

**From:** Nicholas Coombes  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2014 11:43 AM  
**To:** 'Les Gray Gmail'  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed Application for Development Consent by Norfolk County Council - Norwich Northern Distributor Road - Drayton Junction (south)

Dear Mr Gray,

Thank you for your email. I understand that the Norwich NDR application is likely to be made to the planning Inspectorate tomorrow, which means that we will need to draw this exchange to a close.

When considering whether to accept the application for examination, our correspondence will be made available to the decision maker. They will be assessing the application's compliance with the requirements of the Planning Act 2008; matters of substance regarding design of the project would be examined (if applicable) in any subsequent stages.

This email exchange will be published, and your earlier letters will be published alongside the response from the Quality Assurance team to them.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Coombes  
Case Manager  
Major Applications and Plans Directorate,  
The Planning Inspectorate,  
Temple Quay House,  
Temple Quay,  
Bristol,  
BS1 6PN  
Direct Line: 0303 444 5518  
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Email: [nicholas.coombes@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nicholas.coombes@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.planningportal.gov.uk/planninginspectorate](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planninginspectorate) (Planning Inspectorate casework and appeals)  
Web: [www.planningportal.gov.uk/infrastructure](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/infrastructure) (Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning portal)  
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**From:** Les Gray Gmail [mailto: [REDACTED]]

**Sent:** Friday, January 03, 2014 5:19 PM

**To:** Nicholas Coombes

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Proposed Application for Development Consent by Norfolk County Council - Norwich Northern Distributor Road - Drayton Junction (south)

Dear Mr Coombes

Thank you for your prompt reply. I am not sure why your Quality Assurance colleagues have become involved, it seems they may have misunderstood the penultimate paragraph in my initial letter dated 14 November 2013. The complaint I referred to was in accordance with Paragraph 68 of the Guidance on the pre-application process (Planning Act 2008), in respect of the inadequacy of consultation by the applicant (NCC). It was not a complaint against the Planning Inspectorate, rather it was following correct procedure set out in the Guidance.

As you will be aware, Paragraph 68 of that document states where any interested party feels that consultation was inadequately carried out and they remain unsatisfied after approaching the applicant (which we do, after approaching them on a number of occasions), then we should make a complaint to the relevant local authority, or the Secretary of State (through the Inspectorate).

As the Guidance states, we have submitted our complaint to you (against NCC for their inadequacy of consultation and their blatant misrepresentation and cover up of our concerns, which do not comply with the pre-application process), promptly ahead of the application by NCC being submitted to the Secretary of State, so this can be taken into account with your decision whether to accept the application or not. Accordingly will you please confirm that you will definitely be publishing my other two letters (dated 19 & 31 December 2013), as most of the content of these are crucial and "relevant correspondence" specifically about NCC's inadequacies to carryout the pre-application consultation to the "certain standard" to comply with their statutory duty.

The developer is well aware of our ongoing concerns which, in the main, have been set out repeatedly in correspondence from us. They are also fully aware that we do not accept their draft consultation report, in respect of our concerns, which is very inaccurate and woefully incomplete.

All we are after is "a more transparent and efficient examination process", being the front-loaded emphasis of consultation with local communities as set out in Part 5 of the the Planning Act. This has not happened in our particular case (as mentioned previously, I can provide you with clear evidence of this) and I feel sure the Secretary of State would agree that is neither fair or reasonable.

As the content of this email is also very relevant to the pre-application process, I would be grateful if you could please publish it as well and look forward to hearing from you accordingly.

Your Sincerely

Mr Les Gray

**From:** [Nicholas Coombes](#)

**Sent:** Friday, January 03, 2014 3:32 PM

**To:** [Les Gray Gmail](#)

**Subject:** RE: Proposed Application for Development Consent by Norfolk County Council - Norwich Northern Distributor Road - Drayton Junction (south)

Dear Mr Gray,

Thank you for your letter. I have passed it to my Quality Assurance colleagues as it refers to a complaint made to the Planning Inspectorate. However, I may be able to address some points as an interim response.

Please do continue to pass your concerns to your district council as they have the most appropriate mechanism to respond regarding the adequacy of consultation. You may find my recent correspondence with the Norwich and Norfolk Transport Action Group (<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/eastern/norwich-northern-distributor-road-ndr/?ipcsection=advice&ipcadvic=ab1951a68f>) relevant on this point. Could you also continue to send your concerns to the developer so that they have the opportunity to address them in their application. This will help in assessing the issues raised when considering whether to accept the application for examination.

The substance of your concern, regarding traffic surveys and safety audits, relates to the merit of the scheme rather than the consultation process undertaken. If the application is accepted for examination there shall be a rigorous process undertaken by an independent examining authority to assess the evidence during the examination stage. This would involve exchanges of documents with opportunity for the public to make representations on specific areas of dispute. If you wish to, you and your neighbours will be able to participate fully in this process by registering to become an Interested Party by making a 'relevant representation', if the application is accepted.

The Planning Inspectorate will continue to publish relevant correspondence and advice given on our website. We are required to publish all advice which we give and we will commonly include correspondence received to provide context to this.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Coombes  
Case Manager  
Major Applications and Plans Directorate,  
The Planning Inspectorate,  
Temple Quay House,  
Temple Quay,  
Bristol,  
BS1 6PN  
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Web: [www.planningportal.gov.uk/infrastructure](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/infrastructure) (Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning portal)

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**From:** Les Gray Gmail [mailto: [REDACTED] ]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 31, 2013 2:14 PM

**To:** Nicholas Coombes

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Proposed Application for Development Consent by Norfolk County Council - Norwich Northern Distributor Road - Drayton Junction (south)

Dear Mr Coombes

Further to our previous correspondence set out below, please find attached copy of our letter of today's date, the original of which will be sent in the post to you, which you should find self explanatory.

We look forward to hearing from you further at your earliest convenience please.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Les Gray

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**From:** [Nicholas Coombes](#)

**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2013 10:17 AM

**To:** [Les Gray Gmail](#)

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Proposed Application for Development Consent by Norfolk County Council - Norwich Northern Distributor Road - Drayton Junction (south)

Dear Mr Gray,

Thank you for your interest in this matter. The Planning Inspectorate Quality Assurance Team have been looking into the issues raised and posted a reply to you yesterday. We have published your original letter, and our reply, on the Planning Inspectorate website at <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/eastern/norwich-northern-distributor-road-ndr/?ipcsection=docs>.

In summary, concerns about the consultation undertaken should be directed to your district council, who will be asked to assess the quality of consultation on our behalf. If the scheme is accepted for

examination, then you are welcome and entitled to participate and raise your concerns about the merits of the scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Coombes  
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Major Applications and Plans Directorate,  
The Planning Inspectorate,  
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Email: [nicholas.coombes@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nicholas.coombes@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Les Gray Gmail [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 19, 2013 9:51 PM  
**To:** Nicholas Coombes  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Proposed Application for Development Consent by Norfolk County Council - Norwich Northern Distributor Road - Drayton Junction (south)

Dear Sirs

FTAO Mr Nicholas Coombes

Please find attached copies of letters, the originals of which will be sent in the post to you, which you should find self explanatory. We have been awaiting a full reply to our letter dated 14 November 2013, having only received a holding reply from a Sarah Curtis - Quality Assurance Team on 28 November 2013.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Les Gray

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