

NPB/bf

FAO The Inspector
DCO Hearing
M42 Junction 6
Ramada Hotel
SOLIHULL

Dear Sirs

**MRS J MELBOURN, G CATTELL, MESSRS ALI AND CHOUDHRY,
WILLIAM FREEMAN AND SONS**

We met with representatives from HS2, Aecom and the Valuation Office on 5 May this year, together with representatives from the above clients. We had previously had meetings going back to last year when we had also indicated, e.g. my letter of 4 October 2018 to Ardent on Mr Cattell's behalf, that if they were to sell their land voluntarily, all of their land should generally be acquired, but that has been ignored.

At the meeting on 5 May 2019 we were told that 'it will take a couple of weeks for Highways England to provide updated land plans and evaluate the options of purchasing all or part of the land before agreeing, in principle, how to proceed. Once the parties have agreed the principle of buying land by agreement, HE would want to enter into an option agreement with the landowners which could be completed within the next two to three months'.

The purpose of writing is to say that we have not been able to proceed with this because HE have either not furnished updated land plans or have not been instructed by Aecom or the Valuation Officer to proceed to discuss terms. The principle of all my clients working with HE was to reach agreement for land acquisition by agreement to the benefit of both parties and at an early stage before the hearing either started or was far advanced.

This has not taken place and my clients are very frustrated by the lack of progress and are concerned that their rights are being jeopardised by the delay.

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The Inspector
DCO Hearing
22 August 2019

We understand part of the issue may be to do with the Gaelic Athletic Association but this is of little consequence in respect of three out of my four clients.

Please can you push HE to deal with the heads of terms and the option agreement within the next two weeks.

Yours sincerely
BARLOW ASSOCIATES LIMITED



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