



Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Lower Thames Crossing

Issue Specific Hearing 9 (ISH9) Environment & Biodiversity

Date: Monday 23 October 2023

Venue: Mercure Dartford Brands Hatch Hotel & MS Teams

Action Points

No	Party	Action	Deadline
1	Kent Downs AONB Unit, Woodland Trust and Gravesham Borough Council (GBC)	Ancient Woodland Compensation Provide observations on strategy for compensation for loss of Ancient Woodland including the quantum, proposed locations and wider cultural implications.	D6
2	Applicant	OLEMP – Definitions Provide an explanation for the practical implications of the use of the words “in perpetuity” and “long term management” in the OLEMP. Is further clarification/definition required to be added to the OLEMP to provide sufficient certainty?	D6
3	Applicant	OLEMP – Definitions Applicant to provide explanation of use of the phrase “where practicable” in the OLEMP and any measures for consultation. Are there specific measures for control in respect of storage and translocation of soils to be approved, and if so what controls?	D6
4	Applicant	Ancient Woodland loss/ compensation Provide an Examination Library plan reference which shows the areas of ancient woodland to be lost and by direct reference the areas of compensation to be provided. If there is no such plan in the document set, please provide one.	D6

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5	Applicant	<p>Soil Management If the Applicant intends to rely upon a method similar to that used in respect of HS2 to target the translocation of soils from ancient woodland to compensation sites (“the translocation grid”), please submit an outline version into the Examination. Please explain the process and timing by which a detailed version will be consulted upon, approved and secured.</p>	D6
6	Applicant	<p>Utilities Plan Provide a plan overlaying the extent of the ancient woodland proposed to be removed onto the location of the proposed utility diversions.</p>	D6
7	Applicant	<p>Ancient Woodland and Utility Alignments. Further to action 6, please explain whether the extent of ancient woodland removal adjacent to the A2 at Brewers Road is still justified in circumstances where the utility alignment follows that of the slip roads.</p>	D6
8	Applicant	<p>Candidate Veteran Trees – Shorne Woods Country Park Consider the potential re-alignment of the proposed footpath to avoid/reduce the impact on the candidate veteran trees adjacent to Shorne Woods Country Park (as indicated on the plan in REP4-084).</p>	D6
9	Kent County Council (KCC)	<p>Candidate Veteran Trees – Shorne Woods Country Park Submit a plan (or annotated OS/Google Earth image – copyright permitting) indicating the preferred route of the proposed footpath to avoid/reduce the impact on the candidate veteran trees adjacent to Shorne Woods Country Park.</p>	D6
10	Applicant	<p>Overhead power line – Chadwell St Mary A sketch plan (Annex A) shows the location of existing transmission alignments and towers between Chadwell St Mary and the ancient woodland at Rainbow Shaw. The ExA seeks to understand the implications for the transmission alignments of measures to safeguard the ancient woodland by facilitating a movement of the LTC alignment to the south. With reference to the sketch plan, the Applicant is requested to confirm:</p>	D6

No	Party	Action	Deadline
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How far southwards would transmission towers at location A need to be moved? • What would be the implications of the movement for the alignments 'upstream' in direction B? How many pairs of towers would need to be replaced or substantially re-engineered to give effect to the movement? • What would be the implications of the movement for the alignments 'downstream' in direction C? How many pairs of towers would need to be replaced or substantially re-engineered to give effect to the movement? <p>Once the nature of the necessary changes to the alignments has been explained, please then clarify how the costs and effects of those changes were deemed to justify the loss of ancient woodland.</p>	
11	Natural England and KCC	<p>The Wilderness – Status (Ancient Woodland) Please provide an update on status of 'The Wilderness', in particular whether it is ancient woodland, taking into account any submissions already provided by Thames Crossing Action Group and any other stakeholders.</p>	D7
12	Applicant	<p>The Wilderness – Status (Ancient Woodland) Provide a 'without prejudice' case setting out the Applicant's position in the event that 'The Wilderness' is designated as ancient woodland.</p>	D7
13	Applicant	<p>The Wilderness – Status (Ancient Woodland) In the event that 'The Wilderness' is designated as ancient woodland, provide details that would allow for avoidance of the designated area to the extent this is possible. In addition, provide a justification as to any residual woodland area that would need to be lost as part of the proposed works. In responding, please make reference to the relevant parts of the NNNPS.</p>	D7

