as a FOI request.*

We trust you find our response to your comments within the PMIF satisfactory, however if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the case team or me (Case Manager for East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO) via the contact details below.

Emré Williams
NSIP Case Manager
National Infrastructure Planning
Direct Line: 0303 444 5069
Helpline: 0303 444 5000
Email: emre.williams@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Web: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/> (National Infrastructure Planning)

Web: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate (The Planning Inspectorate)

Twitter: [@PINSgov](https://twitter.com/PINSgov)

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.