

Application for Development Consent for
A19 Downhill Lane Junction Improvement
Case Ref: TR010024

Examining Authority's Note of Unaccompanied Site Inspection on Tuesday 15 October 2019

Background

As Examining Authority (ExA) I undertook my second Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI) to support my examination of an application for development consent for the proposed A19 Downhill Lane Junction Improvement (the Application) on 15 October. The application has been made by Highways England (the Applicant).

Inspections were undertaken from publicly accessible land including highways and public rights of way. No access to private land was sought and therefore I was able to undertake the inspection on an unaccompanied basis.

The inspections were undertaken to view the proposed Application site as shown on the Land Plans [APP-007]¹, Works Plans [APP-008] and Engineering Drawings and Sections [APP-010] submitted with the Application.

I undertook the inspection alone. I did not encounter any interested parties or other persons during my inspection. Weather conditions were wet, and the inspection was undertaken before sunrise. Consequently, I was reliant upon street lighting for visibility. My inspection was undertaken on foot.

The purpose of this note is to inform the Applicant and interested parties (IPs) involved in the Examination of actions taken by the ExA.

Further site inspection notes will be published following further site visits.

¹ The Application documents and other Examination documents are available in the Examination Library at the project website:
<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010024>. All Examination documents are provided with a unique identification number for referencing purposes, shown in square brackets [].

Particulars of the Inspection

The purpose of the USI was for me as ExA to become familiar with the application site and surrounds. My visit commenced at approximately 6.15am and was completed by approximately 7.00am.

I began my inspection at the junction of Washington Road (West) and Follingsby Lane. I walked westwards to the roundabout at the Nissan Motor Manufacturing Plant site entrance and continued across the junction with the A1290, walking past the bus stop to the point where the footway ended. I noted traffic movements on the A1290 and particularly the heavy flows using the left turn lane at the junction to enter the Nissan site.

I returned to my start point and walked along Follingsby Lane to its junction with the A1290, then continuing north easterly along the A1290 to the junction with the A19. At the junction I stayed on the southern footway and continued some way along Washington Road (East) before retracing my steps to my start point.

During the inspection I noted the volumes of traffic using the A1290 which was free from roadworks. I also observed the queues of traffic trying to merge on the A1290 having emerged from the A19 Downhill Lane Junction as well as queuing traffic on the southbound slip road and northbound slip road from the A19.

Kevin Gleeson
Examining Authority