

Our ref: HE551522-ATK-GEN-J10-LN-ZM-000019

Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

For the attention of: Ms Natasha Kopala, Head of  
Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit

Highways England  
Bridge House  
1 Walnut Tree Close  
Guildford  
Surrey  
GU1 4LZ

3 February 2021

By email to: [transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk](mailto:transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk) and  
[m25junction10@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:m25junction10@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Dear Sirs,

**M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley interchange scheme (the Scheme)**  
**Planning Inspectorate reference: TR010030**  
**Applicant's response to Secretary of State's consultation letter dated 20 January 2021**

Please find enclosed the response of the Applicant, Highways England, to the Secretary of State's consultation letter dated 20 January 2021. The Applicant's submission comprises the following documents in addition to this letter:

1. Applicant's comments in response to the submissions of the Royal Horticultural Society on Habitats Regulations Assessment matters (Document 9.154);
2. Other information in respect of environmental effects requested by the Secretary of State in relation to his consideration of replacement land (Document 9.155);
3. Other environmental information requested by the Secretary of State in respect of replacement land to inform the appropriate assessment (Document 9.156);
4. Short note on legal issues by Michael Humphries QC and Caroline Daly (Document 9.157); and
5. Figure showing Highways England's interpretation of the reduced replacement land area considered by the Secretary of State (Document 9.158).

In order to assist the Secretary of State's consideration of the documents, the Applicant suggests that they are read in conjunction with each other as follows.

With respect to the request at **item 1** of his letter, the Secretary of State is referred to:

- the part of Document 9.157 headed 'Secretary of State's letter of 20 January 2021 – Request 1', which comprises a short legal note on the position with respect to the adequacy of the environmental statement submitted with the Applicant's application for development consent for the Scheme; and
- Documents 9.155, 9.156 and 9.158, which contain the environmental information requested in respect of the reduced areas of replacement land being considered by the Secretary of State.

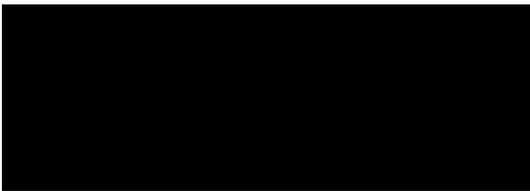
With respect to the request at **item 2** of his letter, the Secretary of State is referred to:

- the part of Document 9.157 headed 'Secretary of State's letter of 20 January 2021 – Request 2' which contains the Applicant's comments on the submissions of the Royal Horticultural Society regarding habitats regulations assessment matters (including its legal comments on the opinion of David Forsdick QC); and
- Document 9.154 which responds to the ecological issues raised in the submissions of the Royal Horticultural Society (including the Applicant's ecological comments on the opinion of David Forsdick QC).

In the event that the Secretary of State is minded to grant development consent for the Scheme incorporating the reduced replacement land area which he is considering, it will be necessary to amend some of the application documents (including, but not limited to, the draft development consent order, land plans and works plans) accordingly. The Applicant would be grateful if the Secretary of State could indicate whether he would like draft amended documents to be provided to him.

I should be grateful if you would acknowledge safe receipt of this letter and its enclosures and arrange for a copy of them to be placed before the Secretary of State.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Wade

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