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To all Interested Parties and Other  
Persons

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010006

Date: 23 January 2017

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 13 and Rule 16**

### **Application by Highways England for an order granting development consent for the proposed M20 Junction 10a**

#### **Notification of hearings and Accompanied Site Inspection**

I write to all Interested Parties to announce the dates, times and places of forthcoming hearings which will be held between 22 and 24 February 2017, and the date, time and meeting place for an Accompanied Site Inspection on 21 February 2017. Important details about both are set out at **Annex A** and **Annex B** to this letter, respectively.

#### **Hearings**

As set out in the Examination Timetable annexed to my Rule 8 letter dated 9 December 2016, those Interested Parties who wish to speak at a further Open Floor Hearing (OFH) or at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) were asked to notify the Planning Inspectorate by 4 January 2017 (Deadline 2). The Planning Inspectorate received at least one request from an Interested Party to be heard at a further OFH and consequentially such a hearing must be held. At least one request was also received from an Affected Person to be heard at a CAH, and consequentially such a hearing must also be held. I have also decided to hold hearings on specific issues. Details of and arrangements for these hearings are set out at **Annex A**.

I should be grateful if you would inform us if you plan to attend any of the hearings (even if you do not wish to speak) **no later than 10 February 2017**. It would also assist us if you could notify the Planning Inspectorate's case team of any special needs you may have (eg disabled access, hearing loop etc). Please ensure that you include your Interested Party reference number in your correspondence (included either in the email covering this letter or on the postcard you have received). An agenda for each of the hearings will be published on our website in the week

before each event.

## **Accompanied Site Inspection**

As set out in the Examination Timetable annexed to my Rule 8 letter dated 9 December 2016, those Interested Parties who wish to attend the Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) were asked to notify the Planning Inspectorate by 4 January 2017 (Deadline 2). The Planning Inspectorate received a number of requests from Interested Parties to attend the ASI.

Capacity on the minibus that will be used for the ASI is **very limited**. Priority attendance must be afforded to the Planning Inspectorate, the Applicant, local authorities and relevant Statutory Parties. Any other Interested Parties who expressed a wish to attend the ASI for its duration have been contacted by the Planning Inspectorate's case team to discuss feasibility and options.

The final itinerary for the ASI has been published alongside this letter, and is available to view here:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010006-000539>

Please note that if any of the events scheduled at **Annex A** or **Annex B** are no longer required, reasonable notice will be provided to Interested Parties of my decision to cancel them.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Planning Inspectorate's case team.

Yours faithfully

*Mike Ebert*

**Dr Mike Ebert C Eng, MICE, FIC, CMC**  
**Examining Authority**

### **Annexes:**

**Annex A** – Dates, times and place for forthcoming Examination hearings

**Annex B** – Date, time and meeting place for Accompanied Site Inspection

**Annex A**

## Dates, times and place for forthcoming Examination hearings

### Issue Specific Hearings

Please be advised that the Examining Authority (ExA) will hold hearings under Section 91 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008) on the following dates:

Date	Venue	Time	Notes
22 February 2017	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford, TN24 0LH	<b>Start 10:00am</b> (seating available from 9:30am)	<b>Issue Specific Hearing 1</b> Issue Specific Hearing dealing with matters relating to the environment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Air quality.</li><li>• Traffic modelling.</li><li>• Noise.</li><li>• Water.</li></ul> This list is indicative and not exhaustive.
23 February 2017	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford, TN24 0LH	<b>Start 2:00pm</b> (seating available from 1:30pm)	<b>Issue Specific Hearing 2</b> Issue Specific Hearing dealing with matters relating to the draft Development Consent Order.

If you wish to participate in or observe at either of the Issue Specific Hearings scheduled on 22 and 23 February 2017, please let the Planning Inspectorate's case team know by emailing [M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk) **no later than 10 February 2017** indicating your wish to attend and the topics in respect of which you wish to speak.

Agendas for the Issue Specific Hearings will be published on our website approximately one week prior to the hearing to which they relate taking place.

The time allocated for each of the hearings has been estimated based on the matters identified for consideration. Should a hearing take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to. Equally, if there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any hearing, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day, or adjourn the hearing and continue at a subsequent sitting.

## Compulsory Acquisition Hearing

Please be advised that the ExA will hold a hearing under Section 92 of the PA2008 on the following date:

Date	Venue	Time	Notes
23 February 2017	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford, TN24 0LH	<b>Start 10:00am</b> (seating available from 9:30pm)	Dealing with matters relating to the proposed Compulsory Acquisition of land and rights, and the Temporary Possession powers proposed.

If you wish to participate in or observe the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing, please let the Planning Inspectorate's case team know by emailing [M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk) **no later than 10 February 2017** indicating your wish to attend and the topics in respect of which you wish to speak.

An agenda for the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing will be published on our website approximately one week prior to the hearing.

The time allocated for the hearing has been estimated based on the matters identified for consideration. Should it take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to. Equally, if there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at the hearing, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day, or adjourn the hearing and continue at a subsequent sitting.

## Open Floor Hearing

Please be advised that the ExA will hold a second hearing under Section 93 of the PA2008 on the following date:

Date	Venue	Time	Notes
24 February 2017	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford, TN24 0LH	<b>Start 10:00am</b> (seating available from 9:30pm)	To hear oral evidence based on relevant or written representations.

Please note that each participant will be provided with one opportunity to speak. **The ExA will not wish to hear submissions from groups or individuals repeated.**

If you wish to participate in or observe the Open Floor Hearing, please let the Planning Inspectorate's case team know by emailing [M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk) **no later than 10 February 2017** indicating your wish to attend and the topics in respect of which you wish to speak.

Each Interested Party should assume that they will be allowed a maximum speaking time of 10 minutes in total for all submissions that they wish to make in this session. Please note that in the event that there are an exceptional number of potential submissions, it may be necessary to be more restrictive.

If the ExA decides that it is necessary to provide an agenda for this hearing, this will be published on our website approximately one week prior to the hearing.

## Date, time and meeting place for Accompanied Site Inspection

Please be advised that the Examining Authority (ExA) will hold an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) under Rule 16 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 on the following date:

Date	Meeting Place	Time	Notes
21 February 2017	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford, TN24 0LH	<b>Start 9:30am</b> (incorporating safety and propriety briefing)	See below.

Capacity on the minibus that will be used for the ASI will be **very limited**. Priority attendance must be afforded to the Planning Inspectorate, the Applicant, local authorities and relevant Statutory Parties. Any other Interested Parties who expressed a wish to attend the ASI for its duration have been contacted by the Planning Inspectorate's case team to discuss feasibility and options.

The final itinerary for the ASI has been published alongside this letter, and is available to view here:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010006-000539>

Attendees are requested to arrive at the meeting places by 9:30am to receive a compulsory safety briefing and introductory remarks from the Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate. The ASI will commence as soon as possible after these statements have been made.

The inspection may include some walking on uneven or wet ground. The Planning Inspectorate therefore advises attendees to wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather, and sturdy footwear.

**Please be reminded that the purpose of the site inspection is to allow the ExA to look at particular physical features, first hand. It is not an opportunity to make any oral representations about the application to the ExA.**

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the National Infrastructure Planning website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.