

**Response to The Examining Authority's First Written
Question 1.4.33
for
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds**

**Submitted for Deadline 2
18 December 2019**

Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

In the matter of:

**Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development
Consent for the**

M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley Interchange Scheme

**Planning Inspectorate Ref: TR010030
Registration Identification Ref: 20023015**



The RSPB has focused solely on answering the question directed to it by the Examining Authority. We reserve the right to comment on the answers to other questions.

Q1.4.33 Please confirm whether or not you are satisfied with the amount, nature and proposals for long-term management of both the SPA compensation land and the SPA enhancement areas. If not, then please state why and explain any other measures you would wish to see included?

The RSPB has covered these issues in detail in its Written Submission at Deadline 1. The response here is a concise statement of our concerns.

The amount and nature of the SPA compensation land and enhancement areas

The RSPB is satisfied with the proposals for the compensation land and enhancement areas both in terms of the total areas of land being proposed and the management measures being set out for those areas (please see paragraphs 48 and 59 of our written submission).

The proposed long-term management regime for the SPA compensation land and enhancement areas

The RSPB is **not** satisfied with the duration of the management measures for the compensation land and enhancement areas as it is currently set out in the submission documents. Lowland heathland is a successional habitat and without appropriate long-term management it will be lost by scrub incursion and will ultimately become woodland which will not support the Dartford warbler, nightjar and woodlark for which the SPA is designated. Effective management measures will need to be secured in perpetuity, and these will need to be paid for. (Please see paragraphs 52 to 55 and 60 of our written submission for full details.)

We are not aware that legal agreements for the proposed compensation land have been concluded – and in their absence there can be confidence that these measures will be deliverable (please see paragraph 51 of our written submission).