

Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Highways England
Bridge House
1 Walnut Tree Close
Guildford

Surrey, GU1 4LZ

14 May 2020

By email to:

m25junction10@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

For the attention of: Mr Gavin Jones, Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Dear Sirs,

M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange scheme (the Scheme)

Planning Inspectorate reference: TR010030

Request for Waiver Direction

Highway England is writing to make a request for a waiver direction under Rule 13(6) of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 ("the Examination Rules").

Highways England is seeking a direction from the Examining authority to dis-apply the requirements under Rule 13(6) (a) and (b) of the Examination Rules, which require the applicant to post and maintain site notices in respect of the proposed compulsory acquisition hearing(s).

Given the current Coronavirus situation and the associated Government lockdown, in Highways England's opinion, the site notice requirement should be waived so as to avoid unnecessarily putting at risk the health and safety of those who would be required to post and maintain the notices and also that of the wider public. Given the current lockdown, the site notices are likely to be of limited use as they are less likely to be seen.

Furthermore, given the stage of the Examination process and the fact that Highways England has been in ongoing engagement with the landowners affected by the Scheme, it is reasonable to assume that (i) the site notices will not be the primary means by which such landowners would be made aware of the proposed hearings and (ii) most landowners who have been responding to Highways England's engagement are aware of the Scheme project page on PINS' website which will have the details of the proposed hearings.

Highways England will be publishing a notice about the hearings in the local newspaper – the Surrey Advertiser - in accordance with Rule 13(6)(c) which, in addition to the information on the PINS website, should provide sufficient publicity in respect of the proposed compulsory acquisition hearing(s).

I should be grateful if urgent consideration is given to this request.

Yours faithfully



Jonathan Wade

Project Manager, Regional Investment Programme (South East) Highways England

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