

M25 junction 28 improvement scheme

TR010029

9.54 Written submission of Applicant's case put orally at Open Floor Hearing held on 1 March 2021

Rule 8(1)(k)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

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The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

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Rule Number:	Rule 8(1)(k)	
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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document summarises the case made orally by Highways England, as the promoter of the M25 J28 Improvement Scheme (the **Scheme**), at the first Open Floor Hearing (**OFH1**) which took place virtually on 1 March 2021, at 18:30.
- 1.1.2 Whilst the primary purpose of OFH1 was for parties to make oral representations to the Examining Authority (**ExA**) concerning the Scheme, at the request of the ExA, Highways England was invited to reply.

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2. Open Floor Hearing

- 2.1.1 Mark Challis (**MC**) responded on behalf of Highways England to representations made by Councillor Jan Sargent, Jane Allen and Anthony Manley. MC noted that most, if not all, of the points raised in oral representations at the OFH1 had also been raised in examination documents and that Highways England had submitted responses to these points as part of the examination process.
- 2.1.2 In response to specific comments raised, MC noted that in relation to the suggestion that a right turn from Woodstock Avenue onto the A12 should be implemented as part of the Scheme, MC explained that this was not possible. The option of installing an alternative means of access from Woodstock Avenue is outside the scope the Scheme and would need to be considered by Transport for London (TfL) as the highway authority for this section of the A12. MC noted that TfL has explained why it does not consider a right turn from Woodstock Avenue to be feasible in its written representation (Paragraph 7.8 in document ref. REP2-036).
- 2.1.3 MC confirmed in response to concerns raised in regard to the potential closure of the A12 off-slip that any closure would be occasional and at night to cause minimum disturbance. MC also confirmed that Highways England has no intention of denying access for emergency services at any time.
- 2.1.4 MC noted that one of the key objectives of the Scheme is to make the junction operate more smoothly for the benefit of all users, including the residents of Woodstock Avenue. In particular, traffic modelling undertaken illustrates that the Scheme would result in improvements in journey times for Woodstock Avenue residents using the junction.
- 2.1.5 MC noted that in response to the suggestion that approvals be given by local authorities rather than the Secretary of State, Highways England has provided the ExA with its reasons as to why HE does not think this is appropriate. Highways England's reasons were set out in response to DCO1.22 of the Applicant's response to Examining Authority's First Written Questions (REP2-011)
- 2.1.6 MC noted that with regards to the documents that form part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), a number of detailed documents now formed part of the Outline CEMP recently submitted to the ExA (REP3A-010). Lastly, MC confirmed that it is Highways England's intention to submit an outline Traffic Management Plan for the Scheme at Deadline 4 (TR010029/EXAM/9.52).

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