

Hi Dee,

Many thanks for your reply.

Yes, we are affected by the proposed scheme and had a meeting with Highways England the day before yesterday regarding the purchase of some of our land (by agreement or compulsory purchase). I can provide the detail regarding my communications with Ardent and Aecom to demonstrate that we have already raised concerns and asked for feedback so I would very much hope that our Representation will be considered. The last reply from Ardent was that I should speak to Steph which was what I did this week and hence my email to you on there same day.

The proposed scheme will I'm sure provide much better transport links within the local area and it is clear that the current infrastructure is unable to cope with the current volume of traffic. This is a positive thing and if the effects of traffic pollution and noise are managed properly then the impact of the completed scheme will be less significant. One of my concerns is the impact to Birmingham Dogs Home and the surrounding area during the construction phase. Reordering of Catherine-de-Barnes Lane immediately outside our current entrance will have a significant impact on the flow of traffic into and out of our centre. We provide care to our dogs seven days a week and any interruption to this will have dire consequences for the welfare of our dogs. The proposed scheme also has a requirement for land currently owned by Birmingham Dogs Home. This land does not currently form part of our operational activity but losing it may impact on the way we carry out our operation and certainly will impact on the way in which we promote Birmingham Dogs Home. The land at our entrance/alongside Catherine-de-Barnes Lane currently has our promotional signage on it and losing ownership of this land will jeopardise at best or more likely prevent us from highlighting ourselves to passing traffic. This ability to promote ourselves generally and signal where we are to intended visitors is crucial to the ongoing operation of Birmingham Dogs Home. It might help to know that we work closely with SMBC as well as a number of other Local Authorities in the provision of stray dog contracts and being able to be found by owners seeking to reunite themselves with their straying dogs is not only a contractual responsibility but a morale one too.

I very much hope that this Representation will be considered and there will be an opportunity for further discussion regarding the detail of the construction work outside and around Birmingham Dogs Home specifically relating to ease of access and regarding the landscaping and signage on the approach to Birmingham Dogs Home along Catherine-de-Barnes Lane and the new link road.

Many thanks and kindest regards,

Giles