



National Infrastructure
Planning
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To all Interested Parties

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010031

Date: 22 June 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 8(3) and the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 – Regulations 10 - 16

Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme

Amendment to the Application and inclusion of additional land

The Examining Authority (ExA) has previously accepted a proposal to amend the Application and to include additional land¹. The Applicant has certified that this proposal has been publicised in accordance with Regulations 7 and 8 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010.

Seven further Relevant Representations were received [RR-025, RR-026, RR-027, RR-028, RR-029, RR-30 & RR-31].

In accordance with Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 the ExA has made an initial assessment of the issues arising in connection with the proposed provision and has decided that the issues remain as set out in Annex B to our letter of 10 December 2019 [PD-005]. There are no new issues arising. The ExA has decided that it is not necessary to hold a meeting to discuss how the proposed provision should be examined. The provision will be examined by Written Representations and by holding further Hearings.

Written Representations

All Interested Parties are invited to submit Written Representations on the proposed provision to amend the Application and include additional land. In addition, any

¹ The proposal to amend the application is at [REP4-002].

additional affected persons² are invited to submit Written Representations on the Application as a whole.

Written Representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the matters set out in Annex B to our letter of 10 December 2019. Any person, other than the Applicant, who submits a Written Representation must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. There is no need to repeat representations already made.

Written Representations should be submitted by **Monday 13 July 2020 (Deadline 10 in the revised timetable attached at Annex A).**

Notification of Hearings

In accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010, we are required to give a 21 day notice period for Hearings.

We write to advise you that the following virtual Hearings will be held on Monday 13 July 2020 and Tuesday 14 July 2020. Important details about the Hearings are set out below.

Date	Event	Time	Joining details
Monday 13 July 2020	Open Floor Hearing:	Arrangements Conference at 9.30am Hearing Starts at 10.00am	Join by digital device or telephone using details to be provided in forthcoming Agendas
Tuesday 14 July 2020	Further Issue Specific Hearing	Arrangements Conference at 9.30am Hearing Starts at 10.00am	Join by digital device or telephone using details to be provided in forthcoming Agendas
Tuesday 14 July 2020	Further Compulsory Acquisition Hearing	Arrangements Conference at 2.00pm Hearing Starts at 2.30pm	

The purpose of the Further Issue Specific Hearing is to enable any additional Affected Persons and/or additional Interested Parties to make oral representations on matters that have been discussed at previous Issue Specific Hearings (ISH):

- ISH1 into the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO)
- ISH2 into Landscape and visual (including matters relating to the Angel of the North)
- ISH3 into Water environment and drainage
- ISH4 into Transport and traffic (including non-motorised forms of transport)

² Persons with an interest in the additional land

- ISH5 into Draft DCO

Hearings are taking place week commencing 22 June 2020 and Agendas have been published on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/North%20East/A1-Birtley-to-Coal-House-Improvement-Scheme/>

Recordings of the Hearings and written submissions of the oral representations made will be published in in the Examination Library in due course.

The purpose of the Further Compulsory Acquisition Hearing is:

- to enable any Affected Person and/or Interested Party to make oral representations on the compulsory acquisition of the additional land; and
- to enable any additional Affected Persons to make oral representations on matters relating to the proposed compulsory acquisition of land and rights.

Request for notification of a wish to speak at Hearings

Advanced notice must be provided of a wish to speak at the July Hearings. The advanced notice **must include all of the following**:

- your name and (if available) Interested Party reference number;
- your email address (if available), for us to send you arrangement details;
- a telephone number that we can contact you on before and during any Hearing;
- the name of any organisation that you are representing and your role;
- the Hearing(s) that you would like to speak at and the topic(s) that you would like to raise at the Hearing(s);
- if you would like to speak at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing, the plot number(s) that you would like to discuss;
- an Examination Library reference number for a document, or a copy of any new material, that you would like to be shared visually at a Hearing; and
- if required, your availability for a virtual Hearings familiarisation session with a member of the Case Team during week commencing 6 July 2020.

Requests of a wish to speak at Hearings are to be provided to the Case Team by **Wednesday 8 July 2020, Deadline 9:**

Email: A1BirtleytoCoalHouse@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
Telephone: 0303 444 5000.

Advance notice must also be provided of a wish to observe any Hearing. Requests to observe any of the Hearings should also be received by the same deadline.

The practicalities of the technical arrangements that need to be made in advance of the Hearings mean that the ExA is unlikely to be able to accommodate any wish to speak or to share material visually at Hearings that are not made in accordance with this request.

Yours faithfully

David Cliff

David Cliff
Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors

Annex – A

Revised Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

Item	Matters	Due Dates
23	Time reserved for Hearings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Floor Hearing (if required) • Issue Specific Hearing(s) (if required) • Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (if required) 	Monday 22 June 2020 Tuesday 23 June 2020 Wednesday 24 June 2020 Thursday 25 June 2020 Friday 26 June 2020
24	Additional time reserved for Hearings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Floor Hearing (if required) • Issue Specific Hearing(s) (if required) • Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (if required) 	Tuesday 30 June 2020 Wednesday 1 July 2020 Thursday 2 July 2020 Friday 3 July 2020
25	Issue of ExA’s written questions (if required)	Monday 6 July 2020
26	Deadline 9 (D9) Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written summaries of oral contributions at Hearings • Post-Hearing submissions requested by the ExA (if required) • Comments on the RIES (if required) • Comments on the ExA’s proposed schedule of changes to the draft DCO (if required) • Comments on any additional information/submissions received by D8 • Comments on additional Relevant Representations • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 for this deadline 	Wednesday 8 July 2020

27	<p>Deadline 10 (D10)</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Written Representations • Responses to ExA’s written questions (if required) 	<p>Monday 13 July 2020</p>
28	<p>Time reserved for Hearings (if required)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Floor Hearing (if required) • Issue Specific Hearing(s) (if required) • Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (if required) 	<p>Monday 13 July 2020 Tuesday 14 July 2020</p>
29	<p>Accompanied Site Inspection</p> <p>Dates reserved for Accompanied Site Inspection (if required)</p>	<p>Thursday 16 July 2020 Friday 17 July 2020</p>
30	<p>Deadline 11 (D11)</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written summaries of oral contributions at Hearings (if required) • Post-Hearing submissions requested by the ExA (if required) • Comments on additional Written Representations • Comments on responses to ExA’s written questions (if required) • Responses to comments on the RIES (if required) • Responses to comments on the ExA’s proposed schedule of changes to the draft DCO (if required) • Final DCO to be submitted by the Applicant in the SI template with the SI template validation report • Final updated Book of Reference • Final SoCG • Final Statement of Commonality of SoCG • Final Compulsory Acquisition Schedule • Final updated Guide to the Application • Responses to any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 for this deadline 	<p>Friday 17 July 2020</p>
31	<p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.</p>	<p>Tuesday 21 July 2020</p>