No	Party	Action	Deadline
14	Thurrock Council (and other Interested Parties)	<p>The Wilderness – Status (Ancient Woodland) Without prejudice to the current considerations by Natural England, in the event that ‘The Wilderness’ is designated as ancient woodland, provide the Council’s position on the proposed works within/adjacent to ‘The Wilderness’. In responding, please make reference to the relevant parts of the NNNPS.</p>	D7
15	Applicant	<p>The Wilderness – Retaining Wall Please provide details of the additional commitments in respect of the construction of the proposed retaining wall structure within/ adjacent to ‘The Wilderness’.</p>	D6
16	Thames Crossing Action Group	<p>The Wilderness – Status (Ancient Woodland) Provide comments on the implications of the works at ‘The Wilderness’ on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the status of the woodland is not altered and remains considered not to be ancient woodland; and alternatively • the woodland becomes designated as ancient woodland. 	D7
17	Applicant	<p>The Wilderness – Watercourses Provide details in relation to the management of the watercourses to retain existing water level operation, and the hydrological analysis used to determine the proposed watercourse works which would surround ‘The Wilderness’.</p>	D6
18	Applicant	<p>Shorne Woods Country Park – Retention of Proposed Car Park Adjacent to the Park Provide an updated position in respect of the car park currently proposed to be retained and then operated by KCC, having regard to the stakeholder feedback including submissions from Kent County Council, Gravesham Borough Council, Natural England and other relevant IPs. Please either provide a specific response to this action or include it with the answers to ExQ2 Q11.4.1 and Q11.4.2.</p>	D6

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19	KCC	Shorne Woods Country Park – Retention of Proposed Car Park Adjacent to the Park Set out the position in respect of facilities proposed at the car park adjacent to Shorne Woods Country Park and the status of any planning application or planning application aspirations of KCC in bringing forward additional facilities on this land, in light of the Applicant's suggestion that such facilities were being contemplated by the Council and hence why they have been assessed in the ES.	D7
20	Gravesham Borough Council	Shorne Woods SSSI – detailed design stage Provide a written response on setting out detailed matters in respect of Agenda Item 5(a)iii.	D6
21	Natural England and Thurrock Council	Coalhouse Fort Natural England (in the circumstances where the relevant witness was unavailable) and Thurrock Council to provide their final position in respect of the Applicant's proposed environmental mitigation at Coalhouse Fort.	D6
22	Applicant and Mr Holland (on behalf of the Mott family)	Coalhouse Fort – Drainage Taking account of any position submitted on Action 21 at D6, the Applicant is asked to clarify who would be responsible for the provision, monitoring and maintenance of a proposed weir to separate a salt water drainage system on Tilbury Marshes from the retained freshwater drainage system via Bowaters Creek. Mr Holland to respond at D8.	D7 D8
23	Applicant	Hole Farm – TCPA Application Provide an update on the status of the TCPA planning application at Hole Farm, once a decision has been made (or if any other significant changes to the status of the application have occurred).	Next available deadline following a decision
24	Applicant	Hole Farm Applicant to submit the plan which was shared with the ExA at the hearing, which identified the various elements of community woodland, nitrogen deposition, etc.	D6

No	Party	Action	Deadline
25	Applicant	Culverts – Mammal ledges Provide a response to the queries from Thurrock Council in respect of Table 4.10 in the FRA relating to provisions for the passage of mammals through the culverts, including any provision relating to culverts of a smaller diameter. This could form part of your response to ExQ2 Q11.2.1	D6

ANNEX A

